BUFFALO THEATRE ENSEMBLE
BTE
EST. 1986
GIVING STORIES LIFE

Louisa May Alcott's Little Women



By **Lauren Gunderson**
Directed by **Daniel Millhouse**

Dear Friends of BTE,

Welcome to Buffalo Theatre Ensemble's 40th Anniversary Season!

For forty seasons, BTE has remained committed to "Giving Stories Life" through productions that celebrate the humor, heart and humanity of the world around us. As we celebrate this milestone season, we also celebrate the generations of artists, audiences and community members who have helped make Buffalo Theatre Ensemble a creative home in DuPage County. Your laughter, curiosity and continued support are part of every story we tell.

This anniversary season invites audiences into worlds filled with courage, deception, resilience, romance and outrageous comedy. From the enduring warmth and hope of *Louisa May Alcott's Little Women*, to the razor-sharp suspense of *Dial M for Murder*, to the joyful comic chaos of *One Man, Two Guvnors*, each production reminds us of the transformative power of live theater and the shared experience of gathering together in the same room for something unforgettable.

As we honor forty years of storytelling, we also look toward the future, continuing to create bold, engaging productions that connect artists and audiences through laughter, reflection, and imagination.

Whether you have been with us since the beginning or are joining us for the first time, we are so grateful to welcome you into our extended family. Thank you for being part of this extraordinary journey. We cannot wait to celebrate this season with you.

Sincerely,
The Ensemble

The Ensemble
Aly Renee Amidei^, Robert Jordan Bailey*, Amelia Barrett*, Bryan Burke* (Business Manager), Rebecca Cox, Lisa Dawn, Nick DuFloth, Jon Gantt, Connie Canaday Howard*, Christopher Kriz^, Daniel Millhouse* (Managing Artistic Director), Michael W. Moon, Kurt Naebig*, Laura Leonardo Ownby, Galen G. Ramsey*, William "Sandy" Smillie* and Kelli Walker.

For more information about BTE, visit btechicago.com.

BTE Board of Directors:
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Buffalo Theatre Ensemble Presents

Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*

by **Lauren Gunderson**

Director
Daniel Millhouse+*

Original Music & Sound Design
Christopher Kriz+^

Scenic Design
Caitlyn Girten

Costume, Hair, Makeup Design
Aly Renee Amidei+^

Properties Design
Paloma Locsin

Lighting Design
Garrett Bell

Fight and Intimacy Direction
Amber Wuttke

+ Member of Buffalo Theatre Ensemble
^ Member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829
* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers
‡ Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

There will be a 15-minute intermission

*"*Louisa May Alcott's Little Women*" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Dramatists Play Service. www.concordtheatricals.com*

The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without a flash is strictly prohibited.
Please turn off all electronic devices, such as cell phones and watches.

Nov 12 – Dec 13, 2026 | Playhouse Theatre

CAST

Louisa/Jo ..... Valerie Martire
Meg ..... Carol Kelleher
Beth ..... Marina Jòkanović
Amy ..... Bella Blackshaw
Marmee/Aunt March ..... Adrianne Cury*
Laurie ..... Alexander Wisniewski
John/Mr. Laurence/Mr. March/Friedrich ..... Ari Ford Golin

Understudies
Understudies never substitute for the listed performers unless a specific announcement is made at time of appearance. Our fabulous understudies are: Heather-Grace Bach for Louisa/Jo, Madelyn Strasma for Meg, Riley Skalski for Beth, Abby Naden for Amy, Laura Lodewyck for Marmee/Aunt March, Nikolai Sorokin for Laurie, Dustin Ayers for John/Mr. Laurence/Mr. March/Friedrich

+ Member of Buffalo Theatre Ensemble
* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers

Time: 1860s (during the Civil War)

Setting: Concord, Massachusetts
The March family's cozy home and its surroundings
New York City



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the March home, where the house is small, the money is short, and the love is loud!

Louisa May Alcott wrote *Little Women* about her own family and the years when they had very little money but plenty to dream about. Lauren Gunderson's adaptation puts that fact at the center of the play. We are not only watching the March sisters grow up, but we are watching Louisa remember them and bring them to life again, one scene at a time. Jo turns into Louisa and back again, and the play knows the whole time that it is being shared with you.

