nCTC

North Carolina Theatre Conference

MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY FESTIVAL

MARCH 6-7, 2026

CHARLOTTE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

NCTC.ORG

North Carolina Arts Council
www.NCArts.org

NEW CREATIVE INVESTMENT PARTICIPANT

North Carolina Arts Council

THIS PROJECT WAS SUPPORTED BY THE NC ARTS COUNCIL, A DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES.
SUPPORT WAS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE ARTS COUNCIL OF GREATER GREENSBORO NEW CREATIVE INVESTMENT INITIATIVE, WITH GUILFORD COUNTY AND NORTH CAROLINA ARTS COUNCIL AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING.

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

1:20pm Load-in Show 1

1:30pm Tech Meeting (mandatory for shows 1, 2, 3, 4)

2:00pm Load-in Shows 2, 3, 4

2:30pm Sun Valley Middle School // *Goldilocks on Trial*

3:45pm Covenant Day School // *The Night Witches*

5:00pm Gaston Christian School // *Wiley and the Hairy Man*

6:15pm Jay M. Robinson Middle School // *Underwater*

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

7:20am Load-in Show 5

7:30am Tech Meeting (mandatory for shows 5, 6, 7, 8)

8:00am Load-in Shows 6, 7, 8

8:30am Charlotte Christian School // *Soundscapes*

9:45am Charlotte Country Day School // *The Iron Ring*

11:00am Piedmont IB Middle School // *Romeo and Juliet or The Old "You-Know-I-Really-Love-You-But-My-Father-Really-Hates-You" Blues*

12:15pm First Ward Creative Arts Middle School // *Censorbleep*

1:20pm Load-in Show 9

1:30pm Tech Meeting (mandatory for shows 9, 10, 11, 12)

2:00pm Load-in Shows 10, 11, 12

2:30pm Jay M. Robinson Middle School // *A Monster Calls*

3:45pm Bailey Middle School // *In the Garden of the Selfish Giant*

5:00pm First Ward Creative Arts Middle School // *The Redemption of Gertie Green*

6:15pm Francis Bradley Middle School // *The Day the Internet Died*

8:30pm Awards Ceremony

ADJUDICATORS

BARBARA MAGER

Barbara Mager was a public school theatre educator for 30 years in North Carolina, and nine years in West Virginia. She retired from teaching in 2017, after the death of her husband, Rich. During her years as a high school theatre teacher, Mager earned many directing awards and other honors for her ensembles of acting and technical theatre students. She received the John W. Parker Award for Excellence in Directing from NCTC, and was also named an NCTC K-12 Theatre Arts Educator of the Year. She also served as the workshop presenter to all new theatre arts educators in CMS schools for over 20 years. Barbara was very involved in several community theatre groups in WV, and directed many plays while serving on the board of directors for the Galleries Theatre Associates. She earned both her masters and undergraduate degrees from Marshall University in Huntington, WV.

JERI LYNN SCHULKE

Jeri Lynn Schulke is an actor, director, producer and co-founder of RedBird Theater Company. She received her MFA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has appeared in productions throughout the Triangle. She spent five years at PlayMakers Rep as the Education & Engagement Manager and led five seasons at ArtsCenter Stage as the Producing Artistic Director. Directing credits include: *Appropriate* (NRACT); *Art* (RedBird); Kate Hamill's *Pride & Prejudice* (Raleigh Little Theater); *Small Mouth Sounds* (Honest Pint); *The Taming* (Justice Theater Project); *Bonnie and Clyde* (NRACT); *All is Calm*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (ArtsCenter Stage). Producing credits include *Putnam Co Spelling Bee*, *Bright Star*, *Cabaret*, *Bye Bye Birdie* (PlayMakers' Summer Youth Conservatory), *10 by 10 in the Triangle*, *Oh! What a Lovely War*, *Redbird*, *Into the Breach*, *Gem of the Ocean*, *A Civil War Christmas*, *The Whipping Man*, *44 Plays for 44 Presidents*, (ArtsCenter Stage). As an actor, Jeri Lynn was most recently seen in *Eureka Day* (RedBird).

