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music theatre

NOV. 15 - DEC. 29, 2024

LIONEL BART'S

# Oliver!

24-25 SEASON

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**Skylight**  
music theatre



**Michael Unger**  
Artistic Director

**Susan Varela**  
Executive Director



*by special arrangement with Cameron Mackintosh*

LIONEL BART'S  
**Oliver!**

Book, Music, and Lyrics  
**LIONEL BART**

**freely adapted from Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist***

November 15 – December 29, 2024 | Cabot Theatre | Broadway Theatre Center

Directed by Artistic Director  
**Michael Unger\*\***

Choreographed by  
**Stephanie Staszak**

Music Director  
**David Bonofiglio**

Scenic Designer  
**Jonathan Berg-Einhorn**

Costume Designer  
**Michelle Grimm**

Lighting and Projections Designer  
**Smooch Medina**

Sound Designer  
**John Tanner Monagle**

Resident Assistant Stage Manager  
**Jordan Ilyssa Angelo**

Production Stage Manager  
**Daniel J. Hanson\***

Assistant Stage Manager  
**Mallory Topel**

LIONEL BART'S *OLIVER!*

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\* Appearing through an agreement between Skylight Music Theatre and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



**Oliver! 5**

# A NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



It is a great pleasure to offer the Skylight premiere of *Oliver!*, based on the Charles Dickens novel *Oliver Twist*, as the holiday production of our 65th season. It is chock-full of delights – including 24 of Milwaukee's finest young actors, 14 of Milwaukee's most gifted professional performers, a design and production team to beat the band, telling one of the greatest stories ever written, with one of the best scores of all time. *Oliver!*, with book, music, and lyrics all written by Briton, Lionel Bart, is one of those rare musicals to have won both a Tony Award (1963) and an Academy Award (1969).

I love exploring the era in which you are about to be enveloped. The grandeur and destitution of 19th Century England is a perfect backdrop for Dickens to skewer the absurdities of society and government of his time, while illuminating the best and worst of both the lower and upper classes. I directed a production of another Dickens classic, *A Christmas Carol*, on the east coast for twenty years (photo below) and appreciate how Dickens captures all levels and ages of humanity and society to help us understand why people behave the way they do – the good and the bad. Dickens had a lifelong passion for eradicating the child labor abuses he witnessed in his lifetime. In fact, that quest for eradication was his motivation to write the novella of *A Christmas Carol*, not, as some might assume, to celebrate a festive holiday season.

I try to ensure that all the shows we do at Skylight speak to our world right now. With Dickens' singular craft and brilliant wit on the original novel, and Lionel Bart's glorious and judicious adaptation, we can learn from another place and time how important it is to take care of one another, how we must correct societal imbalances, and that family can take all forms. May this holiday season fill you with joy, bring peace to our world, and give us all the opportunity to lift up those we can.

  
-Michael Unger, Artistic Director



# A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to Skylight Music Theatre's production of *OLIVER!* This show holds a special place in my heart, as it was my very first introduction to the magic of theatre. In the 1980s, as a student at Greendale High School, I auditioned for *OLIVER!* and to my delight, I was cast in the title role. Rehearsals began and I was hooked. I cut my long hair short and immersed myself in this new world. I loved learning every note, every line, every dance step... and from that moment on, I knew I wanted a life in the theatre. That experience ignited a passion that carried me all the way to New York City where I performed on Broadway, met my husband, and happily returned to my hometown, where I was thrilled to perform on the Skylight stage.



Photo: Kenny Yoo

Now, as Executive Director, I am humbled and honored to lead this incredible organization that has been an inspiration since I was a kid. Every day, I work alongside a dedicated team to ensure that Skylight is not only a place for inspiring performances but also a welcoming environment where the next generation of artists can discover their love for theatre, just as I did. It's a full-circle moment for me, and it fuels my commitment to providing rich and diverse artistic experiences for our community.

I urge you to get more involved with Skylight! Whether by volunteering your time, becoming a subscriber, making a donation, or considering sponsorship, your support is invaluable to our mission. Together, we can continue to create exceptional performances and foster a home for artists and theatre lovers alike. Thank you for going on this journey with us, and I hope you enjoy the show. You may catch me singing along!

*Susan Varela*

-Susan Varela, Executive Director





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|                                      |                                          |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Oliver .....                         | Gus Kolbe (P) / Mac Heinrich (T)         |
| Fagin .....                          | Randall Dodge*                           |
| Artful Dodger .....                  | Jenna Krysiak (P) / Harper Fornstedt (T) |
| Bill Sikes/Ensemble .....            | Jared Brandt Hoover                      |
| Nancy .....                          | Rachel Schoenecker                       |
| Bet/Ensemble .....                   | Hope Riesterer                           |
| Mr. Bumble/Ensemble .....            | Miss Kyle Blair                          |
| Widow Corney/Ensemble .....          | Candace Decker                           |
| Mr. Brownlow/Ensemble .....          | Rick Richter                             |
| Mr. Sowerberry/Ensemble .....        | Nathan Marinar                           |
| Mrs. Sowerberry/Ensemble .....       | Samantha Sostarich                       |
| Charlotte/Ensemble .....             | Becky Cofta                              |
| Noah Claypole/Ensemble .....         | Connor Nekich                            |
| Dr. Grimwig/Ensemble .....           | D Eric Woolweber                         |
| Matron/Ensemble .....                | Rachel Bednarowski                       |
| Mrs. Bedwin/Old Sally/Ensemble ..... | Paula Garcia                             |
| Nipper .....                         | Jillian Vogedes (P) / Finley Brown (T)   |
| Charley Bates .....                  | Brooklynn Smith (P) / Grayson Scott (T)  |

