

NextStop
theatre company

Presents



REEFER MADNESS

MAY 3-JUNE 2, 2024



Presents



REEFER MADNESS

Book by Kevin Murphy & Dan Studney

Music by Dan Studney

Lyrics by Kevin Murphy

Directed and Choreographed by Robert Mintz

Music Direction by Paige Rammelkamp

May 3 - June 2, 2024

Originally directed by ANDY FICKMAN and produced by STEPHANIE STEELE for DEAD OLD MAN PRODUCTIONS

Orchestrations by David Manning & Nathan Wang

REEFER MADNESS is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

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Mon-Fri: 8:00am – 6:00pm
Sat: 9:00am – 5:00pm

The Cast

Simone Brown - Sally
Melanie Kurstin - Mae
Kaylen Morgan - Jack
Cam Powell - Ralph, U/S Jack
Drew Sharpe - Jimmy
Josh Simon - Lecturer
Carolyn Tachoir - Mary Lane
Kendall Huheey - Ensemble, U/S Mae
Tony Lemus - Ensemble, U/S Jimmy
Alexandra Lopez - Ensemble, U/S Mary
Walker Vlahos - Ensemble
Patrick Payne - Swing
Tiffani Stitz - Swing, U/S Sally

Creative Team

Robert Mintz - Director / Choreographer
Paige Rammelkamp - Music Director
Jack Golden - Scenic Designer
Hailey LaRoe - Lighting Designer
Jessica Utz - Costume Designer
Karissa Martinez - Properties Designer
Brandon Cook - Sound Designer
Julie Pesak - Assistant Director
Tiffani Stitz - Dance Captain
Fe Miranda - Stage Manager
Julie Pesak - Assistant Stage Manager
Jack Wilson - Technical Director
Alex Parish - Carpenter
Suzy Alden - Scenic Artist
Sarah Usary - Scenic Artist
Ariel Kraje - Scenic Artist
Emma Smith - Lead Electrician
Dennis Bowe, Natasha Moralez and
Taylor Stewart - Carpentry Assistants

Band

(At certain performances)

Paige Rammelkamp - Keys
Lindsay Williams, Mari Hill - Reeds
Rick Peralta, Robbie Taylor - Guitar
Teresa Arnold, Nick Graziano - Bass
James (Jim) B. Hofmann - Drums

Audience Advisories

This production contains the following:

Auditory and Visual Effects

Theatrical haze, gunshots, scented vapor, and open flame

Violence and Mature Content

Mentions of rape and sexual assault, physical
and sexual abuse, and abortion

Theatrical depictions of drug use, physical violence,
sexual activity, racism, homophobia, and sexism

STAFF

Producing Artistic Director

Evan Hoffmann

Executive Director

Vicki Kile

Director of Development

Tomoko Azuma

Director of Education

Jessi Shull

Technical Director

Jack Wilson

Lead Electrician

Emma Smith

Audience Services Manager

Nora St. Arnold

House Managers

Ashleigh Ames

Stephanie Davis

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Alex Parish

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Sheila Watson

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Quoc Tran

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Reefer Madness is approximately
2 hours and 20 minutes with an
intermission



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Next Up at NextStop!

Coming Soon ... 2024-2025 Season Announcement



Stars on Stage - We're thrilled to announce our production of Disney's "The Lion King KIDS" for 3rd-6th grade students at Herndon and Dranesville Elementary schools! Students have been hard at work in rehearsal since February and will be performing for their school communities this May!

A special thank you to ArtsFairfax & The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia/Shrivastava Charitable Fund for making this program possible.

Student Theatre Escapes - Is your student belting out tunes from Hamilton, Newsies, or other Broadway hits? Look no further! Introducing Student Theatre Escapes – one-day standalone classes designed to give young Broadway lovers the chance to listen, learn, and love on a different show each day. Coinciding with FCPS teacher workdays and student holidays, these classes will include singing, dancing, acting, and more. No experience? No problem-- all levels are welcome. From Golden Age classics to the latest box office smash, come get to know a musical with us!

Upcoming:

May 3 (Teacher Work Day) - *Seussical*



Summer Theatre Adventures 2024 - Dive into weeks of imagination, laughter, and creative exploration tailor-made for budding performers in 1st through 10th grades. From drama to dance, your young stars are in for an unforgettable journey on the stage!

