

Children's Theatre Playbill



AESOP'S FABLES

Adapted by Sarah Durham



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CAST

Julia Ruggirello

Cory Sweat

Director

Ben Liebert

Scenic Designer

Nick Schons

Costume Designer

Chelsea Allen & Rossitza Lovetcheva

Lighting Designer

Kate Landry

Sound Designer

Naomi Marin

Additional Music

Jim Prosser

Voice Over

Kevin Allen

Stage Management Fellow: Kara Powell

ARTIST PROFILES



JULIA RUGGIRELLO is a recent graduate of Kent State University's BFA Musical Theater Program and is so excited to be an Acting Apprentice with Florida Studio Theatre! Recent credits include *Junie B. Jones* in *Junie B. Jones: The Musical* (FST), Ensemble U/S in *Waitress* (FST), Maureen U/S and Alexi Darling in *Rent* (Kent State University), Featured Dancer in *Kiss Me, Kate!* (People's Bank Theater), and Soupy Sue in *Urinetown* (Kent State University). Julia is thrilled to be in Sarasota and can't wait to keep growing and learning as a performer!



CORY SWEAT is currently an Acting Apprentice at FST. He is a recent graduate from the University of Central Florida obtaining his BFA in Acting. Recent credits include *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* (Bowl, Caruther (u/s)*, Mulberry (u/s)), *The Interference* (Jerry and Others (u/s)), *The Crucible* (Giles Corey). He also participated in the Halloweekends season at Cedar Point this past fall, where he hosted their daily Costume Contest (Mischief). IG: corysweat

ARTIST PROFILES

BEN LIEBERT (Director) At FST, Ben has directed *Waitress*, *The World Goes 'Round*, *Red Riding Hood* and choreographed *Off the Charts*, *Junie B. Jones: The Musical*, *Up On The Roof* and *Laughing Matters: Variant 6*. His work includes *Next to Normal*, *Into the Woods*, *The Producers* (National tour, assistant director), *Ordinary Days*, *Complete Works of Shakespeare* (Abridged) and *The Bomb-itty of Errors* as well as new works at Theatre Aspen, Samuel French OOB Festival (festival winner), and Randomly Specific Theatre. Ben has also created and staged winning presentations for *Fiddler on the Roof* in Yiddish for BC/EFA. [@glorious_idiot](mailto:benliebert.com)

NICK SCHONS (Scenic Designer) Recent and notable projects include Off-Broadway: *Peerless* (Primary Stages at 59E59 Studios), *Candida* (Gingold Group at TheatreRow), *La Race* (Page 73 Productions). Regional: *From The Mississippi Delta* (Westport Country Playhouse), *Ragtime* (Utah Shakespeare Festival), *Kim's Convenience* (Westport Country Playhouse), *Rent* (Theatre Aspen). Nick's work has been seen in theaters across the country including: Westport Country Playhouse, Utah Shakespeare Festival, TheatreSquared, Laguna Playhouse, Music Theatre Connecticut, Cherry Lane Theatre, Theatre Aspen, The Broadway Method Academy, and the City College of New York City. nickschons.com

CHELSEA ALLEN (Costume Designer) is a costume, wig, and makeup designer from Nashville, Tennessee. She recently relocated from Las Vegas to become the Costume Shop Manager here at FST. Her credits include shows by Cirque Du Soleil, Spiegelworld, The Utah Shakespeare Festival, Great River Shakespeare Festival, and The Food Network. She is also a freelance muralist and painter who is excited to bring her love of costuming and art to FST. FST Credit: *Deck The Halls*, *59th Street Bridge*, *Waitress* and *Off The Charts*.

ROSSITZA LOVETCHEVA (Costume Designer) Rossitza has recently joined FST as a costume shop assistant. Before that, she worked with Disney on Ice, Sarasota Opera, Opera Orlando, Orlando Ballet, and Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Orlando, FL. Rossitza studied textile and apparel design and technology in her native country, Bulgaria. Additionally, she holds an MBA in business management and a Bachelor of

Science in finance from the State University of New York (SUNY). FST: *Deck The Halls*.