\*Appearing through an agreement between Skylight Music Theatre and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

## DANCE CAPTAIN - D Eric Woolweber

## YOUTH PERFORMER ENSEMBLES

### PICCADILLY (P)

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Bristol Beasley        | Emilia Kosek   |
| Steven Gayfield        | Maia Scherman  |
| Ira Kindkeppel-Longden | Stevie Smith   |
| Ainsley Kosek          | Elias Totleben |

### TRAFALGAR (T)

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Jozef Baudo     | Grace Hennen            |
| Malia Brunner   | Shaun Martin            |
| Jeremiah Cooper | MacKenzie Rise Roberson |
| Emery Domer     | Ellory Woodford         |

## UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies/Standbys never substitute for listed players unless a specific notification is made at the time of the performance.

**Fagin** – Nathan Marinar; **Nancy** – Samatha Sostarich; **Mrs. Bedwin/Old Sally** – Becky Cofta;

**Dr. Grimwig** – Connor Nekich; **Bill Sikes/Mr. Sowerberry/Mr. Bumble** – D Eric Woolweber;

**Widow Corney** – Paula Garcia; **Mrs. Sowerberry** – Rachel Bednarowski

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# MUSICAL NUMBERS

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## ACT 1

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|                                          |                                                |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Food, Glorious Food .....                | Oliver and Children                            |
| Oliver! .....                            | Mr. Bumble, Widow Corney, Children             |
| I Shall Scream! .....                    | Mr. Bumble, Widow Corney                       |
| Boy For Sale .....                       | Mr. Bumble                                     |
| That's Your Funeral .....                | Mr. Sowerberry, Mrs. Sowerberry, Mr. Bumble    |
| Where Is Love? .....                     | Oliver                                         |
| Consider Yourself .....                  | Dodger, Oliver, Company                        |
| Consider Yourself (Reprise) .....        | Company                                        |
| You've Got To Pick A Pocket Or Two ..... | Fagin and Children                             |
| Rum-Tum-Tum .....                        | Fagin                                          |
| It's A Fine Life .....                   | Nancy, Bet, Children                           |
| I'd Do Anything .....                    | Nancy, Dodger, Oliver,<br>Bet, Fagin, Children |
| Be Back Soon .....                       | Fagin and Children                             |

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## ACT 2

---

|                                         |                             |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Oom-Pah-Pah .....                       | Nancy and Company           |
| My Name .....                           | Bill Sikes                  |
| As Long As He Needs Me .....            | Nancy                       |
| Where Is Love? (Reprise) .....          | Mrs. Bedwin                 |
| Who Will Buy? .....                     | Oliver and Company          |
| It's A Fine Life (Reprise) .....        | Nancy, Fagin, Sikes, Dodger |
| Reviewing The Situation .....           | Fagin                       |
| Oliver! (Reprise) .....                 | Mr. Bumble, Widow Corney    |
| As Long As He Needs Me (Reprise) .....  | Nancy                       |
| Reviewing The Situation (Reprise) ..... | Fagin                       |



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# PRODUCTION SUPPORT

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|                                                     |                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Director of Production and Facilities .....         | Terry Harper                                                            |
| Interim Director of Production and Facilities ..... | Joseph Piirto                                                           |
| Head Carpenter/Fleet Manager .....                  | Islay Reed                                                              |
| Scenic Carpenters .....                             | Austin Hobbs, Islay Reed, Hans Michaelis                                |
| Scenic and Properties Painter .....                 | Wendy Ann                                                               |
| Properties Supervisor .....                         | Amaya Rockett                                                           |
| Props Artisan .....                                 | Ava Rodriguez                                                           |
| Resident Assistant Stage Manager .....              | Jordan Ilyssa Angelo                                                    |
| Assistant Stage Manager .....                       | Mallory Topel                                                           |
| Lighting Supervisor .....                           | Dovie Roberts                                                           |
| Electricians .....                                  | Zoe Lucas, Jonnie Painter, Kenan Pulver,<br>Isabelle Flores, Eden Skoug |
| Follow Spot Operator .....                          | Zoe Lucas                                                               |
| Audio/Video Supervisor .....                        | Cordarious Cox                                                          |
| Audio Support .....                                 | Steve Tonar                                                             |
| Audio Support/Deck Crew .....                       | Kenan Pulver                                                            |
| Fly/Deck Crew .....                                 | Jonnie Painter                                                          |
| Costume Director .....                              | Jeanne Schrank                                                          |
| Costume Design Assistant .....                      | Shannon Burke                                                           |
| Wardrobe Supervisors .....                          | Courteney Shipley, Brooke Wallo                                         |
| Stitchers .....                                     | Shima Orans, Jude Martina, Brooke Wallo,<br>Jamie Mercado               |
| Hair and Wig Designer .....                         | Dana Rochester                                                          |
| Fight and Intimacy Director .....                   | Marcee Doherty                                                          |
| Dialect Coach .....                                 | Jayne Reagan Pink                                                       |
| Young Performer Supervisor .....                    | Gabriel Burdette                                                        |
| Graphic Design Support .....                        | Rylee Zuniga                                                            |
| Photographer .....                                  | Mark Frohna                                                             |
| Videographers .....                                 | Traveling Lemur Productions                                             |

