

BELIEVE NYC
and
EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL ADVENTURES
present

ARTS for AUTISM



Hosted by
MICHAEL JAMES SCOTT

June 17, 2024 | 7pm
New Amsterdam Theatre
New York City



FROM THE PRODUCERS



Jacquie Carnahan & Michael Holzer

We are thrilled to welcome you to the eighth annual performance of *Arts for Autism*. This year, Disney has graciously welcomed us to the historic New Amsterdam Theatre, currently home to the enchanting production of *Aladdin*. Over a century ago, this very stage captivated audiences with the legendary *Ziegfeld Follies*, and in more recent times, it has hosted the beloved shows, *The Lion King* and *Mary Poppins*. Tonight we will add *Arts for Autism* to that list!

Prepare for a spectacular show tonight with seven student groups from seven states, more than thirty-five Broadway actors and a professional Broadway orchestra. Together they will deliver an unforgettable performance as they come together to support and celebrate the autism community.

Our show tonight will feature two of our grant recipients from last year, Miss Kim's Children's Dance and Arts and Our Time to Shine, and the EPIC Players. Both organizations work with neurodiverse and uniquely-abled individuals to provide supportive social communities through inclusive arts programs. We are also excited to welcome cast members from the Broadway production of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* performing "Getting Ready for the Dance" from the show.

It's no easy task making tonight's magic happen. It is a massive undertaking with literally hundreds of people on stage and behind the scenes with months of work leading up to tonight. We want to thank everyone for their part. And thanks to all of YOU in the audience!

Enjoy the show!



**educational
travel
adventures**

Present

ARTS FOR AUTISM

HOST

Michael James Scott

DIRECTOR

Natalie Malotke

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Paul Staroba

Associate Director

Morgan Rose-Johnson

Stage Manager

Alexis Shorter

Orchestrations & Vocal Arrangements

Keiji Ishiguri
Kevin Leahy

Show Announcer

Jorge Cordova

Production Staff

Laura Axelrod
Hannah Bank
Kyle Brand
Lauren Cagnetta
Marjorie Failoni
Benjamin Rowan

Lighting

Karen Spahn

Social Media

Becca Brown
Paul Pilcz

Sound

Marie Renée Foucher

Graphic Design

Stacia Gehman

CAST

Soloists

Miki Abraham
Haven Burton
Jacque Carnahan
Kelvin Moon Loh

Marina Pires
Zachary Noah Piser
Michael James Scott
Libby Servais

Talia Suskauer
Conor Tague
Brynn Williams

Choir

Justin Campbell
Hannah DelMonte
Madeline Fansler
Michael Ray Fisher

Melanie Goerlitz
Caroline Knapp
Alex Lawrence
Jennifer Lorae

DeMond B. Nason
Paul Pilcz
Danielle Erin Rhodes

Dancers

Willie Beaton II
Mary Donnelly
Spencer Dean
Will Geoghegan
Darrell T. Joe

Madeline Kendall
Rebecca Murillo
Heather Nolting
Alexis Payton
Rafa Pepén

Kristyn Pope
Samantha Roche
Jordana Rosenberg
Michael Verre
Travis Ward-Osborne

Guest Soloists

Sydney Kurland
Malcolm Hollis

Student Performing Groups

Bethany Caldarona Performance Studio | *Dearborn, MI*
Epic Players | *Brooklyn, NY*

Franklin High School Performing Arts | *Somerset, NJ*
Miss Kim's Children's Dance and Arts &
Our Time to Shine | *Burlington, NC*

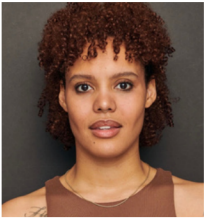
POYDS Dance Company and KASH Dance & Choreography's Tri-
State Musical Theater Troupe | *Denver, CO, Crete, NE &*
Torrington, WY

Walled Lake Central Choir | *Walled Lake, MI*
Zach North Musical Theatre | *Austin, TX*

