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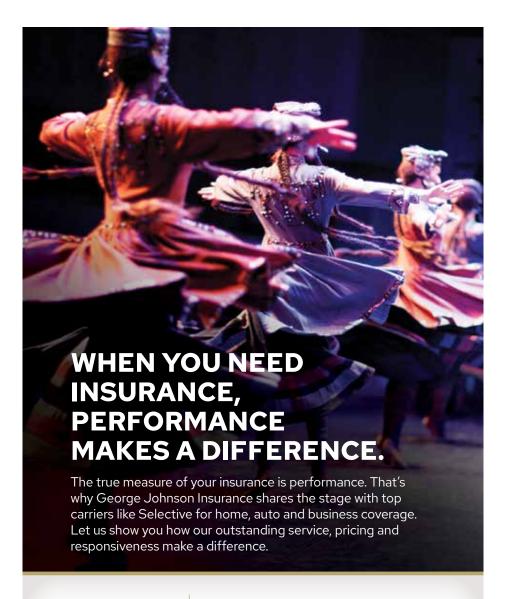






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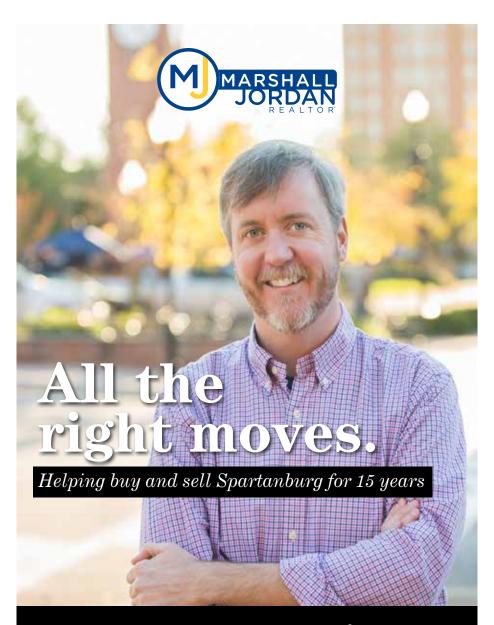
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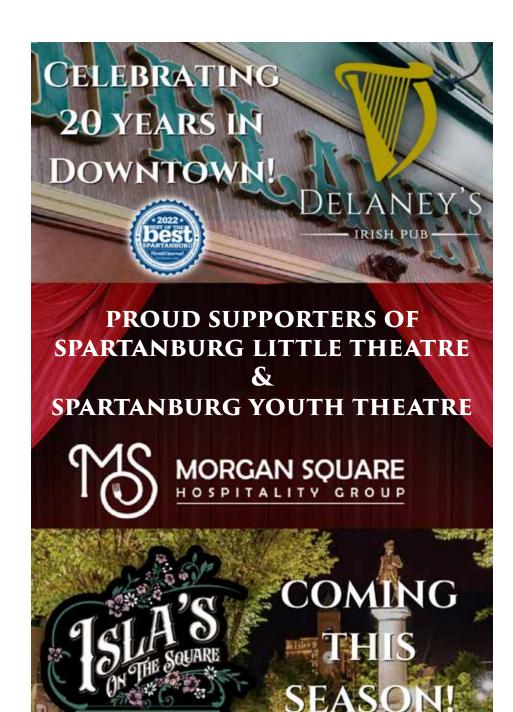


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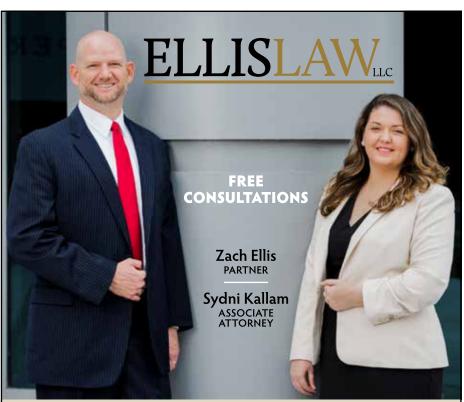






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Your generous donations have enabled Spartanburg Little Theatre and Youth Theatre to continue to bring high quality musicals, plays and children's theatre to Spartanburg and the Upstate of South Carolina. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continued support of local performing arts.