Grease: Teen Edition - Join us for a sizzling summer production of *Grease*, which will feature a dynamic all-teen cast (rising 8th through 12th graders). Students will work with NextStop's professional directors and designers to create "summer nights" to remember!





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- May**
 - 3 Three Sheets to the Wind
 - 10 Kristen and the Noise
 - 17 8 Track Jones + Billy T Wilde Band
 - 24 Royals
 - 31 Under the Covers + Legal in The District
- June**
 - 7 Vertigo Red + Kat Atomic
 - 14 Screaming Mönkeys
 - 21 The Reflex
 - 28 The Rockets + Uncle Jesse
- July**
 - 5 LauraLea & Tripp Fabulous
 - 12 keeton + Collective
 - 19 Herr Metal + Dr FU
 - 26 It's All Good + Twisted Flags
- August**
 - 2 Shake the Room
 - 9 Social Call + Pool Boys
 - 16 Doc Marten and the Flannels
 - 23 JunkFood

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The Cast



Simone Brown (Sally) Simone is a Maryland native and Sherwood High school Alum with both a BM and MM from Xavier University of Louisiana and Peabody Conservatory. Last seen on the Operatic Stage with Charlottesville Opera in *The Sound of Music* and *The Merry Widow*, at the Kennedy Center with Opera Nova's Black History Concerts, in recital and concert with The Denyce Graves Foundation, at Good Shepherd Church, and Lyrica Classic Entertainment. Simone has also performed with Olney Theatre Center's Helen Hayes nominated regional premiere of *Fela!*, the Helen Hayes nominated cast of *Into The Woods* with Signature Theatre, Keegan Theatre as Kate in *Good People*, at Toby's Dinner Theater as an ensemble member and

understudy for Rachel Marron in *The Bodyguard*, Heather Chandler in HCC's *The Heathers*, and the Kensington Arts Theater production of *Sweeney Todd* as Johanna. Her upcoming performances include *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* with Olney Theatre. Simone also works as a Princess Performer with the children's entertainment company she founded, Black Princess Parties DMV. Follow her career at www.simonebrownsoprano.com.



Kendell Huheey (Ensemble, U/S Mae) (she/her) is so excited to make her NextStop Debut in *Reefer Madness!* She recently graduated from George Mason University with a B.F.A. in Theater Performance. Previous roles include Ensemble in *The Who's Tommy* (Workhouse Performing Arts), Pamela in *Head Over Heels* (George Mason University) and Diana in *The Road To The End* (Capital Fringe Festival). She would like to thank all of her family, teachers, and friends for helping her get here. Enjoy the show!



Melanie Kurstin (Mae) **Melanie Kurstin** (Mae) (she/her) is making her NextStop Theatre debut! Melanie was most recently seen in Dominion Stage's Production of *Torch Song* (Laurel) and The Arlington Players' *Into The Woods* (The Witch). Notable credits include; NYC: *American Idiot* (Whatsername), *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Yitzhak); REGIONAL: Iron Crow Theatre: *Hurricane Diane* (Pam Annunziata); National Edgar Allan Poe Theatre: *Edgar Allan Poe's Blood, Sweat and Fears* (Esme Perrin); Wolf Pack Theatre Company: *PUFFS* (Megan Jones), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Magenta); Landless Theatre Company: *Saving Private Pooh* (Roo), *The Walking Fred* (Wilma), *PUFFS* (D.C. Regional Premiere) (Susie Bones); OTHER NOTABLE CREDITS: *Head Over*

Heels (Mopsa), *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* (Georgeanne), *The Revolutionists* (Charlotte Corday), *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* (The Storyteller), *The Wild Party* (Kate), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Logainne), *Firebringer* (Emberly), and *Harry Connick Jr's The Happy Elf* Starring Michael Rupert (The Angry Lady). Among her many theater credits, she has performed as part of the choir honoring Billy Joel at the 2014 *Kennedy Center Honors*, can be seen in front of the camera in several award-winning short films with SHRUG Productions, and has worked on the Latin Grammy Awards, Grammy Awards, and Sundance Film Festival. Recently, she has lent her voice to many characters with The National Edgar Allan Poe Theatre's theatrical *Poe on the Air* LIVE podcast series which can be heard on NPR. Sincere thanks and love to her family, friends, and her partner, Adam, for their never-ending support, patience, and encouragement. Instagram : @MelanieQuinn13