Adjudication Assistant Adam Shaw

NCTC Play Festival Program

WARNING: Mild choreographed violence, language, and innuendos added.
Viewer Discretion is Advised!

Sun Valley
Middle School
1409 Wesley
Chapel Rd,
Indian Trail

Goldilocks on Trial

Ed Monk

Cast List:
Melvin the bailiff: Addy Myers
Judge Wallabee: Ezra Ward
District Attorney Muffinhead: Aubrey Hall
Attorney Wombat: Olivia Ratley
Papa Bear: Gabi Parsons
Mama Bear: Abby Dryden
Baby Bear (Tiffannii): Cataleya Ripley
Goldie Wynn Locks: Esther Lopez
Detective Clorox: Ella Skosen
Little Pig (NOT eaten by the wolf): Yanely Rodrigues-Miranda
Dr Cantaloupe: Bailey Bloom
Merwin The Big Bad Wolf: Iona Robertson
Jurors: Paisley Breuer, Sariah Sowerby, Kennadie Lucas, Caylee Ingle

Director:

Alexandra N. Pearce

Production Team:
SM & Lighting/Board Operator: Ben Thomas
SM & Sound/Board Operator: Nique Tate
Designer & Stagehand: Shailoh Williams
Designer & Stagehand: Promise Walker

This play was produced by special arrangement with ***Playscripts & Concord Theatricals***.

Covenant Day School

Proudly Presents

The Night Witches

Tatyana.....Nora Kate Baxter
Vera.....Dora Miller
Nina.....Annabel Kornegay
Irina.....Mary DeYoung
Polina.....Parker Ruby
Serafima.....Willow Simpson
Zoya.....Bella Commadore
Raisa.....Eva Tinsley
Alexandra.....Adalie Fisher
Ensemble.....Becca Queen
Isabelle Brown
Tech. Theatre.....Ellie Allen
Lydia Hope Abner

Directed by Michael T. Eubanks

This play was produced by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing.

Gaston Christian school

Wiley and the Hairy Man

By Jack Stokes

Cast

Wiley - Piper Garcia

Mammy - Kyla Lowery

Hairy Man - Camden Greene

1st - Morgan Berry

2nd - Ava Paris

3rd - Kaylin Gourley

4th - Madison Fulbright

Dogs - Lily Blay, Lucy Long

Ensemble - Skylar Abromaitis, Malachi Alston, Hannah Cable, Reagan Carson, Ellie Cox, Esther Duran, Tallulah Greeson, Andrea Hernandez, Judah Lynn, Gabby Rupp, Holly Russell, Riley Shepard, Ansley Spears, Caleb Thurston