Spartanburglittletheatre.org/ contribute



\*Please contact us if you should notice any error in your contribution listing so that we may appropriately acknowledge your generous donation

#### **BARRY D. GOLDMAN**

#### LEGACY CIRCLE

Actor, board member and friend of the theatre Barry Goldman dedicated over thirty years of his life to making the Spartanburg Little Theatre a better place for its audiences and participants. We are proud to honor his inspiring legacy of talent, kindness, support, and dedication to the Spartanburg Little Theatre organization through a unique giving society-the **Barry D. Goldman Legacy Circle**.

The **Barry D. Goldman Legacy Circle** honors current and past SLT and SYT participants who are part of a long legacy of excellence, dedication and incomparable spirit—one that goes beyond their contributions of time, talent and heart.

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All donations to the **Barry D. Goldman Legacy Circle** support capital improvements and projects that enhance the performance, rehearsal and educational experience of its performers, students and creative staff. Spartanburglittletheatre.com/contribute

## SYT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Established in 2022, the mission of the Spartanburg Youth Theatre Scholarship Fund is to provide access to SYT's education programs for all young performers.

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Contributions are tax deductible.

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\$100

sponsors a K4-K5 class or camp

\$150

sponsors a one week half-day camp or 10-week class for 1st-12th grader \$200

sponsors one full day 7th-12th grade production camp

\$300

sponsors a family of 2 for one summer camp or class

\$500

sponsors one 1st-12th grade student for a year

\$1000

sponsors two 1st-12th grade students for a year of education.

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# spartanburg YOUth! theatre JUNIOR ADVISORY BOARD Junior Housery Board

#### 2022-2023 JUNIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Parker Bowen Neilie Chappell Sidney Davis Madison Doggett Veronica Glinyany Sarah Kneisley Jake Leonard Bella Rector Lilly Thompson Sydney Threatt

#### What is SYT's Junior Advisor Board (JAB)?

The Junior Advisory Board (JAB for short) is a group of 10th-12th graders with a passion for the performing arts and for serving the Spartanburg Youth Theatre (SYT). JAB members apply for a spot on the board and must have been involved onstage or backstage in at least two previous SYT productions before they can apply.

JAB exists to allow the youth to have a voice at SYT. They give the SYT director valuable input regarding shows and productions. JAB also provides extensive services to the theatre, including but not limited to assisting with auditions and audition workshops, participating in at least two SYT productions each season, and producing the annual Senior Showcase.

Each May rising 10th-12th graders interested in applying for JAB will have the opportunity to submit an application that will be posted to the SYT website and Facebook page.



Check out our curriculum companion for *Dragons Love Tacos* at **spartanburgyouththeatre.com/upcomingproduction**.

The companion includes vocabulary, educational activities, and excellent discussion pieces for you and your child to enjoy after seeing the show!

## spartanburg **youth!** theatre

# 2023 Summer Theatre Gamps

Register before 12pm on May 22 and receive \$20 off the cost of each camp! www.spartanburgyouththeatre.com/summercamps

#### — June 5-9 —

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus 9-11am | Rising K4-K5 | \$95

Musical Theatre: The Little Mermaid AM 9am-12:30pm | Rising 3rd-6th | \$165

Musical Theatre: The Little Mermaid PM 1:30-5pm | Rising 3rd-6th | \$165

Acting Foundations 1:30-5pm | Rising 3rd-6th | \$165

#### - June 12-16 -

Superheroes Unite! AM 9am-12pm | Rising 1st-2nd | \$150 Musical Theatre: Hamilton & Six 9am-12:30pm | Rising 7th-12th | \$165 The Very Hungry Caterpillar 3-5pm | Rising K4-K5 | \$95 Superheroes Unite! PM 1-4pm | Rising 1st-2nd | \$150

#### - June 19-23 -

Actor's Studio Musical Theatre: *The Drowsy Chaperone* 9am-5pm | Rising 10th-12th | \$250 Adventures in Moviemaking 9am-12:30pm | Rising 3rd-6th | \$165

