

Special Thank Yous!

Peace United Church of Christ
Debby Adams
Poppy Lear
Laura Andrews
Ryan Frank
Lee and Hanna Menz

Pastor Paul Bauch
Kirby and Ruth Bakken
KTTC
Randy Peterson
Jaymi Wilson
Scott Nelson

& to all O AFC generous supporters who came to see the show!

**William
Shakespeare**



**William
Shookspeare**



**William
Steadyspeare**



**William
With a Spear**



PLAYBILL

Once & Future Classics
Rochester, MN

A MUSICAL



MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

By William Shakespeare
Adapted and Directed by Aaron Rocklyn
Musical Direction by Jaymi Wilson

Meet the Directors!



Aaron Rocklyn (Artistic Director)

Aaron's credits as a writer, actor, designer, and director total over 300 shows. His favorite roles include John Proctor in *Crucible*, Valmont in *Dangerous Liaisons*, Benedick in *Much Ado*, Pirate King in *Pirates of Penzance*, Oberon and Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Tommy in *Brigadoon*, ten characters in *Greater Tuna*, Max in *Lend me a Tenor*, Lancelot in *Camelot*, and the roles of *Man*

of La Mancha, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, and *The Foreigner*. Some of his favorite directing credits are *The Trip To Bountiful*, *Keely & Du*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Foxfire*, and *Eleemosynary*. Other credits include Shakespeare & CO., *Fanny Hill*, *The Phipps*, *The Ordway*, *The Carowinds*, *Houston Hollow*, *Canada's Wonderlands*, *Scarborough Fare* in *Dallas*, *Pheonix Players*, *Eden Prairie Arts*, *Theatre-in the-Round*, *MN Opera*, *The Guthrie*, and *Epcot Center*. As a writer, his scripts have received 40-some productions; most recently *A Musical Midsummer Night's Dream*, *A Washington Irving Christmas*, *Dracula: The Rock Musical*, and *Flash Gordon: The Musical*.



Jaymi Wilson (Musical Director)

Jaymi lives in Rochester and is a Project Manager for the City of Rochester. She graduated from Luther College. Jaymi found her passion for music at a young age, and has played piano for over 35 years. She wrote the music for *Loving Lorna Doone*, which premiered at the Repertory Theatre in 2011, and *A Musical Midsummer Night's Dream* in Mayo of 2017. Jaymi played Evelyn Scrooge in *Christmas Carol Rag* in 2011, and has been

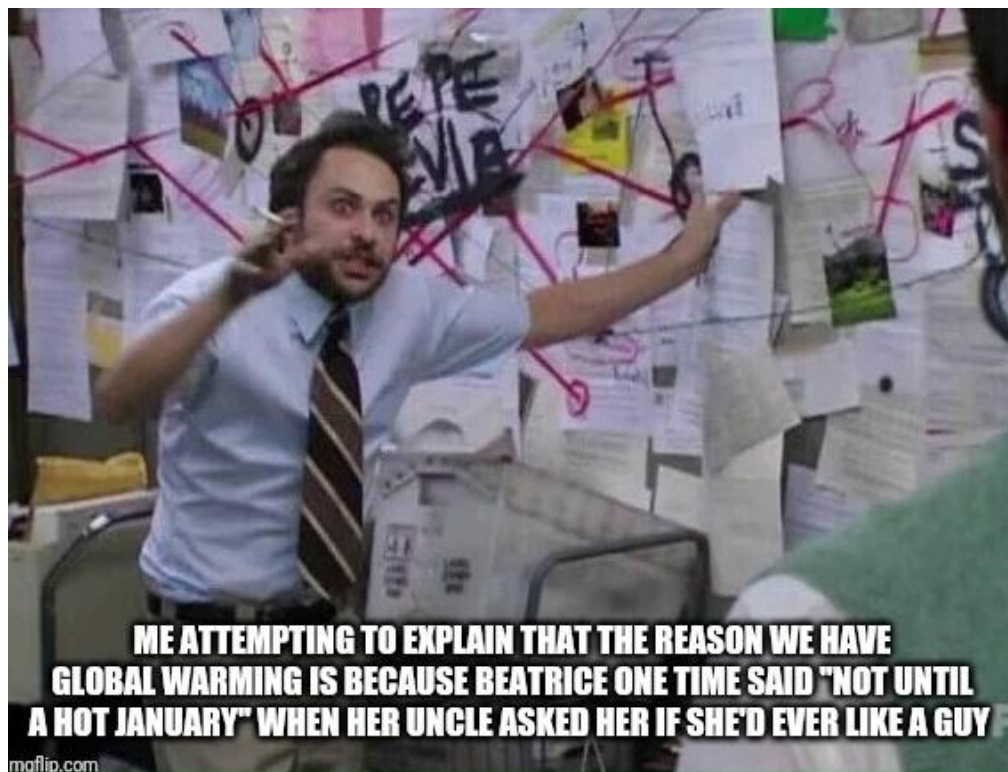
the accompanist/musical director for over 40 shows since 2001. When She's not in the theatre, she loves to read, and traveling to explore new places