Crew

Malachi Alston

Eden Huffstetler

Mia Phillips

Abigail Wood

Director

Heidi Brack

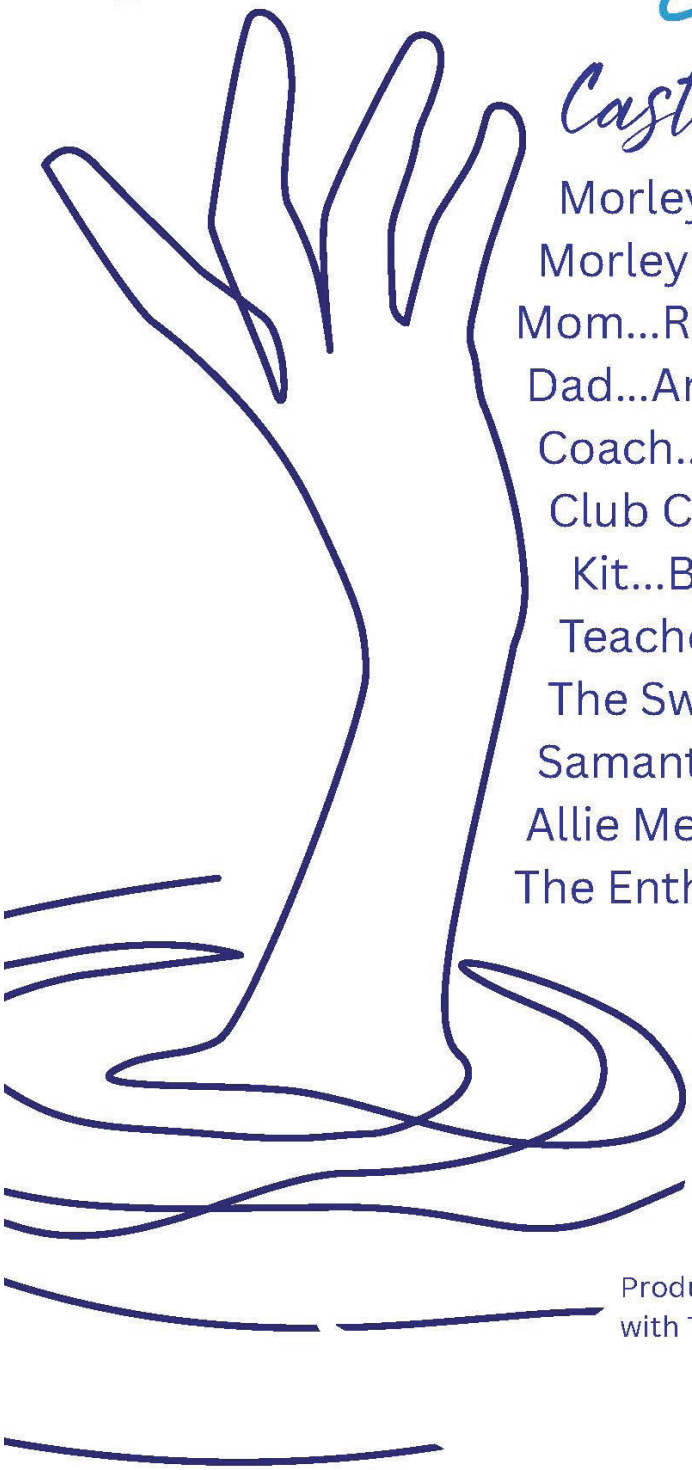
This play was produced by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing.

Gaston Christian School - 1625 Lowell Bethesda Rd. - Gastonia, NC

Jay M. Robinson
Middle School

Underwater

by Lindsay Price



Cast

Morley Outside...Alice Zhang
Morley Inside...Cat Dalesandry
Mom...Rhythm Muttepawar
Dad...Arnav Budhraja
Coach...Abhi Saha
Club Coach...Disha Deore
Kit...Bella Wyatt
Teacher...Siyara Siriwardena
The Swimmers...Kennedy Maurer,
Samantha Williamson,
Allie Medlin, Alicia Chacko
The Enthusiasts...various actors

Crew

Director...Rose Cole
Stage Manager...Charlee Karp

Produced with Special Arrangement
with Theatrefolk (theatrefolk.com).

CHARLOTTE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

CHARLOTTE, NC

Soundscapes

BY CLAUDIA HAAS AND SARAH KRANING

DIRECTED BY MELANIE SETZER
AND BRITTANY ZACARIAS

LITTLE IRIS - JANE ZACARIAS
IRIS - AVERY FULK
MOTHER - SAVANNAH SAUNDERS
MARIEL - CLAIRE OLIVER
JESSICA - MICHAELA MADDOX
FATHER - SAWYER HARSHMAN
PYSCHOLOGIST - JOHN PROSPER SNYDER
MONET - JANÉ JOOSTE
TONY - ELLIOT FENTERS
ANNOUNCER 1 - MCKENLEY LONG
ANNOUNCER 2 - SABRINA TAYLOR

COLOR CHORUS:
ANNIE BARKER, HOLLIS HAWKINS, SABRINA TAYLOR, ABIGAIL WALKER

CLASSMATES:
SAWYER HARSHMAN, MCKENLEY LONG, REAGAN MILLER, JOHN PROSPER SNYDER, JANE ZACARIAS

TECH CREW:
ANNA GRIBBLE, NATALIE HARPER, AUGUSTA SNYDER

THIS PLAY WAS PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH STAGE PARTNERS.
(WWW.YOURSTAGEPARTNERS.COM)

WARNING: THIS PLAY USES FLASHLIGHTS AND LOUD SOUNDS, AND REFERENCES MULTIPLE MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS.