#### — June 26-30 —

Bluey & Friends AM 9am-11am | Rising K4-K5 | \$95 Storybook Live! The Crayons Trick-or-Treat 9am-5pm | Rising 5th-12th | \$250 Bluey & Friends PM 3-5pm | Rising K4-K5 | \$95

#### - July 10-14 -

Lions, Tigers and Bears, OH MY! AM 9am-12pm | Rising 1st-2nd | \$150 Let's Make a Movie! 9am-5pm | Rising 7th-12th | \$250 Lions, Tigers and Bears, OH MY! PM 1-4pm | Rising 1st-2nd | \$150

#### - July 17-21 -

Farm Frenzy 9am-11am | Rising K4-K5 | \$95

The Fairy Tale Network 9am-5pm | Rising 3rd-6th | \$250

Emoji Mania 1-4pm | Rising 1st-2nd | \$150

#### - July 24-28 -

Mixed-up Fairy Tales 9am-12pm | Rising 1st-2nd | \$150 Storybook Live! *Ricky, The Rock That Couldn't Roll* 9am-5pm | Rising 5th-12th | \$250

#### — July 31-Aug 4 —

Musical Theatre: Disney on Broadway 9am-12:30pm | Rising 3rd-6th | \$165 Laugh Out Loud: Imrov Essentials 9am-12:30pm | Rising 7th-12th | \$165 Audition Prep: Musical Theatre 1:30-5pm | Rising 3rd-6th | \$165 Audition Prep: Musical Theatre 1:30-5pm | Rising 7th-12th | \$165

#### A Word from SYT

Last year, I celebrated my 2-year wedding anniversary with my wife, Kelsey. I surprised her with a trip to the same Airbnb we had for our honeymoon. The fun thing about returning to a place you have been before is how familiar it seems, yet how many things aren't quite as you remembered. Coming back to a theatre season last year after 18 months off was much like that! Last season was exhilarating, exciting, and also terrifying. While we have a well-oiled machine, that machine had laid dormant for almost 2 years, so there was a lot of remembering, "How do I do this again!?" SYT is running better than ever, and we're so excited to have you back this year for classics that will feel brand new, and new shows that will feel like classics you've known all your life.

If you're experiencing SYT for the first time, or if SYT has been your theatre home for years, we're so glad you're here and part of the SYT family!

Adam Sanders
Artistic Director Spartanburg Youth Theatre

#### **Director's** Note

Famous mime Tony Montanaro wrote, "Before a fear is exposed, it is an invisible and pervasive restriction, interfering with thought, movement, and expression. For this reason, I believe that every confrontation with fear is an invaluable step toward personal freedom and physical eloquence." As a director and acting teacher, I often find myself reminding people of all ages that creativity and spontaneity are greatly burdened by fear; to be your most authentic artist, you must do what scares you to liberate yourself from your self-imposed limitations. A show like *Dragons Love Tacos* forces us to do just that—embrace our whimsy, lean into our wildest dreams, and run screaming head-first into everything that seems hard and terrifying and exhausting! After all, with a little drive and determination, amazing things can happen

I hope you feel a little freer after watching.

Connor Vetter Guest Director Dragons Love Tacos

### spartanburg **youth!** theatre presents

# DRAGONS LOVE TACOS

By Ernie Nolan

Based on the book by Adam Rubin with illustrations by Daniel Salmieri.
Published by Penguin Group.

Produced by special arrangement with Plays for Young Audiences.

DIRECTOR CONNOR VETTER

STAGE MANAGER
JAKE LEONARD

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ASHLEY CRANE

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# DRAGONS LOVE TACOS

#### **SCENES**

**Location:** Girl's Home Time: Present Day

#### CAST OF **CHARACTERS**

(in order of appearance)

Selah Rodriguez*	Girl	5th	Woodland Heights Elementary
Ellie Hendon*	Leroy	3rd	Pauline Glenn Springs Elementary
Gloriana Howard	Kid in Suit	9th	Greer High
Isabella Scott*	Kid in Suit	9th	Homeschool
Ava Hisker	Red Dragon	11th	Byrnes High
Wren Padgett	Blue Dragon	5th	Pine Street Elementary
Hannah Winkler	White Dragon	6th	Dawkins Middle
Ali Claire Pingley	Yellow Dragon	5th	Pine Street Elementary