Special Thanks to Michael Weber, Porchlight Music Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Marquette University Theatre Arts, UWM Theatre Department, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Miller and Campbell Costumes, Connie Peterson, 5th Avenue Theatre, and Dennis DeYoung

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# ADULT PERFORMERS WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



Rachel  
Bednarowski



Miss Kyle  
Blair



Becky  
Cofta



Candace  
Decker



Randall  
Dodge\*



Paula  
Garcia



Jared Brandt  
Hoover



Nathan  
Marinar



Connor  
Nekich



Rick  
Richter



Hope  
Riesterer



Rachel  
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Kevin DiNapoli, M.D.



Deidre Faust, M.D.



David Goldberg, M.D.



Scott Jorgensen, M.D.



Unchu Ko, M.D.



David Lucke, M.D.



Rachel Oosterbaan, M.D.



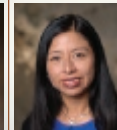
John Sanidas, M.D.



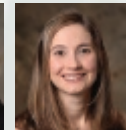
Abraham Varghese, M.D.



James Volberding, M.D.



Carmen Balding, M.D.



Camille Hessel, M.D.

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## ENDOCRINOLOGY



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Elaine Droby, M.D.



Antoni Gofron, M.D.



Usonwanne Ibeke, M.D.



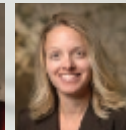
Brent Jones, M.D.



Kawaljeet Kaur, M.D.



Anne Lent, M.D.



Kristin Schroeder, M.D.

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Gene Kligman, M.D.



Venelin Kounov, M.D.



Srihari Ramanujam, M.D.



Chad Stepke, M.D.



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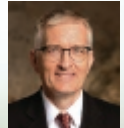
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Jason Rosenberg, M.D.



Debra Scarlett, M.D.



Thorsteinn Skulason, M.D.

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Richard Cattey, M.D.



Jasna Coralic, M.D.



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Alwin Edakkunnathu, O.D.



James Ivanoski, O.D.



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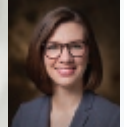
Dima Adl, M.D.



Jay Balachandran, M.D.



Nicolette Deveneau, M.D.



Erica Eggers, M.D.

## UROLOGY



Kevin Gee, M.D.



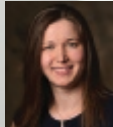
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Jonathan Berkoff, M.D.



Charles Chung, M.D.



Katya Frantskevich, M.D.



Shireen Jayne, D.O.



Jennifer Moralez, M.D.

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# YOUTH PERFORMERS WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

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Bristol  
Beasley



Steven  
Gayfield



Ira Kindkeppel-  
Longden



Gus  
Kolbe



Ainsley  
Kosek



Emilia  
Kosek



Jenna  
Krysiak



Maia  
Scherman



Brooklynn  
Smith



Stevie  
Smith



Elias  
Totleben



Jillian  
Vogedes

## TRAFALGAR CAST



Jozef  
Baudo



Finley  
Brown



Malia  
Brunner



Jeremiah  
Cooper



Emery  
Domer



Harper  
Fornstedt



Mac  
Heinrich



Grace  
Hennen



Shaun  
Martin



MacKenzie Rise  
Roberson



Grayson  
Scott



Ellory  
Woodford



# BIOS

**Rachel Bednarowski (Matron/Ensemble)** is ecstatic to be returning to Skylight for this incredible season! Rachel holds a BFA in Musical Theatre and minors in Dance Performance and Music from UW-Milwaukee. Rachel's favorite credits include Erato in *XANADU!* (Skylight), Rosie - *MAMMA MIA!* (GCT), and Charlotte in *Cinderella* (Appleton East Players). She also teaches and directs with Shalleche Saleen Studios. Love to Gavin, family, friends and mentors for their unending support in all her endeavors.

**Miss Kyle Blair (Mr. Bumble/Ensemble)** [she/they/he] Skylight debut! Miss Kyle has spent a sizeable portion of their career in international waters, performing with Disney Cruise Line as Kings, Clocks, and Genies, and originating the role of Hook Hand in *Tangled: the Musical*. They have worked regionally in Chicago, Portland, Memphis, Arizona, and Colorado; with the National Players - America's Longest-Running Touring Company (Olney, MD); and sometimes performs in drag as Great Aunt Mavis. Love to family and forever friends. Hi, Georgia!

**Becky Cofta (Charlotte/Ensemble)** is thrilled to be in *Oliver!* She was last seen at Skylight in *Noises Off*, the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* Fundraiser and *Pippin*. Becky is a performer and teaching artist in the Greater Milwaukee area. She has worked with Milwaukee Opera Theatre, The Constructivists, Schmitz & Giggles and more. Endless thanks to her family and friends for their unconditional love and support!