ACT 2
2025-2026

Charlotte Country Day Middle School

5936 Green Rea Road
Charlotte, NC 28226

The Iron Ring

by

Charles Way

Tamar.....Luke Peterson

Rajaswami.....Cooper Hall

Jaya/Chandala...Cabell Stevens-Mabe

Hashkat.....Charlie Rayburn

Mirri.....Nyomi Bien-Aime

Garuda.....Maeve Ryan

Prince Shesha.....Neal Vyas

Shila Rani.....Everly Adams

Vati.....Chandler Horton

Autumn.....Adelaide Behr

Ashwini.....Rose Mathys

Bria.....Adelaide Behr

Nahusha.....Henry Mize

Ashwara.....Brenton Clark

Soldier 1.....Devin Hands

Soldier 2.....Lincoln Muns

Villagers/Gopi Villagers/Soldiers

Aria Punjabi, Elijah Short, Elsbeth Drosky, Irene Heenan, Annika Peterson, Aria Johnson, Noah Short, Shannon Keane, Penelope Dullaghan, Olivia Consolino, Eliza Fagade, Charlotte Carr, Baker Tomascak, Isabelle Stern, Hudson Griffin

Director: Aaron Mize

Production Team: Karl Hoffman, Chelsea Retalic/Beth Killion, Dana Blair, and Madeline Vela

This play was produced by special arrangement with Play for Young Audiences

Based on the book *The Iron Ring* by Lloyd Alexander

Piedmont IB Middle School
Charlotte, NC

Romeo and Juliet or The Old “You-Know-I-Really-Love-You-But-My-Father-Really-Hates-You” Blues

Adapted from Shakespeare’s Play by Nancy Linehan Charles

Cast List:

Juliet…….Savannah Reese
Romeo……..Diwo Looney Jr.
Leighton…….Leighton Sherry
Addy……..……Adalyn McNeely
Lucy……Lucy Pearsall
Nurse…….……Tallulah Morton
Lady Capulet……Olivia Ware
Lady Montague…….……..……Madison Baker
Paris…….Alex Chavez
Mr.Capulet…….……..……Charlie McGoff
Mr.Montague…….……Robert Carter
Friar Lawrence……Lyla Cleaver
Prince Escalus…….……Mia Anderson
Benvolio…….……Brecken Fink
Tybalt……Milania Tyler
Mercutio……..……Solomon Sigman
Abram…….……Peyton Busbee
Gregory…….…….…….Tamanna Dubey
Sampson….…….Erin Dunn
Balthasar/Servant/Voice…….…….Cooper Magee
Newsperson……..……Annie Eichenberger
Cameraperson…….Maria Ward
Blue 1…….…….Brantly Hicks
Blue 2…….…….Gray Perry
Red 1……..…….Nylah Jefferies
Red 2…….……..……..…….Avery Larson
Townspeople…..……..….Olive Socha, Claudia Coyne, Mabel Taylor, Lexi Stevens

Production Team:

Director……..……..…….Matisse Notte
Stage Manager…….…….…….Daphne Lichtenberg
Assistant Stage Manager…….……Kylie Moore
Costume Leads…….……Kadeem Hibma, Ava Woods
Prop Lead…….……..……..…….Taylor May
Backstage Hands…….……..……Sara Yousef, Nya Martin

This play was produced by special arrangement with (Dramatic Publishing).
TW: Suicide, Talks of Suicide, Violence, Death, Potential Child Abuse

CensorBLeep

By Lindsay Price

Directed by: Amanda Lane

Performed By

First Ward
Creative Arts Middle

Location.....a school, maybe your school, maybe today, maybe tomorrow, maybe never.