What moves me most is how fully Alcott sees each of these sisters. Meg longs for love and a family of her own. Jo dreams of becoming a writer. Amy wants to be an artist. Beth simply wants to stay close to the people she loves. Each sister chooses a different path, and Alcott honors every one of them. Along the way, each of them has to discover what self-possession means for her, the independence you claim for yourself in a world that keeps asking you to wait your turn.

More than 150 years later, many of us are still being asked to wait. Creative dreams still get set aside for bills and other people's needs. We live in a culture that feels more isolated than ever, and a family, whether you are born into it or choose it, can still be an entire world. Alcott reminds us that an ordinary life, told truthfully, can outlive the people who lived it.

In this production, we embrace the theatricality of storytelling itself. The years flow by in a whirl of movement, actors transform before your eyes, and a whole world appears out of little more than a company of performers and their imagination. For all its heartbreak, this story insists on celebration.

It feels fitting to tell this story in Buffalo Theatre Ensemble's 40th anniversary season. An Ensemble is its own kind of chosen family and for four decades we have been turning ordinary lives into stories together.

So, sit back and settle in. Louisa has a story to share about her "wild, strange, hilarious, brave, wonderful women."

~ Daniel Millhouse
Director

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

LOUISA MAY ALCOTT'S *LITTLE WOMEN* was a co-commission of four theaters, and was produced as a rolling world premiere: Northlight Theatre in Evanston, IL; TheatreWorks Silicon Valley in Palo Alto, CA; City Theatre in Pittsburgh, PA; and People's Light in Malvern, PA. It premiered at Northlight Theatre in November 2024. The production was directed by Georgette Verdin, with set design by Sotirios Livaditis, costume design by Raquel Adorno, sound design by Christopher Kriz, lighting design by Emma Deane, and properties design by Nicolas Bartleson. The stage manager was Katie Klemme.

Acknowledgements

Buffalo Theatre Ensemble is partially supported and funded by generous grants from B2B Arts: Arts Illinois Alliance Resources, The DuPage Foundation, Benevity, Choose DuPage, The Norm Woodel Inspiration Fund, The Illinois Arts Council, and a gift from Dr. Thomas R. Scott and the late Shirley Klein Scott of Glen Ellyn through the College of DuPage Foundation and the generous support of the College of DuPage Trustees.









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PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager ..... Caitlin I. Quinn*
Assistant Stage Manager..... Nicholas Washington
BTE Stage Management Scholar ..... Harry Smith◊
ASL Coordinator ..... Laura Kostomiris
ASL Interpreters ..... Daniel Englund, Laura Kostomiris
BTE Technical Coordinator..... Caitlyn Woods
Scene Shop Manager ..... Sabrina Zeidler
Scene Shop Crew..... Samantha Anders, Lizzie Baguio, Paul Langan, Drew McKittrick, Violet O'Connor, Nico Skeen, Harry Smith, Connor Welker, Bailey Will
Costume Shop Manager..... Kimberly G. Morris
Assistant Costume Shop Manager ..... Gretchen Woodley
Costume Shop Assistants ..... Annika Larson, Noor Khankan, Lynn Borge, Will Lech, Victoria Leyva
Wardrobe ..... Lynn Borge, Will Lech
Scenic Charge Artist ..... Caitlyn Woods
BTE Intern..... Ashley Chavez

Buffalo Theatre Ensemble Director and Acting Shadows
This is an invited opportunity for select students who are working at the level of at least Acting II and/or Play Directing to shadow a theater professional and gain meaningful insight into developing a character.

Acting Shadows..... Brielle Balger, Lynn Borge, Michael Flavin, Chrissy Graham, Kelly Kuper, Kam Mooi, Eli Rodriguez

BTE Shadow Coordinators..... Lisa Dawn+ and Laura Leonardo Ownby+

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^ Member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829
◊ Buffalo Theatre Ensemble Stage Management Scholarship Recipient



the mac

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Wheaton | 630.784.8015

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Naperville | 630.955.0022

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Wheaton | 630.665.2489

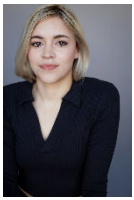
Santa Fe Mexican Restaurant
426 N Main St,
Glen Ellyn | 630.790.3311

Altiro latin + fusion
132 N Hale St,
Wheaton | 630.480.0397

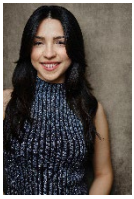
CAST PROFILES



Valerie Martire (Louisa/Jo) is absolutely thrilled to be making her Buffalo Theatre Ensemble debut! Martire is a recent graduate from Illinois Wesleyan University where she received her BFA in acting. Since then, she has spent two summers at the Utah Shakespeare Festival where she appeared as Cecily in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Annelle in *Steel Magnolias*, Bianca in *Taming of the Shrew* and Margaret in *Much Ado About Nothing*. You may have also caught her as Lucy Westfeldt in Lazy Susan Theatre Company's production of *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors* or as Lexi in Bump in the Night Theatre Company's recent production of *Hookman*. Martire would like to thank her wonderful family and friends for their endless support and love. She hopes you enjoy *Little Women* as much as she does!