CAST



Michael James Scott
Show Host



Miki Abraham
Shucked



Haven Burton
How to Dance in Ohio



Jacque Carnahan
Show Producer



Kelvin Moon Loh
Beetlejuice



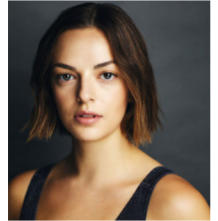
Marina Pires
How to Dance in Ohio



Zachary Noah Piser
Dear Evan Hansen



Libby Servais
Wicked



Talia Suskauer
Wicked



Conor Tague
How to Dance in Ohio



Brynn Williams
13

CHOIR



Justin Campbell
Carmen



Hannah DelMonte
Fiddler on the Roof



Madeline Fansler
Six



Michael Ray Fisher
Rocktopia



Melanie Goerlitz
Carnegie Hall



Caroline Knapp
Jersey Boys



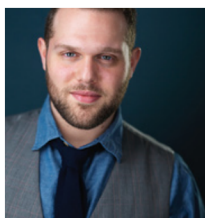
Alex Lawrence
Food Network's Chopped



Jennifer Lorae
Parade



DeMond B. Nason
Walmartopia



Paul Pilcz
Bye Bye Birdie



Danielle Erin Rhodes
The Buddy Holly Story

GUEST SOLOISTS



Sydney Kurland
EPIC Players



Malcolm Hollis
EPIC Players

DANCERS



Willie Beaton II
42nd Street



Spencer Dean
Chess at the Muni



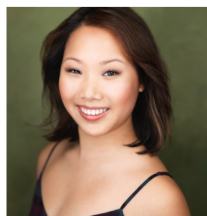
Mary Donnelly
Finding Christmas



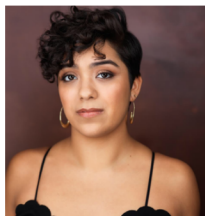
Will Geoghegan
Cats



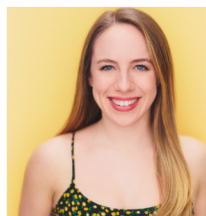
Darrell T. Joe
*Monty Python's
Spamalot*



Madeline Kendall
Anastasia



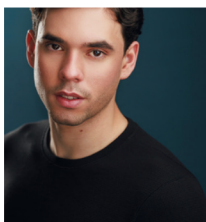
Rebecca Murillo
West Side Story - Tokyo



Heather Nolting
42nd Street



Alexis Payton
Radio City Music Hall



Rafa Pepén
My Fair Lady



Jordana Rosenberg
Radio City Music Hall



Samantha Roche
*Beautiful: The Carole
King Musical*



Michael Verre
A New Song and Dance



Travis Ward-Osborne
Aladdin

STUDENT PERFORMERS

BETHANY CALDARONA PERFORMANCE STUDIO

Directed by Bethany Caldarona

Support Staff: Dan Caldarona, Jess Carlin, Justin Bugeja, Chloe Grisa,
Jeff Holste, Hunter Martin, Mitchie Oliva, Rachael L. Rose

Student Performers: Julieta Amoroz • Landen Bermudez
Sabrina Bianco • Brooklyn Blaskay • Grace Borders • Chase Bowman
Kaylee Brackney • Ryan Buyers • Sophia Caldarona
Nicholas Caldarona • Tyler Cowley • Sydney Cramer • Ella Darket
Sean Delamolangenburg • Knight Emerson • Salma Espino
Mia Frontiero • Theo Gladstonehighland • Spencer Goodman
David Grivas • Davia Gross • Logan Hebert
Laryssa Hernandezlopez • Braylon Hubbard • Logan Larocque
Allyse Lauri • Morgann Liggins • Alana Nowlan • Julius Owens
Kolbe Pierzynowski • Elliott Ryan • Piper Ryan • Aubrey Snavley
Penelope Soranno • Evelyn Tavarez • Jillian Villa • Tavon Webb
Nadia Wiet • Yanjie Zhu

EPIC PLAYERS

Directed by Alexander Reeves & Aubrie Therrien

Jared Bazemore • Whitney Blythe • Patrick Brouette
Joshua Cartagena • Gianluca Cirafigi • Gabe Grison
Malcolm Hollis • Kylie Hogrefe • Ethan Jones • Natalie Kaiser
Sydney Kurland • Sean McGowan • Christine Newberry
Kayla Robinson • Fern Schlesinger • Nada Smith
Chloe Solomon • Chelsey Tabor • Edison Weinstein

FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS

Directed by Lindsey Della Serra & Kiera Radvanski

Alicia Acosta Spencer • Gloria Antesana • Kaitlynn Bullock
Queyonte Carolina • Jelena Cotton • William Freiberg
Faith Gibson • Gabrielle Granados-Enamorado
Chloe Jackson • Isatu Jalloh • Jocelyn "Storm" Knight
Sarah Moley • Maya Pabuwal • Kian Paris • Jada Seabrook
Jada Severino • Jasmine Severino • Gabriella Stewart
Noelle Tatum • Teya Wright