Cast

Tandy - Ellen Jenkins
Sandy - Madison Robertson
Mandy - Naomi Rios
Randy - Sophie Johnson
Justin - Ray'Quan Tyler
Rico - Justin Alexander

The Poet - Jayden Cadet
The Opinion - Ahmya Bienvenu
The Reporter - Charlie Lightle
The Smartmouth - Nevaeh Byers
The Teacher - Molly Hellendoorn

Understudy - Celia Bradley

Tech Crew
Zaedyn Evans, Maxwell Ussery, Justin Alexander

This play was produced by special arrangement with Theatrefolk.

Warning….This play contains portrayals of bullying: verbal, psychological, and physical as well as the mention of a firearm. There are handheld lighting effects that may bother some viewers.

Jay M. Robinson Middle School

A MONSTER CALLS

Based on the novel by Patrick Ness and inspired by an original idea by Siobhan Dowd, devised by Sally Cookson, Adam Peck and the Company

This play contains heavy topics including cancer and the loss of a parent

CAST

Conor...Will Howard
Monster...Julian Runyan
Mum...Francie Mazzola
Grandma...Mariah Sloan
Dad/Ensemble...Wyatt Hanewinckel
Harry/Ensemble...Dylan Kaplan
Sully/Ensemble...Avery Kiel
Anton/Ensemble...Abby Puterbaugh
Lily/Ensemble...Melina Tomaz
Miss Godfrey/Ensemble...Delaney Downes
Queen/Ensemble...Brooklyn Roberts
Apothecary/Ensemble...Suditi Chaudhary
Farmer's Daughter/Ensemble...Madeleine Deimen
Ms. Marl/Ensemble...Preet Joshi