Megan Beatty (Choreographer) - is from Eagan, and lives in Rochester with her husband Joe, and 3 crazy kids Ryan (7), Hannah (5), and Clara (1). She teaches 6th grade at John Adams teaching English as a second Language, and enjoys photography, hiking, piano, spending time on the lake with friends and family, ultimate frisbee, dancing and traveling. Megan previously appeared as Rosebud in *Pirates of Penzance*, Minnie in *Little House*, and Rebec in *Romeo and Juliet*.



Chris McFarland (Light board operator) - lives in Rochester, and has been a great addition to the Once and Future Classics staff. He has operated the lightboard the past two shows. Chris an avid traveler, having visited over 28 countries (Barcelona, Istanbul, and Malta being favorites). Chris enjoys photography, skating, anime, supernatural television shows, and playing video games. He has gotten a bad case of the Julie; they recently became engaged! Mazel tov to the happy couple from all of us here at Once and Future Classics!





Aria Frank (Tina) – lives in Oronoco with her mom and dad, Sydney and Ryan, brother Brand, and sister Reyna. She has a cat named Zuko, and two dogs Link and Zelda. Aria is going into 4th grade at Pine Island Elementary school where she is in a Spanish immersion classroom. Aria loves swimming, hiking with her dad, getting pedicures with her mom, biking, playing with her brother and sister, making art, painting, chasing chickens, and spending quality time with friends and family. This is Aria’s first time on stage, and we are thrilled to have her!

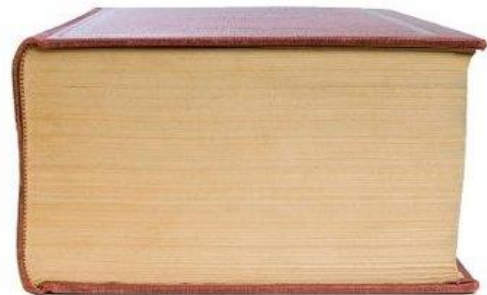


Kathy Littlefield (Customer Extraordinaire) – lives in St. Charles, and has 4 children and grandchildren. Kathy loves sewing, reading, traveling, family, and reading and watching science fiction. She has a degree in elementary education, and is retired from running an in home daycare and kitchen manager at Kwik Trip. She has costumed for over 25 years for 9 different local theatres, including Once and Future Classics, St. Charles, the REP, and Stewartville Community Theatre. Thanks for all you do Kathy!



Julie Littlefield (Asst Costumer/ Photographer) – lives in St. Charles and is a teacher of toddlers at St. Charles Child Care for the past 7 years. She loves to read, watch movies, spend time with her boyfriend, live theatre, doing Cosplay, and traveling (many states, Costa Rica, and Japan twice). Julie has been involved in theater since elementary school, and has been heavily involved backstage in all O AFC productions. Thanks so much Julie!