<sup>\*</sup> SYT Debut

#### PRODUCTION CREW

_	
Director	
Stage Manager	JAKE LEONARD*, 11th grade, Dorman High
	ASHLEY CRANE
Assistant Stage Manager	EMMA BROWN*, 12th grade, Homeschool
Choreographer	MARY THALASSINOS
Scenic Designer	DAVID KENWORTHY
	SISSY BECK
Lighting Designer	PETER LAMSON
Properties Master	JADE ALFORD
Scenic Painters	JADE ALFORD, ADAM SANDERS
Poster Design	LEISHA SCALLAN
Photography	WENDY MCCARTY
Stage Crew	CECILIA BUFF*, 7th, Homeschool
	RORY HALL*, 9th, Homeschool
	ADISON MCABEE*, 10th, Landrum High School
	MARGO MCDOWELL*, 11th, Chesnee High School
	BELLA RECTOR, 11th, Spartanburg High
	SOPHIE VARNER*, 10th, Dorman High School

#### MEET THE **CAST**

**ELLIE HENDON (Leroy)** is excited to be onstage for the very first time with the Spartanburg Youth Theatre. She is a 3rd grader whose favorite subjects are art and P.E. Ellie hopes this will be the first of many shows with SYT. She would like to say thank you to her amazing family for encouraging her and supporting her onstage and off!

**AVA HISKER (Red Dragon)** is so excited to be doing another production with SYT! Ava was last seen at SYT' in *Annie Jr.* and as Charlotte in *Charlotte Web*. Ava is so thankful for all the support of her closest friends and family, and for the support given to her at SYT!

**GLORIANA HOWARD (Kid in Suit)** is ecstatic to be back onstage. Some of her favorite roles include Sally in *Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat*, Summer Hathaway in *School of Rock*, and Alice in *Alice in Wonderland*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support, and the amazing SYT staff that made this experience possible. A special thanks to Connor, Mary, and Adam for bringing her into the SYT family.

**WREN PADGETT (Blue Dragon)** is excited to be back on stage with her SYT friends. Her previous SYT productions include *Annie Jr.* (Pepper), *Alice in Wonderland* (March Hare), and *Elf the Musical Jr.* (Ensemble). Wren attends Pine Street Elementary School and enjoys piano, hiking and Legos. Wren would like to thank her family and friends for showing up and cheering loudly!

**ALI CLAIRE PINGLEY (Yellow Dragon)** is excited to be back on stage in her fifth SYT production. Past performances at SYT include Fern in *Charlotte's Web*, Mock Turtle in *Alice in Wonderland*, and Thing 2 in *Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat*. Ali Claire is a 5th grade student at Pine Street Elementary. She would like to thank her family for their never-ending love and support.

**SELAH RODRIGUEZ (Girl)** is very excited about her first performance with the Spartanburg Youth Theatre. She's a 5th grader at Woodland Heights Elementary School. You can always find Selah with her nose in a book. She also loves to write and hopes that one of her own scripts will be performed one day.

**ISABELLA SCOTT (Kid in Suit)** is a 9th grade homeschooler who enjoys reading, history, music, and theatre. Bella has crewed five shows at SYT and is thrilled to make her stage debut with *Dragons Love Tacos!* She wants to thank the entire production team for this amazing opportunity, and she hopes you all enjoy the show!

**HANNAH WINKLER (White Dragon)** is excited to be performing in her second SYT production. She was previously seen as the Frog Footman in *Alice in Wonderland*. Hannah is in the 6th grade at Dawkins Middle School. She would like to thank Connor for the opportunity and her family for their support.

#### MEET THE **CREW**

**CECILIA BUFF** is excited to crew for the first time at the Spartanburg Youth Theatre! Her main passion is art, which is why she decided to join the crew to put her skills to use. She'd like to thank her mom and dad for introducing the opportunity and providing transportation.

**RORY HALL** is in the 9th grade. This is his first time crewing but has had experience on the stage in productions of *Aladdin* and *Cinderella*. He's super excited to be a part of this community. Thanks for coming to the show!