**Candace Decker (Widow Corney/Ensemble)** is ecstatic to be making her debut at Skylight Music Theatre. Favorite roles include Dolly Levi in *Hello Dolly!* and Marmee in *Little Women The Musical* at Forte Theatre Company. She is a Chicago After Dark Award winner for Best Actress as Alma in *The Christmas Schooner* at Bailiwick Repertory Theatre, a Midwest Individual Artist grantee, and a NY Cabaret Symposium Fellow. Thank you, Susan Westfall and Steven Decker for your love and support.

**Randall Dodge\* (Fagin)** was last seen at Skylight as Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd!* He has performed and directed throughout the country. Favorite acting credits include: Frolo *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, Javert *Les Miserable*, Billy Flynn *Chicago*, Emile De Becque *South Pacific*, Captain Hook *Peter Pan*, Carl Magnus *A Little Night Music*, Grinch *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and the Cowardly Lion *The Wizard of Oz*. He is also the Founding Artistic Director for Forte Theatre Company.

**Paula Garcia (Mrs. Bedwin/Old Sally/Ensemble)** is excited to be back at Skylight, with previous credits of *The Sound of Music*, *HMS Pinafore*, *Sweeney Todd* and others. Favorites elsewhere include Mother Superior in *Sister Act* and Marge in *Bridges of Madison County* at Waukesha Civic, Ma in *Torch Song* with Theatrical Tendencies, Ida in *The Cemetery Club* at Sunset Playhouse, and Marmee in *Little Women* at Lake Country Playhouse. She has also appeared in MCT's Young Playwright's Festival and Br!nk Briefs with Renaissance Theaterworks.

**Jared Brandt Hoover (Bill Sikes/Ensemble)** is honored to be brought back for Skylight's 65th season. He made his Skylight debut last season as Judson in *From Here To Eternity*, and most recently appeared in *Waitress* as Earl. He is so honored to be back for his 3rd production at Skylight. Jared moved to Milwaukee in 2021 for the Milwaukee Rep Residency program, he has also been seen in Milwaukee at the Milwaukee Rep, Vanguard Productions, and Renaissance Theaterworks. Jared would like to thank Michael, Susan, and the cast for their endless amount of collaboration and support as he worked on being the "resident bad guy" for this production and the last two. He would like to thank Mom, Dad, Ethan, Conor, Aunt Vicki, Mimi, and Papaw for their support in making his life passion possible. @jared\_hoover

**Nathan Marinan (Mr. Sowerberry/Ensemble)** Regional: Dave Bukatinsky in *The Full Monty*, Lady Augusta Bracknell in *Being Earnest*, Ensemble/Quasimodo Understudy in *Dennis DeYoung's The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, Billy Boy Bill in *Urinetown*, Bamatabois/Joly in *Les Misérables*, and Princeton/Rod Understudy in *Avenue Q* with Skylight Music Theatre. Additional appearances with In Tandem Theatre (*The Fabulous Lipitones*, *Carnival*, *Scrooge In Rouge*, and *Earnest In Love*), Boulevard Theatre (*Mothers and Sons*), Theatrical Tendencies, and Sunset Playhouse. For Joel and the guys. [www.NathanMarinan.com](http://www.NathanMarinan.com)

**Connor Nekich (Noah Claypole/Ensemble)** a recent graduate of UW-Milwaukee's Peck School of the Arts, Connor Nekich is an up-and-coming actor in Milwaukee. He has spent this past year understudying as Gerald in *Elephant and Piggie* at First Stage Children's Theater and as Scratch and Cuddy in *Witch* at Renaissance Theaterworks. He was also delighted to perform as Finn in a staged reading of *Black Bear Island* at Br!nk Theater Festival.

# BIOS CONTINUED

**Rick Richter (Mr. Brownlow/Ensemble)** is very happy to be working here again at his favorite theatre Skylight on such a beloved show with an extremely talented cast and crew! His previous roles here have been: Danny in *XANADU*, Colonel Pickering in *My Fair Lady* & Professor Marvel/Wizard in *The Wizard of Oz*. A few of his other favorite roles in the area have been: Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, King Arthur in *Camelot*, Gaston in *Beauty & the Beast* and Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*. Follow Rick at [www.rick-richter.com](http://www.rick-richter.com)

**Hope Riesterer (Bet/Ensemble)** is a graduate of the UW-Milwaukee, with a BFA in Musical Theater and a Dance Minor. Recent performance credits: Thea in *Spring Awakening*, Sophie Sheridan in *MAMMA MIA!*, Amber Von Tussle in *Hairspray*, and the Kids from Wisconsin tour for four seasons! Hope also has a passion for choreographing and teaching and is a recent recipient for "Outstanding Choreography" from the Overture Center of the Arts Jerry Awards.