Much Ado About Nothing



Much Ado About Nothing if Beatrice could eat people’s hearts in the marketplace



The Time & Place

Messina Italy, modern day (originally 1598)

The Play

Act I

1. *Leonato’s Gardens*
2. *The Orchard*
3. *Outside the Vineyard*
4. *The Orchard*
5. *Leonato’s Gardens*
6. *Leonato’s Gardens*
7. *Outside the Vineyard*

There will be a brief 12 minute intermission between acts

Act II

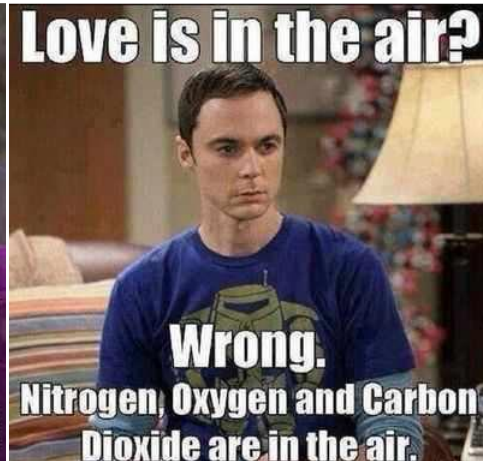
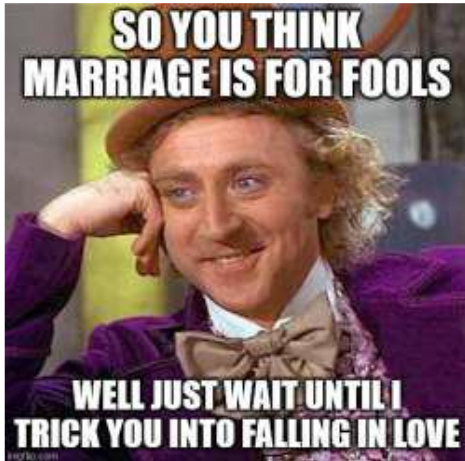
1. *The Streets of Messina*
2. *Just Outside Hero’s Chamber*
3. *Leonato’s Front Door*
4. *Outside Leonato’s Vineyards*
5. *The Road Leading to Leonato’s Villa*
6. *The Churchyard*
7. *The Orchard*
8. *Outside Leonato’s Vineyards*

Director's Notes

Of all Shakespeare's comedies, only A Midsummer Night's Dream has been produced more often than Much Ado About Nothing. Tonight's show is a modern musical, but the plot, characters, and The Bard's typical fifty-shades of humor have all been carefully preserved. We'd like to think that our production will have the same effect on a modern audience that Shakespeare's original script had in his time.

These days, of course, his archaic words and syntax can be hard to follow, so performing a modern-language script with music makes that a lot easier. And while it's true that our modern script features a fair amount of music, it should be noted that Much Ado contained at least five songs in its original form, so maybe we are not too far from the source. Anyway, if you like a night of live theatre and a great classic tale told with music, you've come to the right place; we love putting on "blasts from the past" with a modern twist!

~Aaron Rocklyn



Lennon King (Wrist Watch) – lives in Rochester with his mom Lindsay, sister Bryana, bearded dragon Freddy, and snake Merlin. Lennon is a sophomore at Century High School, and he enjoys playing guitar, the cello and ukulele. When not on stage, you can find him reading, biking, and spending time with friends and family. You may have previously seen on him on stage at Words Play Theater, Kellogg Middle School, Upstage Theater, or Century High School (*Grease*). This is Lennon's first O AFC production! Welcome! Glad to have ya!



Abigail Sievers (Valeria) – was born in Rochester, and lives in town with her mom Beth, dad John, and sister Eleanor. Abigail is an 8th grader at Friedell Middle School. Her hobbies include playing upright base, being on a theatre stage, producing art, playing dungeons and dragons, reading, and spending time with friends and family. Abigail has been in 5 over shows at school and O AFC, including appearances as Rapunzel (*Into the Woods*), Diamond (*Aladdin*), and Keeper of the book (*Snow White*), and Sophia Ritz (*Romeo and Juliet*).



Logan Rounds (Book Boy) – was born and raised in Rochester, and lives in town with his mom Tenille, dad Matt, and sister Jada. Logan is a 7th grader and is homeschooled. He loves playing basketball, football, drawing, doing theatre with his sister Jada, and playing the drums. Logan has been in 9 shows at Calvary Evangelical Free Church, Stewartville High School, and O AFC, including appearances as Nigel (*Matilda*), and Fabian (*Twelfth Night*), and apothecary's son (*Romeo and Juliet*). Logan brings great energy – thanks for joining us!