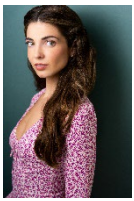


Carol Kelleher (Meg) is a Chicago-based actor, director and producer. Previous credits include *Dry Powder* (Gwydion Theatre Company), *Dry Land* (Ego Death Theatre Collective) and *The Winter's Tale* (Illinois Shakespeare Festival). She will direct *Orphans* at Gwydion Theatre Company this coming spring. She is also the founder and Co-Artistic Director of Ego Death Theatre Collective. This past season she directed Ego Death's well-received production of *A Dog's House* and acted in their acclaimed rendition of *Red Light Winter*. Both shows had the distinction of being Jeff Recommended. Catch their third season beginning this fall at The Greenhouse Center. She loves Graysom, Despereaux and Liesel.



Marina Jòkanović (she/her, Beth) is a recent graduate of North Central College with a B.A. in Art History and Acting. She was born in Bosnia and Herzegovina and raised in Serbia and Montenegro. After attending boarding schools in the United Kingdom to perfect her English, Jòkanović continued her education in the United States with a childhood dream of becoming an actress. Although this will be her first professional production, she has enjoyed being part of several productions at her college including *Ride the Cyclone* (Karnak), *Orlando* (Orlando), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (John Worthing), *Assassins* (Giuseppe Zangara), *Die Fledermaus* (Prince Orlofsky), *The Impresario* (Mr. Scruples) and *Everybody Thrashing* (The Clergyman). Although

academia has been her life, she also enjoys traveling, playing volleyball, learning languages (living, dead and fictional) and color-by-number coloring books. She dedicates every performance to her own Mr. Laurence, her grandpa Mirko.



Bella Blackshaw (Amy) is so grateful and delighted to be making her BTE debut in this production. Previous featured credits include: National Tour: *Miracle on 34th St*., Minneapolis: *The Sound of Music* (Ordway Center), *The Wizard of Oz*, *Shrek*, *Annie* (Children's Theatre Company) and more. Chicago: *Gold: A New Musical* (The Den Theatre), *Camp Rock*, *We Will Rock You* (The Beautiful City Project), *Peter Pan* (Chicago Kids Company), *The Wizard of Oz* (Big Noise Theatre), *Gift of the Magi* (Oil Lamp Theatre), *City of Angels* (BrightSide Theatre). Blackshaw is also currently playing "Bella" in *Beauty and the Beast* with Chicago Kids Company. She received her BFA in Musical Theatre from Columbia College Chicago and is represented by Lily's Talent. Blackshaw thanks her family and friends tremendously, for always being in her corner!



Adrianne Cury* (Marmee/Aunt March) most recently played Charlotte in *The Angel Next Door* - Artists' Ensemble (Rockford), Moira - *And Neither Have I Wings to Fly* - First Folio, Sharon - *The Roommate* - Cardinal Stage (Indiana), and had a brief stint on *Chicago PD*. She has acted with many Chicago area theaters, including Writers, Chicago Shakespeare, Chicago Shakespeare Project, Lifeline, Drury Lane and About Face. Regionally, she's worked for Indiana Rep, BoarsHead, Human Race and New American, as well as acting for new play festivals in Oregon, Idaho and Missouri, and she directs and acts regularly for Chicago Dramatists. She has received two After Dark Awards, a Jeff Citation and a Jeff Award nomination, loved acting in the short film, *Lunch in Lima*, and a stage highlight was playing Mrs. Alving in Ibsen's *Ghosts in Turkey* on a MacArthur Grant via ShawChicago. Directing credits include *Eurydice* - Moraine Valley CC, …*Shrew* - Oak Park Festival, *Mauritius and Outside Mullingar* - Theatre of Western Springs. This winter she will direct *Bloomsday* for Parker Players. She enjoys teaching and coaching actors.