**Rachel Schoenecker (Nancy)** is a Wisconsin-raised, NYC-based actress making her Skylight debut. Select previous credits include *Rent* (Maureen), *Spring Awakening* (Wendla), *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel), and *Grease* (Marty). She is a recent Oklahoma City University music theatre graduate, and offers her endless thanks to family and friends always. @rchlschoenecker

**Samantha Sostarich (Mrs. Sowerberry/Ensemble) [she/her]** is thrilled to be back at Skylight Music Theatre after spending the fall with Children's Theater of Madison in *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. National Tour: *Emojiland the Musical*. Regional: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Rona Lisa Peretti), *Hairspray* (Velma Von Tussle), *Annie* (Lily St. Regis), *Boeing Boeing* (Gretchen), *Spamalot* (Lady of the Lake), *Matilda* (Mrs. Wormwood), *Fortuna the Timebender vs. The School Girls of Doom* (Fortuna), *The Taming* (Katherine), and *Who's Holiday!* (Cindy Lou). [samanthasostarich.com](http://samanthasostarich.com)

**D Eric Woolweber (Dr. Grimwig/Ensemble)** A native of SE Wisconsin, D Eric has performed globally aboard Crystal Cruises; in the Chicago area with Bailiwick Arts Center, Theo Ubique Cabaret Theater, Theatre at the Center, and Music Theater Works; in Branson with Dolly Parton's Stampede, Silver Dollar City, and the Clay Cooper Theatre; in the Milwaukee/Madison area with MKE Rep, First Stage, Forward Theater Co, Renaissance Theatreworks and is honored to once again appear with Skylight Music Theatre. 143 mum and Gale

## YOUTH PERFORMERS

### PICCADILLY CAST

**Bristol Beasley (Ensemble)** is very excited to be performing in *Oliver!* Previously, she played the role of Sophie in *School of Rock* at Skylight Music Theatre and was a part of the Holiday Cast in *A Jolly Holiday: Celebrating Disney's Broadway Hits* also at Skylight. She has performed in *Beauty & the Beast Jr.* and *Moana Jr.* with Shallece Saleen Studio-Fine Arts Academy; *Willy Wonka Jr.*, *Matilda Jr.* and *The Lion King Jr.* at Muskego Lakes Middle School. Bristol loves acting, singing, dancing, baking, and horseback riding. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Steven Gayfield (Ensemble)** is excited to make his Skylight debut! He is a 5th grader at Lumen Christi Catholic School. He performed in *Annie Jr. the Musical* with MTRD. Steven loves to sing, play the piano and guitar. Steven cantors at church as well as sings in the choir. In his spare time, he enjoys playing football, video games, and hanging around with friends. Steven sends thanks to his family and friends for their support.

**Ira Kindkeppel-Longden (Ensemble)** is thrilled to be a part of Skylight's *Oliver!* Some favorite past roles: Willy Wonka in *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (Creator Collaborative), Ryan Evans in *High School Musical* (Creator Collaborative), and Matthew Cratchett in *A Christmas Carol* (The Milwaukee Rep). Ira also enjoys reading, building Legos, and drawing. A big thank you to all who have helped him develop as a performer and person and to his family for being his biggest fans.

**Gus Kolbe (Oliver)** is a 7th grader at Pilgrim Park Middle School in Elm Grove. He is excited to make his Skylight debut! Gus has enjoyed acting since his first school musical at Tonawanda Elementary School. Since then, he has been hooked. When Gus isn't acting, he is playing volleyball, doing school clubs, or finding new things to keep himself entertained. In 2023, he was Charlie in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* at Sunset Playhouse.

**Ainsley Kosek (Ensemble)** is excited to be making her acting debut! She is 8yrs old and enjoys being on the swim team and playing the alto saxophone. She





# BIOS CONTINUED

is looking forward to her first theater experience and is happy to be sharing the stage with her sister. She loves to sing and dance and hopes to be part of many more shows in the future.

**Emilia Kosek (Ensemble)** is thrilled to be back on the Cabot Theater stage for her second time, making this her 9th theatre production. She is 11yrs old and enjoys playing volleyball and playing flute in her school's band. A few of her favorite roles were: Summer Hathaway in *School of Rock* at Skylight Music Theatre, Chip in *Beauty and the Beast* and Little Anastasia in *Anastasia* with WAWM Theater. She is looking forward to being in her first show with her sister and hopes to have a long future in acting.

**Jenna Krysiak (Artful Dodger)** is thrilled to "consider herself at home" with Skylight Music Theatre as Artful Dodger. Other credits: Patty Farrell in *Diary Of A Wimpy Kid The Musical* with First Stage, LeFou in *Beauty And The Beast Jr.* and Flounder in *The Little Mermaid Jr.* with SMYT, and many more. She is also part of AMT3 with First Stage. Offstage, she loves playing basketball and baking. Special shoutout to her family, especially Kylie Radulovich.

**Maia Scherman (Ensemble)** is 15 and goes to University School of Milwaukee. She has recently been in *The Amazing Lemonade Girl* (Alex) and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Beth Bradley) at First Stage, as well as her school's production of *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel). Maia loves to read, write, sing, dance, and play tennis. She is so excited to be a part of her first Skylight production and she hopes you enjoy it!

**Brooklynn "Brooke" Smith (Charley Bates)** is an actress who has participated in over 30 performances in her short career. Her long-term aspirations are to attend The Juilliard School in New York. Her hobbies include reading, violin and piano. Although she is shy when meeting new people, at home Brooklynn sings more than she talks!

**Stevie Marie Smith (Ensemble)** is a current fifth grader at Glen Hills Middle School. She loves singing, drawing, saxophone, crafting, and acting. Stevie has always had career aspirations of becoming an engineer; however, she has most recently discovered a passion for helping her neurodivergent friends.