KATE LANDRY (Lighting Designer) Graduated from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she received her B.A. in technical theatre. She designed locally around Louisiana before coming to intern at Florida Studio Theatre. Her credits include *Deck The Halls* (FST), *Heathers* (LSU), *Matilda the Musical* (Ascension Community Theatre), and *Steel Magnolias* (Baton Rouge Theatre). She is extremely excited to create here at FST!

NAOMI MARIN (Sound Designer) is a recent graduate of Ursinus College in Collegeville, PA, where she got her B.A. in Theater Design and Technology. Originally from Columbia, Maryland, she has been involved in theater since her freshman year of high school and is beyond excited to be at FST. Her Ursinus credits include *And Baby Makes Seven*, *The Oldest Profession*, and two original works: *Pride and Prejudice* at Pemberley College, and *In Too Deep*. FST credits: *Deck the Halls*.

JIM PROSSER (Additional Music) He recently appeared in *The Lehman Trilogy*, *Laughing Matters*, *The Wanderers*, *Sophie Tucker: The Last of the Red Hot Mamas*, and *Vintage POP!*. He has served as Composer/Music Director for FST School, writing numerous scores for children's shows.

KEVIN ALLEN (Voice Over) is a writer, videographer, content creator and actor. He earned Theatre and English degrees from the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he was a member of the legendary Comedy Wars ensemble. Kevin is also a writer and performer in the FST's sketch comedy group and was a contributing writer for the 2022 FST cabaret production, *Laughing Matters*.

KARA POWELL (Stage Management Fellow) is from Franklin, Tennessee. While studying Arts Administration and Theatre at the University of Kentucky, she held positions as Assistant Director for *Bright Star* and *Shakespeare in Love* and as Assistant Stage Manager for *School for Scandal*. Additionally, she was the Assistant Director for *Lucidity: A New Musical*, which debuted at SETC 2023. She is excited to continue her career with FST as the current Production Management Fellow and Improv Stage Manager. FST: *Red Riding Hood*, Run Crew Cover *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Waitress*.

FST COMPANY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President.....	Dennis McGillicuddy
Vice-President	Richard Hopkins
Secretary/Treasurer.....	Patricia Courtois
Trustee	Gael Barthold
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Trustee	Cheryl Gorelick
Trustee	Doug Holder Jr.
Trustee	Robert Israeloff
Trustee	Honorable Charles Williams

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Producing Artistic Director	Richard Hopkins
Managing Director	Rebecca Hopkins

ARTISTIC STAFF

Associate Director At-Large	Kate Alexander
Resident Pianist	Jim Prosser
Associate Artist/Literary Manager.....	Catherine Randazzo
Associate Artist.....	Ben Liebert
Associate Artist.....	Nancy Rominger
Casting and Hiring Coordinator.....	Hershey Vazquez Millner
Assistant to the Artistic Director.....	Doris Imelmo
Improv Manager & Resident Artist.....	Sarah Durham

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director of Production	Ahkim Church
Associate Production Manager.....	Allison Hannon
Production Stage Manager.....	Shira Lebovich
Stage Manager.....	Emilia Ciotti Hernández
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Charlotte Perez
Costume Shop Manager.....	Chelsea Allen
Costume Shop Assistant.....	Rossitza Lovetcheva
Lighting Supervisor.....	Andrew Gray
Technical Director.....	Andrew Patton
Assistant Technical Director.....	Casey Seiler
Properties & Paint Supervisor.....	Sarah DeSmith
Sound Supervisor.....	Nicholas Christensen
Company Manager.....	Julie Wells