CAST PROFILES

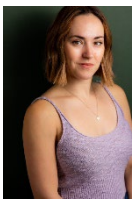


Alexander Wisniewski (Laurie) is so excited to be returning to BTE this season. He previously worked with the company in *Andy Warhol's Tomato* (Andy Warhol) and *Birthday Candles* (Billy/John); and participated in COD's shadow program for *The Outgoing Tide*. Some of his favorite credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander, Inkwell Arts and Learning), *The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals* (Professor Hidgens), *The Merchant of Venice* (Solanio, Janus Theatre Company) and *The SpongeBob SquarePants Musical* (SpongeBob SquarePants, COD). Wisniewski is an instructor and director for the Geneva Park District out of Playhouse 38 who teaches dance, improv, acting and musical theatre, and will be choreographing Playhouse 38's upcoming production of *Nemo jr*. Wisniewski is honored to participate in BTE's 40th season and is incredibly grateful for the opportunity, and for a truly wonderful cast.



Ari Ford Golin (John/Mr. Laurence/Mr. March/Friedrich) is an actor and producer from Los Angeles. He is thrilled to make his Chicago stage debut at Buffalo Theatre Ensemble. Previous credits include Tom McCarthy's *A Statement, Pam and Tommy* (Hulu), and *The Pillowman* (Wesleyan University). Golin is represented by Talent X Alexander and Range Media Partners. Endless gratitude to Vilborg, Anna and Alex.

UNDERSTUDY PROFILES

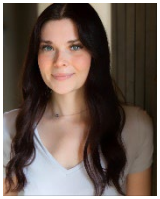


Heather-Grace Bach (u/s Louisa/Jo) is thrilled to be making her BTE debut! Credits include: *The Book of Me* and *Red Summer Workshop* (MPAACT), *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins* (Strawdog), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Masque Alfresco), *Chicago* (Cutler Bro. Theatre), *Elf* (Lakewood Theatre), *West Side Story* and *Mamma Mia* (Stumptown Stages), *Into the Woods* and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Tom Miles Theatre). Bach is also a vocalist (having toured Ireland and performed at Carnegie Hall and Davenport's), choreographer, lindy hop instructor, and is passionate about artists producing their own work. A huge thank you to the cast and crew, Emma, Jack, and the lindy hop community. To learn more visit heathergracebach.com or IG @gracedbyyou

UNDERSTUDY PROFILES



Madelyn Strasma (u/s Meg) is thrilled to be working on her first BTE production! Like many young girls, she first read *Little Women* as a kid and it has held a special place in her heart ever since; what a joy and honor to bring this show to life. Notable credits include Jess in *Hookman* (Bump in the Night Theater), Little Old Lady in *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus the Musical* (GreatWorks), Puck/Egeus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Aunt March in *Little Women* (The Theatre School at DePaul University). She has BFA in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University, and is a soon-to-be-graduate of The Second City's Grad Revue program. Instagram: @madelynstrasma.



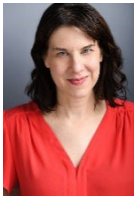
Riley Skalski (u/s Beth) is ecstatic to be a part of BTE's production of *Little Women*! Skalski is an actor from the Chicagoland area with a passion for writing. This past August, she interned at the 2025 Green Mountain Playwright Retreat hosted by playwright Erin Galligan-Baldwin at the Creative Campus at Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont. Recent theater credits include Helena in *99th and Nowhere*, Mrs. Peter's in *Trifles: a Murder Mystery* at Steel Beam Theatre. Additional credits include Anne Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Emma Tate in *Curse of the Starving Class* and a featured dancer in *Pippin* all performed at College of DuPage. Skalski also has a love for stage managing and was the assistant stage manager for Buffalo Theatre Ensemble's 2024-2025 season. She was the recipient of the John Belushi/Second City Stage Management Scholarship at College of DuPage. When Skalski isn't performing on stage, you can usually find her making short films with her friends any chance she gets!