Ryan Heneke (Tulip) – lives in Stewartville where she will be in fourth grade this fall. Ryan has a tender heart for all animals, but especially for her dog Nala and new pup Beau. She enjoys hiking with her dad Erich, golfing with her mom Kate, being onstage, and spending quality time with her friends, family, and 12 cousins. Ryan has been blessed with opportunities to travel to Mexico, the Dominican Republic, and Canada. This is Ryan's second O AFC production, having previously appeared in A Musical *Romeo and Juliet*. Glad to have ya Ryan!



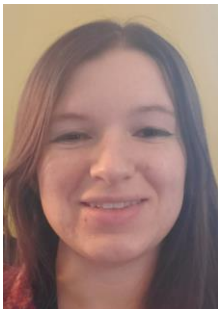
Catelyn Holm (Headborough Verges) – was born in Rochester, and lives in Winona. She graduated from WSU, and is an IT developer at Fastenal in Winona. Catelyn enjoys healthy doses of “granny” activities, including knitting sewing, canning – and more “modern” activities – dungeons and dragons, video games, and traveling (Japan!). She has been in over 10 productions in St. Charlies, Stewartville Community Theatre, the REP, and O AFC, including *Gwen (Flash Gordon)*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Cinderella*, *Wizard of Oz*, & *Loving Lorna Doone*.



Courtney Holm (Conrade) – lives in Rochester, and was born in Owatonna. She recently graduated from Century High School, and enjoys theatre, having been involved in numerous productions, including working tech and sound in Century’s production of *Grease*, and was part of the Ensemble in *Cinderella*. She is excited to doing a performance with her best friend, aka twin, Jace. This is Courtney’s first O AFC show, and we are grateful to have her join us for this show. Welcome Courtney!



Mathew Tollefson (Messenger / First Watch) – lives in town with his mom Tracy, dad Doug, sister Keira, and brother Cameron. Mathew is a 10th grader at Century, and enjoys Magic the Gathering, D&D, running, and public speaking. He’s been in over 20 shows, including appearances as Jack (*Into the Woods*), Malvolio (*Twelfth night*), Chef Louis (*Little Mermaid*), Vince (*Grease*), Thisbe (*Midsummer Nights Dream*), and Lorenzo (*Romeo and Juliet*). Big thank you to grandpa, who came to every one of my shows, but recently passed away.



Sydney Rae (Second Watch) – resides in Winona, but grew up in Zumbro Falls. Sydney is a senior operator, and is currently pursuing a business management associates and creating writing certificate. When not on stage, Sydney loves reading, writing, dungeons and dragons, and playing the mmorpg final fantasy XIV. Sydney has traveled to Japan, Puerto Rico, and several of the states. She has been involved in a handful of theatre productions, including soundboard for *Jabberwocky* at RCTC, and 2 other high school shows. Welcome to O AFC Sydney!

Fun facts about the show!

The title, *Much Ado About Nothing*, is a play on words referencing the secrets and trickery that form the backbone of the play’s comedy, intrigue, and plot. Deception is used by many characters, some for ultimately good aims, while others use it to reach evil ends. Central to the play is the contrast between these two motivations – trickery can be good or bad depending on the aim of the character. Another theme takes the form of characters pretending to be others.

It is believed that one of Shakespeare’s inspirations was *Novelle* (“Tales”) by Matteo Bandello, a sixteenth century work. Stories of lovers deceived into believing each other false were common in northern Italy during the 16th century. A character with views on marriage similar to Benedick appears in *Orlando Furioso*, and another with similarities to the Claudio – Hero plot is Edmund Spenser’s *The Faerie Queene*. The witty wooing of Beatrice and Benedick is completely original, and very unusual in style and syncopation to other pieces published during the time.

Pictured below are famous works of Beatrice (Frank Dicksee 1921), Hero (John Wright 1849), and the location of Messina on the island of Sicily.



Messina is the 13th largest city in Italy, and 3rd largest on the island of Sicily. The city was founded under a different name by the Greeks in the 8th century BC. It was eventually conquered by the Carthaginians, and then the Romans in the 2nd century BC. During Shakespeare’s time it was an important cultural and economic center, with the first Jesuit College in the world (founded in 1548) and an important trade harbor being located there. The city is widely known for its wine, lemon, orange, and olive production, and reached its zenith during the 17th century when it was under Spanish rule. At that time, it was among the 10 greatest cities in all of Europe.