**ADISON MCABEE** is so excited to be crewing this production! She is a sophomore at Landrum High School and is a part of their theatre program and golf team. Adison has been seen onstage at SYT as Star-to-be/Mrs. Pugh in *Annie Jr.* and Medda Larkin in *Disney's Newsies Jr.* She's so thankful to be able to work with this cast and production team, and she hopes everyone breaks all their legs!

**MARGO MCDOWELL** is so excited to go behind the scenes in her first crew experience with SYT! She has been seen onstage at SYT in *Elf the Musical Jr.* (Jovie), *Godspell Jr.* (Day by Day), *Annie Jr.* (Grace), and *Disney's Newsies Jr.* (Katherine). She is principal chair cellist in the Chesnee High School orchestra, and vice-president of CHS student council. She is looking forward to a summer of taco parties! Psalm 104:33

**BELLA RECTOR** is an 11th grader at Spartanburg High. Bella has crewed six productions at SYT and is very excited to crew for *Dragons Love Tacos*.

**SOPHIE VARNER** is excited for her first crew experience with SYT. Sophie is a sophomore at Dorman High School, plays viola in Philharmonic, and takes piano lessons. She enjoys singing in her church choir and taking acting classes at SYT. Sophie would like to thank Adam and Jake for this opportunity and her family for their support.

#### MEET THE **PRODUCTION TEAM**

**CONNOR VETTER (Director)** is a Spartanburg-based theatre artist. Selected directing credits include *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* (South Carolina Children's Theatre), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Spartanburg Little Theatre), and the upcoming production of *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Centre Stage). Connor is immensely thankful to SYT, her cast, her crew, and her production team for helping bring this fantastical, wondrous calamity to the stage.

**ADAM SANDERS (SYT Director)** grew up with SYT and loves directing the program that helped shape him! He has been the SYT Director since 2015, and previously taught and directed at the SC Children's Theatre in Greenville, SC. Adam has directed many productions including *Disney's Newsies Jr., Godspell Jr., Disney's Freaky Friday the Musical, Elf the Musical Jr., Disney's Aladdin Jr., Mamma Mia!* (SLT), Seussical Jr., and many more. He'd like to thank his beautiful wife, Kelsey, for loving him and being his biggest fan. Galatians 2:20.

**JAKE LEONARD (Stage Manager)** is in the 11th grade at Dorman High School and is so excited to be a part of the production team. He has performed in many productions with the Spartanburg Youth Theatre, his favorites including Davey in *Disney's Newsies Jr.* and John the Baptist/Judas in *Godspell Jr.* He loves the support his friends and family have provided throughout his theatre endeavors. He would like to thank Adam and Connor for the continuous opportunities they have provided for him and he hopes you enjoy this wacky show.

**ASHLEY CRANE (Assistant Director)** is thrilled to be back at SYT where she grew up performing. After graduating from Palm Beach Atlantic University's Cinema/TV programs, Ashley moved to NYC to work with industry leading acting coaches Denise Simon, Penny Templeton, Bob Marks, T. Schreiber, and ReelArc! Ashley's clients have worked on- and off- Broadway, gone on National Tours, and worked on shows like *John Mulaney and the Sack Lunch Bunch, Victorious, Grey's Anatomy*, and more! She is extremely excited to be part of this production and incredibly proud of the hard work that the production team, cast, and crew have put into this magical, taco-filled adventure!

**EMMA BROWN (Assistant Stage Manager)** has been in several SYT productions before but is so excited to be backstage for the first time! Previous onstage SYT credits include *Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat, Elf the Musical Jr., Disney's Freaky Friday, Alice in Wonderland,* and *Annie Jr.* Emma is a homeschooled senior who is very excited to graduate. She would like to thank everyone at SYT for the opportunity to be part of another great show!

**MARY THALASSINOS (Choreographer)** is a Spartanburg native and Wofford College graduate. Aside from teaching classes and camps with SYT, she also works on productions in many ways including choreographing, sound designing, and assistant directing. Her work was last featured in Annie Jr. as choreographer. Mary is so lucky to call SYT her creative home and is thankful for all of the opportunities and relationships the program has given her. She dedicates this show to her sister, Morgan, and thanks her family for their endless love and support.