**MISS KIM'S CHILDREN'S DANCE AND ARTS &
OUR TIME TO SHINE**

Directed by Kim Black, Tori Melby & Karla Spears

Teachers: Lilly Beaver, Riley Fennelle, Quentin Gregory, Maya Williamson

Student Performers: Georgia Mae Braddy • Mary Bethea • Josie Dodson
Isabella Elder • Piper Fuqua • Lila Gaither • Ellie Gaither
Alivia Gibson • Prayanna Goodman • Emmy Gregory
Morgan Hawkins • Korey Kurak • Aubrey Lambert
Rachel Levy • Eleanor Markley Abby Matherly • Juli Murray
Brantley Neal • Lillian Shaw • Elliana Stiegel
Emma Grace Wolfe • Mackenzie Ziebell

**POYDS DANCE COMPANY AND KASH DANCE &
CHOREOGRAPHY'S TRI-STATE MUSICAL THEATER TROUPE**

Directed by Kayleigh Schadwinkel-Hickman

Jaelyn Ojeda • Madyson Bannister • Ava Mattis • Tessa Larkin
Alyssa Shade • Benjamin Wright • Cristian Hoge
Addison Sample • Bryan Jaimes • Karman Widick
Brinly Burkett • Emma Stevens • Molly Kenna • McKenzie Petr
Ethan Rosenthal • Bella Barajas-Spradley • Lucy Hayes
Josiah Kirchner • Brian Erickson • Ashley Brokaw
Kelsey Carnes • Ayden Atwell • Emily Sekol • Gabrielle Alfano
Bri Felker • Casta Gressard • Ellianna Sheppard

WALLED LAKE CENTRAL CHOIR

Directed by Olivia Bloomer

Diego Baca • Kayla Cal • Julia Biondo Cancellara • Olivia Clevenger
Adrianna Coppola • Jackson Fifield • Saoirse Gergis
Sarah Husaim • Tyler Huskey • Brianna Kanable • Conner Larson
Calvin Malisow • Abigail Remsburg • Jared Rochon Jr
Emma Saccoia • Chloe Schneider • Justin Tarry
Jazzlyn Whiteman • Alya Zeid

ZACH NORTH MUSICAL THEATRE

Directed by Kristin Burritt, Julie Rhodes & Stephanie Smith

Isaiah Barafwala • Naomi Carter • Reilly Favacho
Molly Frans • Joey Gallegos • Simon Garfias
Caidyn Gonzales • Anya Hannah • Solana Hannah
Isabella Johnson • Isabella Justis • Lauren Mackowski
Sophia Maniccia • Stella Marquardt • Nicholas Moncivalles
Sarah Oeltjen • Sophia Pate • Jesse Pena • Aliya Ranucci
Caspian Robinson • Seth Rodriguez • Camryn Schneider
Izzy Stern • Audrey Taylor

MUSICAL NUMBERS

"Audition".....The Arts for Autism Company Dancers
42nd Street Music by Harry Warren

Music by Harry Warren
Choreography by Joseph Cullinane
Orchestration by Kevin Leahy

"Roar"..... Talia Suskauer & The Arts for Autism Company
& Juliet Music & Lyrics by Katy Perry Bonnie McKee Dr. Luke

Music & Lyrics by Katy Perry, Bonnie McKee, Dr. Luke,
Cirrkut & Max Martin
Arrangement & Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri

"Getting Ready for the Dance".....Haven Burton & Marina Pires
How to Dance in Ohio Lyrics by Bobekah Groer-Melodic

Lyrics by Rebekah Greer Melocik
Music & Orchestration by Jacob Yandura

**"A Million Dreams".....Kelvin Moon Loh, Libby Servais,
The Greatest Showman Miss Kim's Children's Dance and Arts
 & Our Time to Shine**

Music & Lyrics by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul
Arrangement & Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri

**“Live in Living Color”..... Paul Pilcz &
Catch Me If You Can Zach North Musical Theatre**

Music & Lyrics by Marc Shaiman & Scott Whitman
Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri

"Spark of Creation" **Brynn Williams**
Children of Eden Music & Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri

MJ Medley..... Michael Ray Fisher, the Arts for Autism
***MJ the Musical* Choir & Franklin High School**

"Human Nature" Steve Porcaro & John Bettis

"Don't Stop til You Get Enough" Michael Jackson

"Blame It on the Boogie" Mick Jackson, David Jackson & Elmar Kroh

“Dance Machine” Hal Davis, Don Fletcher & Dean Parks
Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri

"You Can't Stop the Beat"..... <i>Hairspray</i>	Libby Servais, DeMond B. Nason, Miki Abraham, The Arts for Autism Choir & POYDS Dance Company and KASH Dance & Choreography's Tri- State Musical Theater Troupe Music & Lyrics by Marc Shaiman & Scott Whitman Orchestration by Kevin Leahy
"Waving Through a Window"..... <i>Dear Evan Hansen</i>	Zachary Noah Piser Music & Lyrics by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri
"Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart".....	Jacque Carnahan Music & Lyrics by James F. Hanley Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri
"Don't Stop Me Now".....	Brynn Williams & Walled Lake Central Choir Music & Lyrics by Freddie Mercury Orchestration by Kevin Leahy
"Friend Like Me"..... <i>Aladdin</i>	Michael James Scott Music & Lyrics by Alan Menken & Howard Ashman Orchestration by Ned Paul Ginsburg
Disney Medley.....	Miki Abraham & Bethany Caldarona Performance Studio
"Colors of the Wind"	Alan Menken & Stephen Schwartz
"When You Wish Upon a Star"	Leigh Harline & Ned Washington
"Be Our Guest"	Howard Ashman & Alan Menken
"What Else Can I Do?"	Lin-Manuel Miranda
"I've Got a Dream"	Alan Menken & Glenn Slater
"Bare Necessities"	Bruce Reitherman & Phil Harris
"Make a Man Out of You"	Matthew Wilder & David Zippel
"Frozen Heart"	Bobby Lopez & Kristen Anderson-Lopez
"Circle of Life"	Elton John Orchestration by Kevin Leahy

"Seasons of Love".....EPIC Players
RENT

Music & Lyrics by Jonathan Larson
Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri

"Who I'd Be".....Conor Tague,Talia Suskauer &
Shrek the Musical **DeMond B. Nason**

Music & Lyrics by Jeanine Tesori & David Lindsay-Abaire
Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri

"If the World Only Knew".....Sydney Kurland, Malcolm Hollis &
the Arts for Autism Company

Music & Lyrics by Scott Evan Davis &
students from the P94 Spectrum School
Arrangement and Orchestration by Keiji Ishiguri

Orchestra

- Ray Kilday | *Bass*
- Joe Nero | *Drums*
- Craig Magnano | *Guitar*
- Adam Rothenberg | *Piano*
- Todd Groves | *Reed One*
- Steve Lyon | *Reed Two*
- Dan Urness | *Trumpet*

Daniel Gittler | *Music Copyist*

We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers' Unions: Actors' Equity Association, American Guild of Musical Artists, American Guild of Variety Artists and SAG-AFTRA through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the Artists to appear on this program.

SPECIAL THANKS

We want to thank everyone who helps make today possible. Thanks to our families, our friends, all the volunteers, the staff at ETA and Believe NYC, the staff at Disney Theatrical and the New Amsterdam Theatre, the Broadway performers for donating their time, our production and creative team and anyone else that was not mentioned. THANK YOU!

WHO'S WHO

Michael James Scott | *Host*

Michael James Scott is currently the record breaking Genie in Disney's *Aladdin* on Broadway. He has played the role internationally, including on Broadway, in London, on the North American Tour, and originated the role in the Australian Production, for which he won the prestigious Helpmann Award for Best Featured Actor in a Musical. He's also known for originating the role of the Minstrel on Broadway in *Something Rotten!* and originating Dr. Gotswana (aka The Maggots Guy) in *The Book of Mormon*. With over 15 other Broadway, National Tours and prestigious theaters around the world, numerous TV and Film appearances, he's a fixture in the NYC theatre community. Michael is the voice of the Disney Cruise Line's newest ship The Wish national commercial campaign where you can hear his rendition of the iconic song "A Dream is A Wish". He can be heard on many original Broadway cast albums, multiple studio recordings, and his wildly successful Holiday album *A Fierce Christmas*.

Natalie Malotke | *Director*

A versatile director, choreographer, and creative event producer, Natalie Malotke has an impressive range of credits. On Broadway, she was part of the choreography team for *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and its national tour. Her choreography has graced productions like *Candide* at Carnegie Hall, *I Married an Angel*, and *Joy: The Musical*. Regionally, Malotke has directed and choreographed shows at venues like La Mirada Theatre, Lincoln Center, and The New London Barn Playhouse. She has also choreographed for TV (SNL, PBS's *A Capitol Fourth*) and toured with Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood Live! Malotke has worked on corporate events for major brands like Bloomberg Philanthropies, Hermès, and Target. Additionally, she has served as the resident director/choreographer for Nickelodeon Experience Design events worldwide and the Creative Director for the CoComelon Party Time National Tour. An esteemed teaching artist, Malotke is on the faculty at Penn State University and Broadway Dance Center.