Tony Lemus (Ensemble, U/S Jimmy) Is thrilled to be back at NextStop Theater for *Reefer Madness*! Recent credits include Creative Cauldron Theater: *Working*; Rorschach Theater Company: *Night of The Living Dead*; St. Mark's Players: *Our Town*; Toby's Dinner Theater: *Grease*; NextStop Theater Company: *Little Women*; Monumental Theater Company: *Tick, Tick.....Boom*. Education: George Mason University, BFA Musical Theater '22. He would like to thank his friends and family for their ongoing support and is grateful for this wonderful opportunity and team of artists!



Alexandra Lopez (Ensemble, U/S Mary) Alexandra Lopez is thrilled to be back at NextStop with such an amazing cast and creative team! DC AREA: *In the Heights* (Swing): NextStop Theatre Company. REGIONAL: Clear Space Theatre Company: *9 to 5* (Doralee), *Grease* (ChaCha). CUA: *The Sound of Music* (Liesl), *Ride the Cyclone* (Ocean), *Anything Goes* (Chastity), *Carrie: The Musical* (Chris). EDUCATION: The Catholic University of America, B.M. Musical Theatre. Many thanks to her friends and family! @alexandravlopez



Kaylen Morgan (Jack) is thrilled to return to the Nextstop stage in this uproarious production. He was recently seen here as Benny in *In The Heights*, earning him a prestigious Helen Hayes Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor. The nomination itself has left him overjoyed and humbled. Kaylen's diverse range of favorite credits includes performances as Brad in *Rocky Horror*, Warner in *Legally Blonde*, Robertson Ay in *Mary Poppins*, Rocky in *Damn Yankees*, and Hanschen in *Spring Awakening*, among many others. Having studied theatre and business at Columbus State University, Kaylen is so grateful for the opportunity to work in the vibrant D.C. theatre community. Be sure to connect with him on Instagram: @Kaylen08.



Patrick Payne (Swing) Patrick Payne is a DMV native and recent graduate from Catholic University where he received his B.M. in Musical Theatre Performance. This is his third show at Nextstop (*Lucky Stiff*, Swing; *Nunsense*, Sr. Amnesia) and is thrilled to be back. Other recent credits include: *Anything Goes* (Lord Evelyn, Catholic University), *Ritorna Vincitor!* (Ft. Dancer & Ensemble, Maryland Opera Company), and *Mozart's Impresario* (Herr. Eiler, Winter Harbor Music Festival). Patrick hopes you feel all the 'highs' and lows that *Reefer Madness* has in store for you.



Cam Powell (Ralph) Cam Powell (he/they) is jazzed to be back in the NextStop reefer den! Previously seen as Ricky Potts (*Ride the Cyclone*, NextStop), Jack (*Into The Woods*, Arlington Players), and *In The Heights*, NextStop. Big thanks to the NextStop team for having me back. Thanks to Mom, Dad, Nana and Da, Nana Lo, Max, Shieh'Ron, the Fairbanks, the Striplings, and my high school band teacher, Mr. English for always believing in me and reminding me to put my all into everything I love. Take a big puff and enjoy the show! Insta: @atcampowell TikTok: @theatreacam



Drew Sharpe (Jimmy) NextStop Theatre debut. Recent shows include: *Merrily We Roll Along* (Swing) with Keegan Theatre, *The Tempest* (Caliban) and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged* (Daniel) with Classic Theatre of Maryland, *Amelia Earhart* (George Putnam) with The REV on Tour. His only experience with reefer was one time in college when he... oh, hi mom... never mind. Thank you to Robert, Paige, and the NextStop team for trusting me with the reefer role. Enjoy the show.



Josh Simon (Lecturer) is thrilled to return to NextStop Theatre. He first performed with them a decade ago in *Miss Electricity*, a touring show for elementary-school audiences. Since then he has written for and appeared in a number of NextStop's holiday cabarets. Other credits include *The Toxic Avenger* (Rorschach), *Beauty and the Beast* (Creative Cauldron), *Purple Rayon* (Madcap Theatrical), *A Civil War Christmas* (1st Stage), and *Enron: The Play* (4615 theatre co). BFA: NYU.