**DAVID KENWORTHY (Scenic Director)** is excited to design his first show with SYT. He has been the Technical Director for Wofford Theater for the past 5 years. Prior to moving to SC, he taught theatrical design at Oklahoma Baptist University for 6 years. KW has worked in professional and academic theatre for the past 25 years, including working for Walt Disney World, touring with Broadway shows and big-name music groups. He has designed sets and lights for many shows including, *The Addams Family, The Music Man, Once Upon a Mattress, Radium Girls,* and others. KW holds a BA in technical theatre and play writing from Chico State University and an MFA in scenography from Humboldt State University.

**SISSY BECK (Costume Designer)** lives in Fountain Inn, SC with her husband Louis. She has costumed for several theaters around the Upstate. She received SC Theatre Association's award for Best Costume Design for Community Theater for her work on Robin Hood and Of Mice and Men at Mill Town Players in Pelzer. She truly believes that theatre can change a child's life and is so thrilled to be a part of this production team.

**JADE ALFORD (Properties Master)** is thrilled to be working with the Spartanburg Youth Theatre. She has a BFA in musical theatre from Limestone College. She previously did prop design for Annie Jr. and assisted with scenic painting for *Charlottes Web, Annie Jr.* and *Disney's Newsies Jr.* She would like to thank Adam for giving her the opportunity to design props for this fantastic show!

**PETER LAMSON (Lighting Designer/Technical Director)** has worked with SLT/SYT since 2010. Prior to his arrival in Spartanburg, Peter worked with several theatre companies in Wilmington, NC, including City Stage, Tapestry Theatre Company, and at historic Thalian Hall. Peter relishes working with talented directors, actors, and other designers in order to solve the different challenges each production presents in order to be successful.

JAY E. COFFMAN (Executive Artistic Director) most recently directed this season's *Bright Star* and last season's *Sh-Boom! Life Could Be a Dream, Sister Act* and *We Will Rock You*. Other favorite directorial credits include *Memphis, Hands on a Hardbody, Ring of Fire, Rock of Ages,* and *The Rocky Horror Show.* In past seasons he has occasionally appeared on stage in *Legally Blonde* (Dad/Winthrop), *Blithe Spirit* (Charles Condomine) and *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and then some!)*. A native of Southern California and former senior instructor of German at USC Upstate, Jay is in his 15<sup>th</sup> year as executive artistic director for SLT.

**JENNY BONNER (Media Coordinator)** is a visual artist, as well as an instructor in studio art and art history at USC Upstate. She holds an MFA in painting & sculpture from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a BFA in painting and drawing from The Ohio State University. This summer, her artists collective, *Banded Wilderness*, permanently installed their site-specific sculpture-with-sound in Raleigh, NC, after it was acquired by the City. (You can check it out at Baileywick Park if you are ever in the area!) Jenny enjoys making props and other adornments for the shows at SLT/SYT when the opportunities arise and is so excited to see what this season holds! Outside of work, she enjoys running trails, and spending time with her pup, Dame Maggie Smith.

**OLIVER ELLIS (Scene Shop Foreman)** is excited to start his second season with SLT. He has worked with local companies such as Greenville Light Opera Works and Ballet Spartanburg and graduated from Converse College in 2020. He is glad to be given the opportunity to grow in theatre here!

**CRUZ CRANE (Youth Theatre Intern)** is an SYT alum and has been creating virtual content for SYT for the past 2 years. He has worked as a freelance videographer and editor since he graduated from Full Sail University. Cruz has also taught film classes at Velos Collective in Taylors, SC. He is excited to intern with SYT, while continuing to teach filmmaking and help create *Storybook Live* videos this summer.

#### special thanks

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Break a Leg

#### **AVA HISKER**

Have a great performance, Ava! I am very proud of you. Love, Dad

#### **GLORIANA HOWARD**

You are our favorite "kid in suit."
We love you dearly, and we are
so so proud of you!

Dad, Mom & Ethan





Break a Leg

#### WREN PADGETT

We love you more than all the stars in the universe! We are proud of you and all your hard work.

> Love, Mom, Dad, Ella, Takoda and Mia

#### **ALI CLAIRE PINGLEY**

We can't wait to see our yellow dragon shine! Love, Mom, Zach, Jackson, & Elizabeth



#### **SELAH RODRIGUEZ**

Congratulations on your first theatre performance! We are so proud of you!