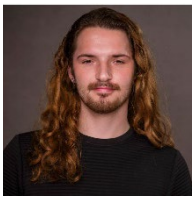
Abby Naden (u/s Amy) is delighted to join the company of BTE's *Louisa May Alcott's Little Women*! She holds a BFA in music theatre from Southeast Missouri State University, served as performer and dance captain for two seasons with the Black Hills Playhouse in Custer SD and has toured across the country as a performer and theatre educator with Missoula Children's Theatre. Her favorite roles have been as Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (BrightSide Theatre), the newsie Jojo in *Newsies* (Surging Films and Theatrics), and

UNDERSTUDY PROFILES

Red in the world-premier of the folk opera *Red and the Wolf* (Songbird Theatre). www.abbynaden.com



Laura Lodewyck (u/s Marmee/Aunt March) earned a regional Emmy for her work with NBC5 and has appeared in television and commercial roles such as *Chicago Med* (Co-star), Northwestern Mutual (Principal), Motorola (Principal), and stage productions across the Chicagoland area. Dramaturgy work includes a variety of work with *The Moors*, *The 39 Steps*, *(pool) no water*, and *Witch*, with directing credits including *The Grown-Ups*, *Iphigenia Among the Taurians*, *The Navigator*, and *Fight Girl Battle World*. Lodewyck holds an M.F.A. in Acting from Roosevelt University and a Ph.D. in Theatre & Drama from Northwestern University. She is chairperson and professor of Theatre at North Central College, where she produces six annual mainstage productions and mentors the Student Storefront Series. lauralodewyck.com



Nikolai Sorokin (u/s Laurie) is thrilled to be making his BTE debut! Some of his favorite past credits include *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* right here at the MAC, *First Date* (Oil Lamp Theatre), *Butterflies Are Free* (Bluff City Theatre) and *Company* (Lund Auditorium). He is so grateful to be a part of this production! @nikanasor - nikolaisorokin.com



Dustin Ayers (u/s John/Mr. Laurence/Mr. March/ Friedrich) is very excited to be understudying with Buffalo Theatre Ensemble again. He was last seen as Thomas Stockman in *An Enemy of the People* (Lou Award for Best Ensemble, Best Production and Best Director), Surly in the *Alchemist* and Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice* with Janus Theater. Ayers studied Performance Theater at the Conservatory at Roosevelt University.

PLAYWRIGHT PROFILE

Lauren Gunderson (Playwright) is one of the most produced playwrights in America since 2015 topping the list thrice including 2022/23. She is a two-time winner of the Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award for *I and You* and *The Book of Will*, the winner of the William Inge Distinguished Achievement in Theatre Award, the Lanford Wilson Award and the Otis Guernsey New Voices Award; a finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, Weisberger Award, and John Gassner Award for Playwriting; and a recipient of the Mellon Foundation's Residency with Marin Theatre Company. She studied Southern Literature and Drama at Emory University and Dramatic Writing at NYU's Tisch School where she was a Reynolds Fellow in Social Entrepreneurship. Her play *The Catastrophist*, about her husband virologist Nathan Wolfe, premiered digitally in January 2021. She co-authored the *Miss Bennet* plays with Margot Melcon and *The Half-Life of Marie Curie* premiered off-Broadway and is now at Audible.com. Her work is published at Bloomsbury (*Revolutionary Women: A Lauren Gunderson Anthology*, *anthropology*, *I and You*), Playscripts (*I and You*; *Exit Pursued By A Bear*; *The Taming* and *Toil And Trouble*), Dramatists Play Service (*The Revolutionists*; *The Book of Will*; *Silent Sky*; *Bauer, Natural Shocks*, *The Wickhams* and *Miss Bennet*) and Samuel French (*Emilie*). Her picture book *Dr Wonderful: Blast Off to the Moon* is available from Two Lions/Amazon. She is the book writer for musicals with Ari Afsar (*Jeannette*), Dave Stewart and Joss Stone (*The Time Traveller's Wife*), Joriah Kwamé (*Sinister*), Kait Kerrigan and Bree Lowdermilk (*Justice and Earthrise*), and Kira Stone (*Built for This*). She is a board member of The Playwrights Foundation. LaurenGunderson.com.

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PRODUCTION TEAM/ARTISTIC PROFILES

Daniel Millhouse* (Director) is grateful and thrilled to be continuing his work with Buffalo Theatre Ensemble as both the Managing Artistic Director and an Ensemble member having worked with BTE as an actor and stage manager since 2016. Previous productions with BTE as an actor include *Georgiana and Kitty: Christmas at Pemberley, The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley, Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*, and *The 39 Steps*, and as a stage manager for *Naperville* and *Season's Greetings*. Beyond BTE his theater credits also include shows with the Michigan Shakespeare Festival, Great Lakes Theater, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare Project of Chicago, Remy Bumppo, A Crew of Patches, ShawChicago, and Second City Training Center. You may also recognize him from his work on the *Call of Duty* video game franchise or his episode of *Chicago Fire*. You can also hear his voice on podcasts as well, including *The Vanishing Act* and *The Onion's The Topical*, to name a few. Millhouse is an Associate Professor at the College of DuPage where he directs productions for College Theater. He received his MFA in Acting/Directing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his BS in Theater Arts from Eastern Michigan University. He is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association and is represented by Big Mouth Talent.