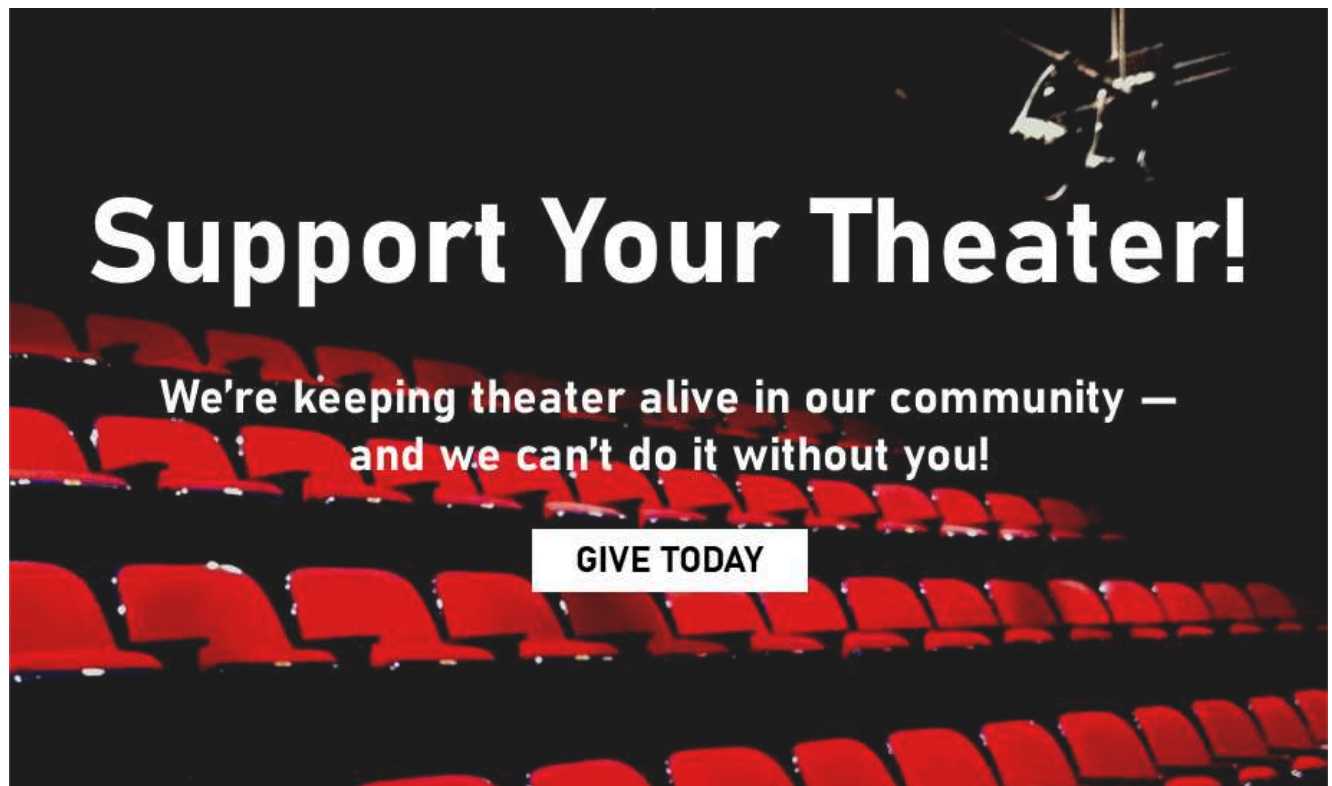
Tiffani Stitz (Swing, Dance Captain, U/S Sally) Tiffani is a soon to be graduate from The Catholic University of America with a Bachelors of Music in Musical Theater. This is Tiffani's first show at NextStop Theater Company and she is so excited to be a part of this wonderful cast! Tiffani has recently appeared in *Pippin* (Ensemble/ Dance Captain), *Anything Goes* (Angel), *Radio 930* (Ensemble/ Dance Captain), *Carrie* (Norma/Dance Captain), and *Children of Eden* (Ensemble/ Dance Captain) at The Catholic University of America, and has also appeared in *Cinderella* (Raccoon/ Dance Captain) at Plays in the Park. Tiffani would like to thank her family and friends for their constant support, and would like to thank the cast and crew for making this experience such a joy!