Once and Future Classics Staff

Artistic Director	Aaron Rocklyn
Musical Director	Jaymi Wilson
Costume Design	Kathy & Julie Littlefield
Set Design & Construction	Aaron Rocklyn
Accompanist	Jaymi Wilson
Choreography	Megan Beatty and Allison Johnson
Lightboard Operator	Chris McFarland
Sound Design	Jaymi Wilson
Props	Poppy Lear
Program	Ryan Frank
Publicity	Jaymi Wilson
Poster Design	Jace Maddock & Ryan Frank
Church Liaison	Debby Adams
Website	Scott Nelson



Jennifer Reed (Ursula) - lives in Stewartville with her husband Rick, son Cooper, and works as an RN at the Mayo Clinic. Jennifer enjoys dancing, spending quality time with friends and family, and doing theatre with Cooper. Jennifer has performed in over 10 local productions at Stewartville community theatre and O AFC, including appearances as Potiphar's Wife (*Joseph*), Martha (*Arsenic and Old Lace*), Tanya (*Mamma Mia!*), Raven (*Dracula*), Fria (*Flash Gordon*), Princess (*A Musical Romeo and Juliet*), and Soul Girl (*Jesus Christ Superstar*).



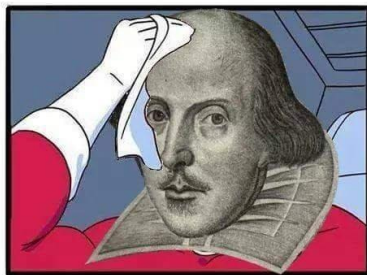
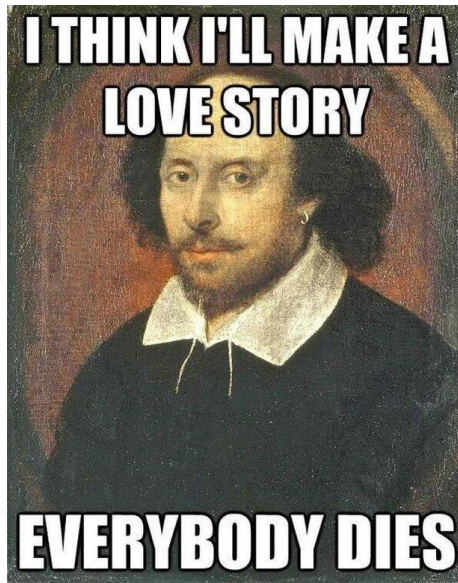
Olivia Hafeman (Margaret) - is from Eau Claire, and lives in Rochester with her mom Jessi, dad Ben, brother Grant, and guinea pig Mocha. She is a junior at Mayo High School. Olivia loves drawing, animation, singing, spending time with friends and family, theatre, playing percussion, and traveling (NYC, Washington DC, Florida, and Colorado). Olivia has been in over 10 local productions at O AFC, and school and church plays, including appearances as Ado Annie (*Oklahoma*), Antonia (*Romeo and Juliet*), & Fitness Instructor (*Adams Family*).



Allison Johnson (Chianti) - lives in Stewartville where she's a junior at Stewartville high school. Allison enjoys spending time with her mom Sheryl, dad Dan, stepdad, stepmom, 4 brothers, 3, dogs, 3 cats, fish, and lovely turtle. She loves cheerleading, dance team, track and field, honors choir, choreography, and spending time with her best friend, Texas. Allison has traveled to FL, and the Bahamas. She has been in multiple honors choir (4) and theatre shows, including rose as Belle (*Descendants*), Choreographer/cook (*Willy Wonka*), and Ensemble (*Joseph*). Welcome to O AFC Allison!



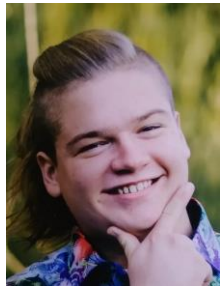
Jace Maddock (Bardot) - lives Rochester. Her parents are Julie and Greg, and her stepdad is Lyle. Jace has two sisters—Courtney and Gabrielle—and 5 brothers—Luke, Kyle, Jonathan, Matthew, and Grant. She also has two dogs, Rosie and Pixie, and three cats, Buzz, Whip, and Nigel. Jace is a senior at Century High School, and loves painting, reading, graphic design, theatre, being with friends, and traveling (Finland, Estonia, Amsterdam, France, England). She previously appeared as little kid (*Matilda*), Liz (*iAm*), and Pink Lady (*Grease*). Jace is excited to be in a show with her best friend Courtney, and thanks her parents for their unending support through all things.