Paul Staroba | *Music Director*

Originally from Santa Rosa, California, Paul Staroba is an accomplished Broadway conductor and pianist. After earning his Bachelor's in Piano Performance, he moved to New York City to pursue a career in professional theatre. His Broadway conducting credits span acclaimed shows like *Back to the Future*, *Company*, *My Fair Lady*, *War Paint*, *A Gentleman's Guide To Love*

and Murder, and *Next to Normal*. Off-Broadway, he has conducted for productions like *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Carrie*, and *Happiness*. Regionally, Staroba has worked on shows like *The Flamingo Kid* and *Big Fish*. He has also performed with the Radio City Christmas Spectacular Orchestra and in concerts with stars like Kristin Chenoweth and Patti LuPone. With over 25 Broadway pit orchestras under his belt, Staroba is a seasoned veteran of the New York theatre scene.

Jacque Carnahan | *Artistic Director*

Jacque produced her first one woman show at the age of 14 at the San Luis Obispo Little Theater in California. Since then, she has become a sought-after event producer not only on Broadway but also around the country. She has a knack for knowing what an audience will love and brings a feeling of joy and celebration to every project. Jacque is a graduate of The Boston Conservatory cum laude and Idyllwild Arts Academy. She has performed around the country and in New York City at venues such as Town Hall, Alice Tully Hall, The Irish Repertory Theater, The York Theater, 54 Below, Green Room 42, with the Boston Pops and more. Jacque toured the country with the National Tour of *Cinderella* and has appeared Off-Broadway and regionally at Papermill Playhouse, Goodspeed Opera House, and Baltimore CenterStage. Jacque loves to inspire young artists: she has returned to Idyllwild Arts Academy as a guest artist and has enjoyed choreographing at McCarter Theatre at Princeton. Jacque is currently writing a new musical and a book of short stories.

Liz Pritchard | *Keynote Speaker*

Liz Pritchard is a multifaceted neurodiverse artist, advocate, teacher, author, presenter, and mentor. Her advocacy work has taken her across the globe, including Taiwan, the Philippines, Mexico, and Canada. Pritchard is the creator of the ongoing comic book series PaperBag Comic, which explores self-love and acceptance. She has self-published over 700 pages of this series. As an autism and mental health advocate, Pritchard serves as an Ambassador for the Autism Council of Rochester and has been featured in various media outlets, including City Magazine, ROC Voices Radio, Spectrum News, WXXI's Dialogue on Disability, and NPR. Through her mentor, Alec Frazier, Pritchard became involved with the Lights! Camera! Access! (LCA) network, where she learned networking and connection-building skills. She currently serves as an LCA Flash Mentor and runs a studio workshop for LCA cohorts. Pritchard has worked on notable projects like the ADA30 Lead On and NDEAM (National Disability Employment Awareness Month) Productions.

Liz Pritchard | Artwork

See more of Pritchard's work by following her on social media.

 @liz_paperbag_comic

 facebook.com/paperbagcomic



GRANTS

Applications for the Arts & Community Access Grants will be accepted from April 1st, 2024 through September 1st, 2024. Autistic people are encouraged to apply. Grants will be awarded based on available funds.

Grant Qualifications:

- Grants are available to non-profit 501C-3 organizations
- Individuals may partner with non-profits to apply
- Grants may be used for a wide range of projects (including arts-related), but must improve the lives of people impacted by autism
- Any funds granted must be used within one year
- The minimum request is \$1,000 and the maximum award is \$5,000

If you are interested in applying or know someone who may benefit from a grant, you can find the application and details here: artsforautism.net/grants

PRODUCERS

Believe NYC

Believe NYC is made up of New York City artists working in theatre, music, and dance who have a passion for inspiring students to follow their dreams. Through storytelling on stage, question-and-answer sessions, workshops, and dialogue, Believe NYC reveals countless possibilities in the arts. BNYC is the only educational arts organization where students get to perform on Broadway with Tony Award winning performers, directors and designers. www.believe-nyc.com

Educational Travel Adventures

Since 1991, Educational Travel Adventures has taken thousands of students on tours throughout the world. ETA knows that there is no tool more powerful than seeing the classroom come to life in the real world. That's why they strive to provide unique learning opportunities that meet specific educational goals, making each program the educational experience of a lifetime for students. www.etadventures.com