Love,

Memommy & Papa





Break a Leg

#### **SELAH RODRIGUEZ**

You are incredibly talented, and we are so excited to see you perform this weekend! We are proud of you and love you bunches! Love, Mom, Mia, & Ben

#### **BELLA SCOTT**

We are so proud of you -You Got This!!! Love you Bunches Mommy, Daddy

and John Wesley

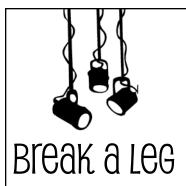




Break a Leg

#### **BELLA SCOTT**

We Love Dragons! We Love Tacos!
And We Love You!!!
Love, Granma & Grampa



#### **BELLA SCOTT**

We Love you Bunches -Break a Leg! Love, Grandmama, Papa and Aunt Mim Mim

#### **SOPHIE VARNER**

Good luck crewing your first show!! Always be the SPICY topping when you can! You were born to NOT be MILD!! Love, Mom, Dad, and Audra





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We are so excited to see you back on stage! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom & Dad



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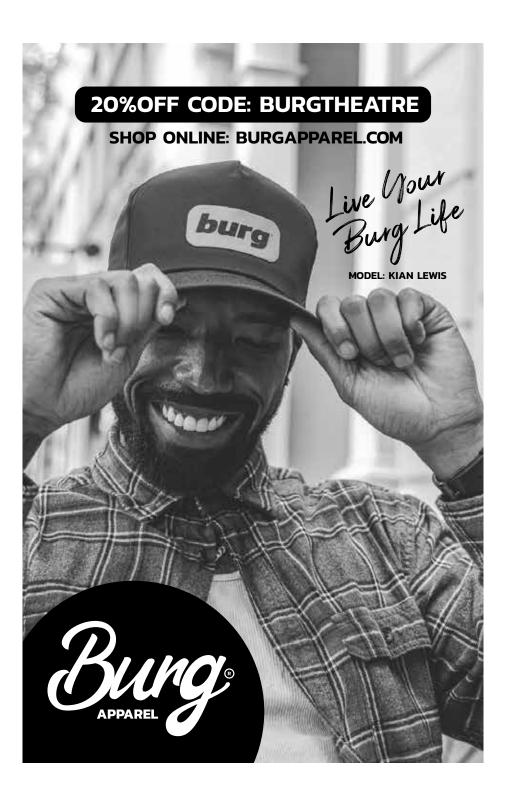
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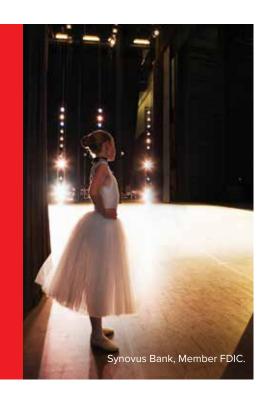


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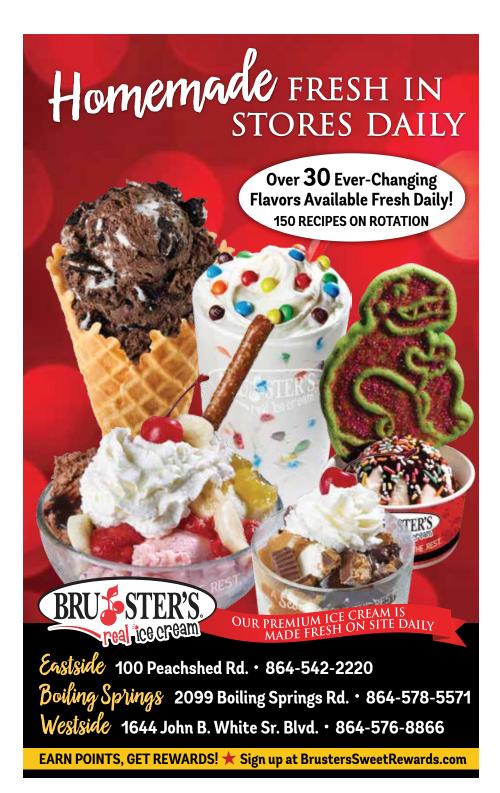


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