CREW

Director...Stacey "Styles" Boone
Stage Manager...Olivia Laudenbach

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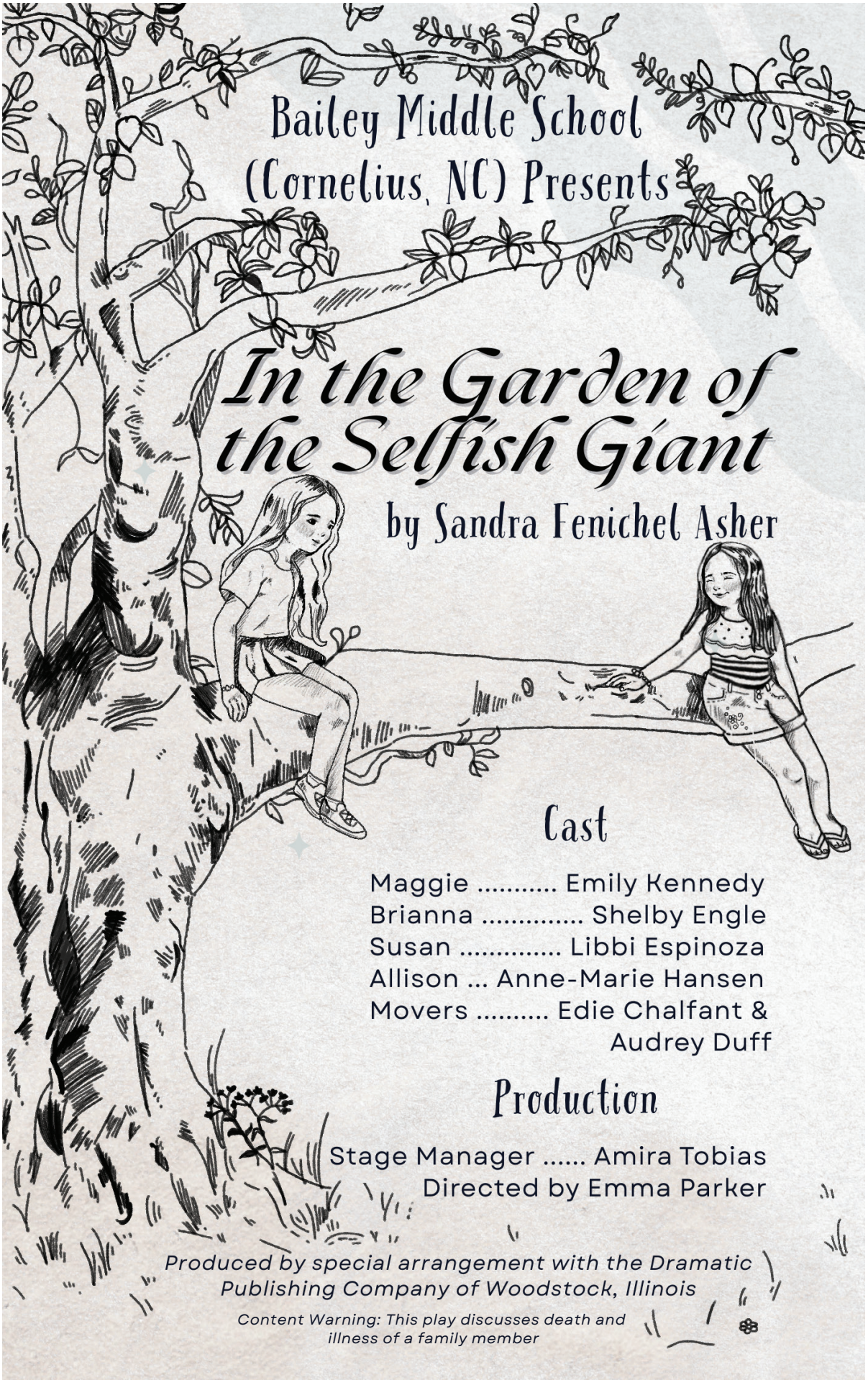
85 Charing Cross Road, London, WC2H OAA

Bailey Middle School
(Cornelius, NC) Presents

In the Garden of the Selfish Giant

by Sandra Fenichel Asher



Cast

Maggie ..... Emily Kennedy
Brianna ..... Shelby Engle
Susan ..... Libbi Espinoza
Allison ... Anne-Marie Hansen
Movers ..... Edie Chalfant &
Audrey Duff

Production

Stage Manager ..... Amira Tobias
Directed by Emma Parker

Produced by special arrangement with the Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois

Content Warning: This play discusses death and illness of a family member

First Ward
Creative Arts
Academy

The Redemption of Gertie Greene

By Taryn Temple

Cast List:

Nicole-Ava Blackwell
Alex and Pete-Heleil Rodriquez Rivas
Curt/Fooball Jock 3-Kaydin Moats
Rachel-Martha O'Neill
Gertie Greene-Kai Reeder
Alex-Kamdyn Gonzales
Mrs. Cranberry-Lilliana Wyatt
Jackie-Lance Guinyard
Alex and Pete-Heleil Rodriquez Rivas
Jessie/Football Jock 1/Ms. Hincklebrick-London Medley
Zoe/Casey/Football Jock 2-Zoe Sebagala
Mrs. Fillmore-Demi Dixon
Beth/Shannon-Amelia Currie
CJ/Football Jack 4-Aubrey White
Jeff-King Ricks
Anna-Elisha Stephens
Rebecca-Miracle Campbell
Briana-Drew Gilmore

Gossipers- McKenzie King, Chloe Dowdy, Bowen Newpher, Aubrey White, Kaydence Hudson, Drew Gilmore