Carolyn Tachoir (Mary) Carolyn is thrilled to be making her NextStop Theatre debut as Mary Lane! She is a recent Catholic University graduate with a BM in musical theatre. Recent credits include *Shout! The Mod Musical* (Paul Bunyan Playhouse), *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* (Lexington Children's Theatre), and *Cool Yule Christmas* (Carowinds Live Entertainment). Huge thanks to the incredible cast, crew, Robert, and the rest of the creative team. Thank you always to her family and friends for their endless love and support (and special shout for her dad who has been the most excited about this project even before day one). Enjoy the show!!



Walker Vlahos (Ensemble) Walker is thrilled to be back at NextStop in *Reefer Madness!* DC AREA: Toby's Dinner Theatre: *Something Rotten!*, *Grease*; NextStop Theatre Company: *Ride The Cyclone*. GMU: *Footloose* (Willard), *The Boy Detective Fails* (Fenton), *Runaways*, *Rags* (Hamlet), The Mason Cabaret; COMMUNITY: *Spring Awakening* (Melchior). EDUCATION: George Mason University, BFA Musical Theater. @walkervlahos





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Creative Team

Brandon Cook (Sound Designer) Brandon Cook- local Washington DC Sound Designer is thankful for the amazing opportunity to work with the wonderful and talented Cast and Crew of Nunsense A-Men! (Recent credits include *Tell Tale Heart* Synetic Theatre 2023, *Look Both Ways* Kennedy Center 2023, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* Adventure Theatre 2023, *Seussical The Musical* Keegan Theatre 2023 *This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing* Theatre Alliance 2023, *Lifespan Of A Fact* Keegan Theatre 2023, *La Revoltosa* Gala Theatre 2022, *Tis Pity She's A Whore, The Winter's Tale, Hedda Gabler* Shakespeare Theatre Company ACA Rep 2022)

Jack Golden (Scenic Designer) is a young, award winning, designer based out of Manhattan. Jack is delighted to be returning to Nextstop after having been a staff member and having designed over ten productions! Favorite Nextstop designs include: *Beehive, Urinetown, Bad Jews, and Crimes of the Heart*. Recent designs include: *Powerhouse* (Off-Broadway), *Winnie the Pooh* (Takeover, Chicago, Off-Broadway, Tour), *Driving Miss Daisy* (Bristol Valley Theatre), *End of the Rainbow* (Curtain Call Theatre), *Archies Weird Parody Musical* (Off-Broadway), *Life's Work* (Vivid Stage), and *The Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help* (Curtain Call). Assistant/Associate: *Fat Ham* (Upcoming Huntington/Alliance), *Sesame Street* (Off-Broadway), *On Your Feet* (National Tour), *Macbeth* (Merrimack Rep), *Art of Burning* (Huntington/Hartford Stage). Currently teaching at University of the Arts in Philadelphia and Ramapo College in New Jersey. MFA University of Maryland, College Park. www.jackcgolden.com.

Hailey LaRoe (Lighting Designer) is thrilled to be working with Next Stop again on this fabulous show! Hailey is a Lighting and Projection designer, based in the DC area since 2018. Her recent Lighting designs include; *Golden Fish, Cyrano de Bergerac, and Bloom* (Synetic theatre), *Fuego Flamenco 2023* (Gala Theatre), *Hazardous Materials* (Perisphere theatre), *Nunsense A-Men!, Ride the Cyclone* and *The 39 Steps* (NestStop Theatre), and *Monstress* (Flying V). Her recent projection designs include; *Bathing in Moonlight, and Kumanana* (Gala Theatre), and *Monsters of the American Cinema* (Prologue Theatre). Enjoy the show! Haileylaroesdesigns.com.

Ivy Martinez (Props) Ivy is excited to be back for their third NextStop production. They are a semi-recent graduate of Shenandoah University's with a interdisciplinary focus (technical theatre, gender studies, and ethnic studies). Outside of the theatre they are a science and arts tutor and teaching artist.