Caitlyn Girten (Scenic Design) is a scenic designer working out of Chicago. This is her first time designing with Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, and she has enjoyed the artistic collaboration on such a timeless piece. When not designing, Girten can be found assisting other scenic designers and painting sets throughout the city.

Aly Renee Amidei+^ (Costume Designer) focuses her professional design practice on ensemble theatres, new works and re-envisioned classics. She is currently an Associate Professor of Design at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, was previously an Associate Professor of Design at UNC-Charlotte and worked for 14 years as the Costume Assistant and Costume Coordinator at College of DuPage. She continues to work in the Madison and Chicago area and other regional theatres as a costume designer and playwright. She is a proud member of United Scenic Artists Union 829 and an ensemble member at Lifeline Theatre,

Strawdog Theatre Company and Buffalo Theatre Ensemble. Recent Buffalo Theatre Ensemble designs include: *Georgiana and Kitty*, *Miss Bennet* and *The Wickhams*, *The Outgoing Tide* and *Andy Warhol's Tomato*. Upcoming designs include: *Annie* for Children's Theatre of Madison.

Christopher Kriz+^ (Composer and Sound Design) is an award-winning composer and sound designer based in Chicago. Previous BTE designs include: *The Outgoing Tide*, *Georgiana & Kitty: Christmas at Pemberley*, *Andy Warhol's Tomato*, and dozens of others. A winner of seven Joseph Jefferson Awards, Kriz has designed hundreds of productions for companies in Chicago including Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Court Theatre, Writers Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Northlight Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Timeline Theatre, Victory Gardens Theatre and many others. Regional credits include: Seattle Repertory Theatre, Kansas City Repertory, Indiana Repertory, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Nebraska Repertory, Peninsula Players, TheatreSquared, American Stage, Montana Shakespeare, Michigan Shakespeare Festival and others. In 2025, Kriz was chosen as one of New City Magazine's Players 2025: The 50 People Who Really Perform for Chicago. Kriz is a proud member of United Scenic Artists 829 and is represented by the Michael Moore Agency. To hear more of his work, visit www.christopherkriz.com.

Garrett Bell (Lighting Design) is a Lighting Designer based out of Chicago and a lecturer at the University of Chicago and the City Colleges of Chicago. Recent Lighting Design credits with BTE include *Georgiana and Kitty: Christmas at Pemberley*, *Native Gardens*, *The Outgoing Tide*, *Into the Earth with You* and *Andy Warhol's Tomato*. Other recent credits include *Tecumseh!* (Scioto Society), *Black Bone* (Definition Theatre, world premiere), *Coronation* (world premiere, Joseph Jefferson award) and *A Play About David Mamet Writing a Play About Harvey Weinstein* (Refracted Theatre Company), *Queen for a Day* (World Premiere, Hell in a Handbag), *Heisenberg* (Lighting & Scenic Griffin Theatre), and *The*

PRODUCTION TEAM/ARTISTIC PROFILES

Madness of Edgar Allan Poe: A Love Story (Oak Park Festival Theatre). More of Garrett's work and contact information can be found at www.garrettmbell.com.

Paloma Locsin (Properties Design) This is Locsin's second production with Buffalo Theatre Ensemble. www.palomalocsin.com

Amber Wuttke (Fight and Intimacy Direction) is delighted to make her debut with Buffalo Theatre Ensemble with this production of *Little Women*! She is co-founder of Violent Delights, a stage combat, intimacy and movement design team, recently Jeff Award nominated in 2024, for their work in Invictus' production of *Macbeth*. Recent Chicago Credits: Metropolis (*Ride the Cyclone*, *Wedding Singer*, *9 To 5*); Paramount Theatre (*The Full Monty*); Writer's Theatre (*Leopoldstadt*, *Job* and *Natasha...Great Comet...*); Music Theater Works (*Escape to Margaritaville*, *Annie*, *Fiddler on the Roof)*; Elsinore Players (*Frankie and Johnny...Clair De Lune* and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*); Invictus Theatre Company (*Ther Crucible*). @violentdelights_chi