Directors: Ms. Davidson, Ms. Torres, Ms. Moore

FRANCIS BRADLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

PRESENTS

the day the internet died

WRITTEN BY IAN MCWETHY & JASON PIZZARELLO

MAYOR.....AMARI BERRY
SHREIFF.....JOSIAH MCCALL
AGNES.....EMMA JUNE CHILDRESS
NINA.....LILLIAN HINSON
JENNY.....SARA KELKAR
BARISTA.....EVELYN DECARLO
DEREK.....DYLAN COWGILL
SHELLEY.....AVA ROSENTHAL
PETER.....SERGIO SANTIAGO
JASMINE.....ALEXA SIMMONS
CONNOR.....NAEEM NAFTALI
CLARICE.....DAISY KENNEDY
BETTY.....CAMIL HIMES
CLARA.....LEIA STOUT
MINDY.....ARALYN CHERESTAL
STAN 1.....TYRESE SMITH
STAN 2.....MICHAEL KENDRA
HERBETA.....AMELIA STEVENS
SANDRA.....ALEXA SIMMONS
JOE.....RABIN CHAUDHARI

ANNOUNCER 1.....NOLAN PINHEIRO
ANNOUNCER 2.....DONOVAN ALVAREZ
KURT.....MICHAEL HOWARD
ALICIA.....AUBREE JORDAN
TORI.....SAWYER GRACELY
CRYSTAL.....DAPHNE BLANKENSHIP
JESS.....MADISON BURKE
ANGRY MOB 1.....VIRGINIA STOUTE
ANGRY MOB 2.....BRODY WINKLER
ANGRY MOB 3.....KAI GOUDY
ANGRY MOB 4.....D'ANDRE CANNON

LIGHTING OPERATOR : CONNOR THOMPSON

SOUND OPERATOR: MITCHELL HASELHORST

STAGE CREW: JACOBI BROWN & ELIZABETH HOLLAND

DIRECTED BY AUTUMN MCLAUGHLIN

THIS PLAY WAS PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH STAGE PARTNERS.

Soundscapes

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS!

UPPER SCHOOL STUDENT AMBASSADORS:

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STERLING DEVIN
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BEA KELLY
SAM LISTER
THOMAS MCPHERSON
CHARIS SCOTT
GRAYSON SUITE
JOURNEY TALL
CLAYTON TAYLOR
ANNA TRAETTO
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SPECIAL THANK YOU TO LESLIE NIESSNER, KIM MARCO, RYAN JACKSON, JORDAN BAILEY, AND BARBARA BERRY

ACT 2
2025-2026

SHOUT OUTS!

BAILEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

To: Anne-Marie Hansen
We are so proud to see you grow over the years in pursuing your passion. Congratulations and continue chasing your dreams! Love you.
From: Mom & Dad

To: Emily
We are so very proud of you, Emily! Your courage and persistence inspire us. Lots of love!
From: Mom, Dad, Will & Lucky

To: Shelby Engle
Shelby! We can't wait to see you & the cast perform. Your talent & hard work make us so proud! Congrats & good luck! Love, Dad, Mom, Cole & River
From: Your Family

CHARLOTTE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

To: Lincoln Muns
Break a leg Lincoln! We love to watch you shine onstage and off. Keep marching to the beat of your own drum! Congrats to the Iron Ring Crew!
From: Your Family

FIRST WARD CREATIVE ARTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

To: Jayden Cadet "The Poet"
We love you and are super proud of you. Keep up the great work and always remember you can accomplish anything you put your mind to!
From: Your Parents

FRANCIS BRADLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

To: Virginia Stoute
Virginia, we love you and we are so proud of you!
From: Mom, Dad, and Micah

PIEDMONT IB MIDDLE SCHOOL

To: Madison Baker
Madison, we love you! Congratulations on your first NCTC. Way to go continue to soar!
From: Mom & Dad

To: Mia Anderson
We are so proud of you Mia!! Its great seeing you do something you love. Thanks for bringing joy, laughter, and not just drama :)
From: Mom, Dad, and Vivi

To: Savannah L. Reese
We are so very proud of you! Your light always shines bright in everything you do. Keep shining and showing your excellence! #Reese Strong!
From: Mom & Dad

NCTC TEAM

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