**Elias Totleben (Ensemble)** [he/him] is thankful and honored to be back on the Skylight stage! He was last seen here as Zack

in *School of Rock* and has also appeared in productions at First Stage Milwaukee, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Paramount Theatre Aurora, and Mercury Theater Chicago. Elias is a songwriter-guitarist who is currently recording his first album. He turns 13 in December and is a home-schooled seventh grader. Thanks friends and family, and Hi Julian!

**Jillian Vogedes (Nipper)** is thrilled to be returning to the Skylight Music Theatre! Some of her favorite roles include: Student Ensemble & Summer Hathaway (understudy) in *School of Rock: The Musical* at Skylight Music Theatre; Olive Biddle in *Pete the Cat* and the Ice Cream Penguin in *Elephant & Piggie* at First Stage. Outside of theater, Jillian enjoys geocaching and reading books by Judy Blume. She is a 5th grader at Downtown Montessori Academy.

## TRAFALGAR CAST

**Jozef Baudo (Ensemble)** is a 6th grader at Glen Hills Middle School. He is beyond thrilled to be making his debut performance at Skylight Music Theatre! Theatre experience includes participating in the KidsWrites summer program where he played Captain Cool Guy in *The Blueberries of Wrath* and taking class at First Stage Academy! He's grateful to his family for their support, including his doggos Sunshine and Gary.

**Finley Brown (Nipper)** is so excited to play the mischievous Nipper in her first Skylight Music Theatre production. She is a 3rd grader at Maryland Avenue Montessori who loves to sing, dance, play violin (on roller-blades!), and host movie nights with friends. Finley would like to thank her family, teachers, and friends for their support, and she wishes everyone a wonderful holiday season.

**Malia Brunner (Ensemble)** is thrilled to be returning to Skylight Music Theatre after appearing as Lauren the piano player in *School of Rock*. Malia has a passion for singing and dancing, especially when it involves being on stage with her theater buddies. When not on stage, Malia can be found bumping the volleyball with her teammates, racing between the gates on the ski hill, and running on the trails with her cross-country team. Any time she gets to hang out with friends and family is a good day!

# BIOS CONTINUED

**Jeremiah Cooper (Ensemble)** is an 8th grader at River Trail School of Agricultural Sciences. He likes to play piano, watch tv, and read. *Oliver!* will be his second show for Skylight but his third show in general. He was Pinocchio in *Shrek the Musical Jr.* At Whitnall Middle School, and James in *School of Rock* at Skylight Music Theatre. His hobby is listening to music. In summary, Jeremiah cannot wait to consider himself one of you.

**Emery Domer (Ensemble)** is thrilled to make her debut with Skylight Music Theatre in *Oliver!* Emery is a freshman at University School of Milwaukee; her favorite school roles to date include James in *James and the Giant Peach*, Sebastian in *The Little Mermaid* and The Witch in *Into the Woods*. In her spare time, she dances with the company team for Bella Via Dance Studio, runs cross country, and takes voice lessons with Claudia Johnson. Emery would like to thank her mom, dad, and sister, Willa, for their love and support.

**Harper Fornstedt (Artful Dodger)** is in 8th grade at Golda Meir Middle School. Her hobbies include badminton, volleyball, oboe, writing, and reading. She is also a member of Young Company at First Stage. This is Harper's first show with Skylight Music Theatre. A few past credits include: Greg Heffley in *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical* at First Stage, Old Crow/Troll in *The Snow Queen*, and Ulysses in *Flora and Ulysses* at Milwaukee Youth Theatre.

**Mac Heinrich (Oliver) [hey/they]** is a sixth grader at Milwaukee Parkside School. He made his Skylight debut as an ensemble member and Freddy understudy in *School of Rock* and is excited to return as Oliver! Mac studies voice with Jackey Boelkow and also enjoys playing drums and skateboarding.

**Grace Hennen (Ensemble)** is beyond thrilled to be performing in her first production! She is a second grader at Elmwood Elementary in New Berlin and already loves being on stage. Her extra-curricular activities include performing with Character Kids and Irish dancing with the Glencastle Irish Dancers. In her free time you can find her snuggling one of her many dogs and cats or singing along to her favorite musicals.

**Shaun Martin (Ensemble)** is in the sixth grade, and he loves music. He is very proud and excited to join Skylight Music Theatre for his first professional theater production. He also enjoys playing basket-

ball and video games. Shaun would like to thank his family for their love and support.

**MacKenzie Rise Roberson (Ensemble)** after appearing in many Poplar Creek Church productions, and *The Wizard of Oz* with Children's Theatre of Wauwatosa, MacKenzie is thrilled to be making her Skylight debut in *!* MacKenzie is in 6th grade and a cheerleader at her middle school. She loves singing, dancing, and trying new things. She would like to thank her family, especially her twin Maddie for encouragement. She dedicates her performance to her grandma, and Whitney, her mom, who always inspire her.

**Grayson Scott (Charley Bates)** is absolutely exhilarated to be making their Skylight debut in *Oliver!* Grayson is a freshman at Whitefish Bay High School and they are an enthusiastic actor. Grayson has most recently been Chris in *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical* at First Stage and Rudolph in *Matilda* with Drama Jr. along with being in Young Company at First Stage. When not on stage, Grayson enjoys rock climbing, playing with their bulldog, and choreographing dances.