STAGE MANAGER PROFILES

Caitlin l. Quinn* (Stage Manager) is excited to return to Buffalo Theatre Ensemble for their 40th season. She is proud of her stage management work on *Georgiana and Kitty*, *Unnecessary Farce*, *Native Gardens*, and *The Wickhams* at BTE. As well as *The Addams Family*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Any Other Name* at Williams Street Rep. With more than 15 years of prior theatre experience, it's always thrilling to start a new project. Quinn won the Impresario Jeff Award in Stage Management for her work with BTE last season. Special thanks to her partner, Jim, as well as Connie, Daniel, Kelli, and the BTE team for welcoming her on this journey of collaboration.

Nicholas Washington (Assistant Stage Manager) is proud to be continuing his work with and supporting Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, this time as an Assistant Stage Manager. Washington studied Theater at College of DuPage playing a range of characters such as Giles Ralston in

STAGE MANAGER PROFILES

The Mousetrap, Gordon Gottlieb in *Dead Man's Cell Phone* and Jack (John) Worthing in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. This is his third professional show after a lovely run last summer doing *Hairspray* with Uptown Theater: Highland Park. He hopes to continue studying Drama and the Arts.

Harry Smith◊ (BTE Assistant Stage Manager Scholar) has worked on multiple shows at COD including stage manager for *Fight Girl Battle World* and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Smith has previously worked on BTE production *Georgiana and Kitty: Christmas at Pemberley*. Smith is the recipient of BTE's scholarship and COD's Belushi Stage Management scholarship and is truly grateful to work on another show with the incredible Buffalo Theatre Ensemble.

+ Member of Buffalo Theatre Ensemble
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^ Member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829
‡ Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society
± Member of Society of American Fight Directors
◊ Buffalo Theatre Ensemble Stage Management Scholarship Recipient

Buffalo Theatre Ensemble's mission is to provide a forum in which artists, scholars, writers, students and community members explore new ideas and provocative issues through the production of quality theatre for the enjoyment of its audiences.

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Buffalo Theatre Ensemble ("BTE") is a 501(c)(3) not for profit, professional theatre company in residence at the McAninch Arts Center (MAC) on the campus of College of DuPage.
Ticket revenue only covers a portion of Buffalo Theatre Ensemble's operating expenses. The rest must be raised through contributions, the majority of which comes in the form of gifts from individuals like you.

It's because of our close circle of friends that BTE is able to explore new ideas and provocative issues through the production of professional, high quality theater for the enjoyment of its audiences.

The resident ensemble brings professional theater to DuPage County and at the same time enhances the training of students in Theater at College of DuPage, providing opportunities for students to develop their talents alongside working theater artists.

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For 40 years, Buffalo Theatre Ensemble (BTE) has played a major role in the cultural community of College of DuPage and the surrounding area, through the marriage of committed permanent ensemble members, fine Chicagoland artists, and great theatrical works. We gratefully acknowledge the donors who have made it possible to return for our 40th season.

This list of donors reflects contributions made from January 1, 2024 through October 31, 2026. While we carefully prepared this listing, we recognize that errors may occur. Please accept our apology if you are not properly represented on this list and contact BTE at danielm@btechicago.com so we may correct our records.

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BTEattheMAC

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- Cameras and recording devices are not allowed in the theater and are prohibited by our contracts with the artists.
- Smoking is not permitted in the theater or on campus.
- For your comfort and security, all backpacks and large bags must be checked.
- Please turn off all cell phones and any other alarms while in the theater.
- Emergency phone number at COD Police Department for after-hour calls is (630) 942-2000.
- Latecomers seated at discretion of the House Manager.
- For group discounts of 10+, call (630) 942-3026 or email grouptix@cod.edu.
- If you notice a spill in the theater, please notify an usher.
- McAninch Arts Center volunteers assist in areas of ticket taking and ushering during performances. To get involved, call (630) 942-3705.
- For Americans With Disabilities Act accommodations, call (630) 942-2141 (voice) or (630) 858-9692 (TDD).
- Assistive Listening Devices: In Belushi Performance Hall we offer "Auracast", a personalized stream that directly connects to your device. Otherwise, the MAC offers infrared assistive devices in all theaters. Visit MAC Box Office to check out headsets or for more information.

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