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

General Manager	Jill Zakrzewski
Director of IT.....	Clarke Weigle
Director of Finance.....	Jacinta Kavanaugh
Business Office Associate.....	Jacob Osborn
Management Assistant.....	Korinna Perez-Nunez
Receptionist/Volunteer Coordinator.....	Joan O'Dowd
Director of Marketing.....	Sarah Hedges
Events Coord. & Digital Marketing Assistant.....	Franki Arroyo
Marketing Associate.....	Emiliano Mejias
Digital & Media Relations Associate.....	Wendy Kiesewetter
Director of Development	Matthew Glover
Development Manager	Anyssa Hining
Development Associate	Kristin Hartnett
Grant Writer.....	Abby Jimison
Development Assistant.....	Hailey Hogan
Development Assistant.....	Noah Sieg
Director of Patron Services.....	Kelsey Wehde Wilson
Box Office Manager.....	Seth Hilbert
Asst. Box Office Manager.....	Austin Howeth
Asst. Box Office Manager.....	Karla Mendez
Box Office Supervisor.....	Gigi Delpero
Restaurant Manager.....	Tom Curry
Restaurant Manager.....	Karen Price
Restaurant Manager.....	Pamela Dillon
Kitchen Manager	Steve Swan
Mailroom Technician.....	Ryan Stanley

FACILITIES

Facilities Manager.....	James Handley
Facilities Assistant.....	Luke Johnson
Maintenance Technician.....	Todd Bechtel
Cleaner.....	Loida Mata
Senior Facilities Technician.....	Seni Ok

EDUCATION & TOURS

Director of Children's Theatre	Caroline Saldivar
Children's Theatre Associate	Kacy Jones
Director of Education/Associate Artist.....	Rachel Moulton
Education Administrator.....	Pamela Smith
Teaching Artist.....	David Stein

COMMUNITY RESOURCE GROUP

Larry Coleman	Bonny Israeloff	Graci McGillicuddy
Shirley Fein	Valerie Joels	Jill Ross
Maddy Freshwater	Patricia Kordis	Lois Schottenstein
Carol Gilbert	Marie Kropp	Lois Stulberg
Sy Goldblatt	Susan Landau	Charlie Ann Syprett
Robert Grady	Frank Malickson	Martin Taffel
Wendy Grady	Matty Matheson	

AUDIENCE ENRICHMENT GROUP

Hon. Larry L. Eger	Willie Shaw
Trevor Harvey	Charles Shaw
Gilbert King	Howard Tevlowitz
Michele D. Redwine	Honorable Charles Williams
Dr. Eddy Regnier	Rose Chapman
Renée James Gilmore	
The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee	

OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

House Counsel.....	Michael E. Siegel
	Shutts & Bowen LLP

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Acting Apprentice.....	David Allsup
Acting Apprentice.....	Stokeley Ellison
Acting Apprentice.....	Hannah Habisreitering
Acting Apprentice.....	Nick James
Acting Apprentice.....	Tilley Jane
Acting Apprentice.....	Destinee Johnson
Acting Apprentice.....	Ava Mastrone
Acting Apprentice.....	Julia Ruggirello
Acting Apprentice.....	Evan Souza
Acting Apprentice.....	Cory Sweat
Acting Fellow.....	Dellan Short
Artistic Fellow.....	Jakob Harding
Casting & Hiring Intern.....	Mattie E. Hincley
Children's Theatre & Education Intern.....	Chloe Remaley
Costume Intern.....	Rose Hersh
General Management Intern.....	Krista Hagans
Lighting Intern.....	Kate Landry
Literary Intern.....	Nicole Crivelli
Literary Intern.....	Tyler Lemley
Literary Intern.....	Gillian Lintz
Literary Intern.....	Artemis Truax
Production Management Fellow.....	Kara Powell
Props & Paint Intern.....	Kirsten Pruitt
Sound Fellow.....	Naomi Marin
Stage Management Fellow.....	Matthew Parvin
Stage Management Intern.....	Nathaniel Avery
Stage Management Intern.....	Colbee Dickson
Stage Management Intern.....	Madison Harosky
Stage Management Intern.....	Tori Martinson
Stage Management Intern.....	Amoreena Tillman