**Ellory Woodford (Ensemble)** is grateful to once again consider herself at home at Skylight! Ellory's favorite roles have been Olaf in *Frozen Jr.*, Madison in *School of Rock*, playing Lavender and Bruce in separate productions of *Matilda*, and Gladys in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. When not on stage, Ellory enjoys singing, biking, and gymnastics. She would like to thank both the casts for such a fabulous experience and hopes that everyone enjoys the show!

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Michael Unger\*\* (Director/Artistic Director)** For Skylight, Michael has directed Dennis DeYoung's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (nine BroadwayWorld Awards - including Best Director and Best Musical), the Deaf and Hearing production of *Spring Awakening*, *School of Rock*, *Noises Off*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Jolly Holiday: Celebrating Disney's Broadway Hits*, as well as *Me, Myself and I* for Skylight's Education program. Amongst many virtual offerings, he directed Skylight's BroadwayWorld Award-winning *Being Earnest*, now available worldwide online. He was previously the Associate Artistic Director

# BIOS CONTINUED

of Off-Broadway's York Theatre; credits there included *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* and *Big*. For nine years, he was the Producing Artistic Director of NewArts, started with a local father in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy; directing 17 productions working with over 650 area-children. Other selected directing credits include *A Christmas Carol* (McCarter Theatre for 18 years), *Two Point Oh* (NY Times Critics' Pick), *Time Stands Still* (Cape Cod Chronicle Best 2015), *My Sister in This House* (Deaf West, Ovation Recommended), and new versions of Kander and Ebb's *The Happy Time* and *The Rink*. World premieres include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Caligula*, and *A ROCKIN' Midsummer Night's Dream* (featured in the award-winning documentary film "Midsummer in Newtown"). He has directed 14 operas plus benefit concerts honoring Susan Stroman, André DeShields, Maltby and Shire, and Leslie Uggams, as well as for the communities of Sandy Hook, CT and Parkland, FL.

## **Stephanie Staszak (Choreographer)**

This is Stephanie's sixteenth production with Skylight, second as choreographer. *Oliver!* made her fall in love with musical theatre as a freshman in high school and she's choreographed it twice since, so she considers herself very much at home with this production. Stephanie has won three Tommy Awards for her choreography. As a performer, she was recently seen on this stage as Rosalie Mullins in *School of Rock* and Donna Marsala in *Tony n' Tina's Wedding*. She looks forward to upcoming productions on the Cabot stage!

**David Bonofiglio (Music Director)** holds a BFA in piano performance from Cardinal Stritch University. Selected credits as musical director: *Xanadu*, *School of Rock*, *Evita*, *Mamma Mia!*, *The Full Monty*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Oklahoma!* for Skylight Music Theatre; *Little By Little*, *Scrooge In Rouge*, *A Cudahy Caroler Christmas*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar* for In Tandem Theatre; *Sunday In The Park With George* for Windfall Theatre. As assistant musical director: *A Christmas Carol* for Milwaukee Repertory Theatre.

**Jayne Regan Pink (Dialect Coach)** serves as the Artistic Associate at Renaissance Theaterworks. Born in London, Jayne studied at the Royal Ballet School. Hailed as one of the finest dramatic dancers of her generation. Since 2000 she has acted as repititeur and coached internationally.

She has also worked as a choreographer, and movement director, and dialect coach. Her local credits include: *Happy Days*, *Neat*, *Witch*, *The Wolves*, *The Moors* (RTW); *Matilda*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Elephant and Piggie*, *Robin Hood*, *Urinetown* (First Stage Children's Theater); *Happy Now*, *The Norman Conquests*, *A Christmas Carol* (Milwaukee Rep). Upcoming: *Frankenstein*, *Skylight Music Theatre*, and *Circle Mirror Transformation*, *Next Act Theatre*.

**Daniel J. Hanson\* (Production Stage Manager)** is an Equity Stage Manager based in Chicago. Some previous Skylight credits: *Oklahoma!*, *Newsies*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Hairspray*, *Annie*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Urinetown*, *Tosca*, *Violet*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *Carmina Burana*. Other select credits: *Jersey Boys*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Rock of Ages*, *Big River*, *Sister Act* (Mercury Theater Chicago); *The Sound of Music*, *Into the Woods* (Paramount Theatre); *Guys on Ice* (Milwaukee Repertory Theater). Dan received his M.F.A. in stage management from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

**Jordan Ilyssa Angelo (Resident Assistant-Stage Manager)** is thrilled to be a part of this incredible musical, making it her 17th show with Skylight! Originally from Rhode Island, Jordan relocated to Milwaukee to pursue her love of theatre. Skylight favorites include *Waitress*, *From Here to Eternity*, *SuperYou*, and Dennis DeYoung's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Select Rhode Island credits: *42nd Street*, *The Sound of Music* (Theatre By The Sea), and *The Secret Garden* (Epic Theatre Company). Much love to her family, 3 kitties, and Steve.

**Mallory Topel (Assistant Stage Manager)** is excited to join Skylight Music Theatre for *Oliver!* A Wisconsin native, she graduated from Viterbo University in 2021. Favorite credits include *Next to Normal*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Million Dollar Quartet* (Greenbrier Valley Theatre), and productions with Portland Stage Company and Portland Theater Festival. Mallory also works as a virtual assistant and marketing operations for her family's business. She's grateful for her family's continued support!