Robert Mintz (Director/Choreographer) Robert is thrilled to be returning to NextStop after directing 2022's *Lucky Stiff* and choreographing (and performing in) 2019's *Singin' in the Rain* (Helen Hayes nomination for Outstanding Choreography). Some of his Direction and Choreography credits include productions at Olney Theatre Center: *Finian's Rainbow in Concert* (Director/Choreographer), *Children of Eden in Concert* (Choreographer), *Lautrec at the St. James in Concert* (Choreographer); Rainbow Theatre Project: *Jeffrey* (Director); Iron Crow Theatre: *The Wild Party* (Choreographer); Capital Fringe: *The Crayon King* (Director/Choreographer); The Catholic University of America: *Kiss Me, Kate* (Choreographer); The Growing Stage Theatre: *The Neverending Story* (Director), *Into the Woods* (Director/Choreographer); Johns Hopkins University: *Company* (Director/Choreographer); Montgomery College: *Sweet Charity* (Choreographer), *Sister Act* (Choreographer), *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (Choreographer). As a performer, Robert has been seen in the Washington metro area at The Kennedy Center, Arena Stage, Signature Theatre, Olney Theatre Center, NextStop Theatre Company, Toby's Dinner Theatre, Adventure Theatre, Washington Savoyards, and Urban Arias, as well as in productions in New York City and at a number of regional theatres along the East Coast. Robert holds a Bachelors of Music degree in Musical Theatre from The Catholic University of America (CUA) and has served as an adjunct professor at CUA and American University. Coming up next, Robert will be directing and choreographing the New England premiere of *The Prom* at Playhouse on Park in West Hartford, CT [@mintzterpiecetheater](https://www.instagram.com/mintzterpiecetheater)

Fe Miranda (Stage Manager) (they/them) is excited to be working with NextStop again on such a wonderful show with such a wonderful cast! Fe's previous stage management credits include *In the Heights* (NextStop Theatre), *Head Over Heels*, *Just Like Us*, and *1,001 Plays* (Mason Players, George Mason University). Fe is currently the Production Assistant at the Center for the Arts at George Mason University. Fe has a BA in Music with a minor in Arts Management from George Mason University. Fe would like to thank their parents for their continual love and support!

Julie Pesak (Assistant Director, Assistant Stage Manager) Julie is a director and performer based in the DC area. Her most recent directing credits include director for Joan's (Theatre on The Verge Play Festival) and Assistant Director/Dramaturg for Radio 930 (Industry Workshop). She has also been seen on stage as Alyssa Green in *The Prom* (Montgomery College Summer Dinner Theatre) and Ensemble in *Tommy* (Workhouse Arts Center). Julie would like to thank Robert and the Next Stop Team for this wonderful opportunity. CUA Musical Theatre BM 23'."

Paige Rammelkamp (Music Director) Paige is thrilled to be back at NextStop, after music directing their filmed production of *First Date* in summer of 2021. Notable music direction credits include: *Urinetown* (Helen Hayes nominee - Best Music Direction), *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Workhouse Arts Center), *Working*, *Ichabod: The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (Creative Cauldron), *The Bridges of Madison County* (Red Branch Theatre Co.), *Bonnie & Clyde* (Monumental Theatre Co.), *Squeakers & Mr. Gumdrop*, *The Adventures Of Mr. Bear* (Arts on the Horizon), and *FINN* (Workshop - Kennedy Center TYA) . During the day she works as an accompanist at American University and Duke Ellington School for the Arts, and as an audition pianist at Signature Theatre, Olney Theatre Center, Studio Theatre, and Arena Stage.

Jessica Utz (Costume Designer) Jessica is a DC based Costume Designer and Technician whose work can also be seen at: Perisphere Theatre (Costume Designer: *Hazardous Materials*, *The Storehouse*); Montgomery College (Costume Designer: *The Visit*, *Cabaret*, *In The Heights*); Woolly Mammoth Theatre (Associate Costume Designer: *Incendiary*); Theater J (Associate Costume Designer: *This Much I Know*); Constellation Theatre Company (Assistant Costume Designer: *Orlando*); and as a stitcher, craftsperson, first hand, and tailor at Signature Theatre, Arena Stage, Round House Theatre, and many more. You can also see her work on Instagram @jessicautzcostumes

Jack Wilson (Technical Director) is a fine artist with vast experience as a carpenter who signed on as Technical Director in June of 2023. Since joining the NextStop staff he has worked on *The Marvelous Wonderettes '58*, *The 39 Steps*, *Ride The Cyclone*, *A Steampunk Christmas Carol*, *Nonsense A-Men!* and *School Girls; Or, The African Mean Girls Play*. He is excited to be a part of the NextStop team as their Technical Director and looks forward to wow-ing NextStop patrons with the builds of the 2023-24 season!



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