**Jonathan Berg-Einhorn (Set Designer) [he/him]** is a Chicago based scenic designer. Favorite design credits include *Hand to God* (Paramount Theatre); *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (Mercury Theater); *The Reclamation of Madison Hemmings* (American Blues Theater); *The Spongebob Musical* (Kokandy Produc-

# BIOS CONTINUED

tions); *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Haven Theatre); *The Producers* (Music Theater Works); *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *The Christians* (Citadel); Associate designer for *Ernest Shackleton Loves Me* (Porchlight); *Babel*, *Isaac's Eye* (Jeff nominated, Redtwist). [Jonathanbergeinhorn.com](http://Jonathanbergeinhorn.com).

**Michelle Terese Grimm (Costume Designer)** is thrilled to be back in her hometown working on this production after spending fourteen years in the Seattle area. In Seattle, Michelle worked at a variety of places including the 5th Avenue Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Seattle Opera, Village Theatre, and Cornish College of the Arts. Michelle has a B.A. in Theatre Arts from Marquette University where she currently works in the costume shop, and an M.F.A. in Costume Design and Tech from Northern Illinois University.

**Smooch Medina (Lighting & Projections Designer)** is thrilled to be working with a wonderful team of artists on *Oliver!* Smooch is a Chicago area designer whose other show credits include Projection Design for *Cabaret*, *Rent*, *Ernest Shackleton Loves Me* - Jeff Nominated (Porchlight Music Theatre) *Sheep Dog*, *London Road* (Shattered Globe), *The Watsons Go to Birmingham* (Chicago Children's Theatre), *Alice in Wonderland* (Governors State University) *A Swell in the Ground*, *Pilgrims*, and *A Life Extra Ordinary* (The Gift Theatre), *Women in Jeopardy*, *Silent Sky* (First Folio), *Saturn Returns* (Neo-Futurists), *Estrella Cruz* [*The Junkyard Queen*] (Halcyon Theatre), *The White Road* - Jeff Nominated (Irish Theatre of Chicago), *Tightwire* (Chicago Tap Theatre). He currently is the Technical Supervisor at Hemmens Cultural Center as well as the City of Elgin Special Events Dept. Smooch holds a BFA in Lighting Design from Columbia College Chicago. See his work at [Smoochdesign.com](http://Smoochdesign.com)

**John Tanner Monagle (Sound Designer)** is a composer, recording engineer, and sound designer. His experience covers a broad range of work in scoring, arranging, recording, and music composition for television, documentaries, radio, industrial video, and theatre. His original music has won numerous awards, including Golden Reel Awards; Telly Awards; national American Advertising Federation Awards, and Silver Microphone Awards. John has garnered Gold and Platinum sales certifications for his album engineering work. [john@tannermonagle.com](mailto:john@tannermonagle.com)

**Amaya Rockett (Props Supervisor)** is excited to be working on Skylight's production of *Oliver!* She has been involved in Milwaukee theatre for almost 5 years. Previously set designing shows such as *The Forgotten Girl* (First Stage), *AIDA* (Waukesha Civic Theatre) and *Zuri's Crown* (Bronzeville Arts Ensemble). Her previous Properties work includes Black Arts MKE's *Mudrow*, and UW-Milwaukee's *Piggsville* and *Into The Woods*.

**Terry Harper (Director of Production and Facilities)** is originally from Houston Texas where he began his career as a Rock and Roll Lighting Designer, a Musical Theater Sound Engineer, and an Opera Technical Director. Opera has taken up most of his time working for Texas Opera Theater, Central City Opera, Opera Omaha, Vancouver Opera, The Atlanta Opera, and most recently Houston Grand Opera. Terry spent 5 years on the road touring the world with magician David Copperfield. He also helped take Mr. Copperfield's show to Broadway for a limited, record breaking run.

**Joseph Piirto (Interim Director of Production)** started in theatre at UW-Parkside in Kenosha. Joe has been a Technical Director for many theatres over the last 20 years including the San Francisco Opera's Merola program, The Boston Children's Theatre, and Ballet Arizona. Joe owns his own production company in Racine, "The Scene Shop." Joe was the Technical Director here last season and was happy to come back this season as the Interim Director of Production and facilities.

**Susan Varela (Executive Director)** Originally from Milwaukee and a graduate of UW-Stevens Point, her professional career as a performer landed her in New York City for 20 years. She performed on Broadway in *Les Misérables* and at Radio City Music Hall in *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber*. Other notable performances include Jo March in *Little Women: The Musical*; Grizabella in *Cats* and Eva Peron in *Evita*. Susan performed in world premieres at both the Denver Center Theatre (for their Tony-award winning season) and the Yale Repertory Theater. Before joining the Skylight staff, she appeared on the Cabot stage in *Sweeney Todd*, *Into the Woods*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Les Misérables*. Susan has produced, directed, performed and written for the stage and television alongside her husband, actor Andrew Varela. Susan currently serves on the board of directors for Brew City Opera and The Historic Third Ward Association.





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Casting Associate ..... Stephanie Staszak  
Casting Consultant ..... Alexander Coddington

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Resident Assistant ..... Jordan Ilyssa Angelo  
Stage Manager

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Fleet Manager

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