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Alex Wanek (Borachio) - was born in Rochester, and lives in town with his mom, dad, brother, sister, three dogs, and five cats. Alex is a junior at Century high school. When not on stage, you will find him playing dungeons and dragons, watching theatre, spending time with friends and family, and enjoying horror movies. He has been in over 10 local productions, including appearances in *Grease*, *Little House on the Prairie*, and *Balthazar (A musical Romeo and Juliet)*. Fun Fact: Alex will always be spotted sporting a second layer of clothing.



Cooper Reed (Constable Dogberry) - lives in Stewartville with his mom and dad Jennifer and Rick, and 2 dogs. "Super Cooper" was born in a hospital, and is a freezer manager at Fareway. He is working towards a degree in business, and enjoys tennis, being lazy, the occasional oxymoron, Rubik's cubes, and telling jokes (most of them good). Cooper has been in over 10 productions, including appearances as Paris (*Romeo and Juliet*), Eddie (*Mamma Mia*), Thun (*Flash Gordon*), Officer Brophy (*Arsenic and Old Lace*), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.



Kirby Bakken (Antonio) - lives in Byron with his wife Ruth, mom Darleen, 1 cat, 2 kittens, 2 guinea pigs, and 8 alpacas. He has two kids, Alan and Marlow. Kirby has a BS in electrical engineering and worked at IBM for 32 years. Kirby enjoys cycling, volleyball, & traveling (Japan, Germany, Italy, and England). This is Kirby's 8th show, with roles including Lord Montague (*Romeo and Juliet*), Major-General (*Pirates*), Charlies Dickens (*Washington Irving*), Dan (*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*), and Pilate (*JC Superstar*). Kirby has been an essential part of every OAFC production.



Ruth Bakken (Imogen) - is from Huron South Dakota and currently lives in Byron with her husband Kirby, his mom Darleen, 8 alpacas, 1 cat, 2 energetic kittens, and 2 guinea pigs. Ruth works at SOMINN in Dodge Center, and enjoys church choir bells, praise team, playing the cello, and playing volleyball. Ruth has traveled to the Caribbean, Germany, and Mexico. She has been in 6 OAFC shows and 1 in Stewartville, including appearances in *Pirates of Penzance*, *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Romeo and Juliet*.

Our Superbly Talented Cast

Leonato	Randy Peterson
Beatrice	Katie Eberhard
Benedick	Ryan Frank
Claudio	Colin Owen
Hero	Jada Rounds
Don John	Andrew Banker
Don Pedro	Marcus Johnson
Balthazar / Francesca	Sheryl Chaloner
Borachio	Alex Wanek
Constable Dogberry	Cooper Reed
Antonio	Kirby Bakken
Imogen	Ruth Bakken
Ursula	Jennifer Reed
Margaret	Olivia Hafeman
Chianti	Allison Johnson
Bardot	Jace Maddock
Headborough Verges	Catelyn Holm
Conrade	Courtney Holm
Messenger / First watch	Matthew Tollefson
Second Watch	Sydney Rae
Wrist Watch	Lennon King
Valeria	Abigail Sievers
Sophia	Jaymi Wilson
Book Boy	Logan Rounds
Tulip	Ryan Heneke
Tina	Aria Frank
2nd guitarist	Aaron Rocklyn



Randy Peterson (Leonato) - owns his own business renting vacation property, and enjoys singing, theatre, fishing, cross-country skiing, boating, working out, and family (Alex & Josey, Mak & Matt, and grandkids Jovi, Cameron, Cody, and Jace). He has performed in 40+ local productions, including roles as Sam Carmichael (*Mamma Mia!*), Judas (*Jesus Christ Superstar*), Captain Phoebus (*Hunchback of Notre Dame*), Pirate King (*Pirates of Penzance*), King Arthur (*Camelot & Spamalot*), Emile De Becque (*South Pacific*), Tommy Albright (*Brigadoon*), & Juan Peron (*Evita*).



Katie Eberhard (Beatrice) - lives in Rochester with her dog Rinna. She has a BS in wildlife & wildlands conservation, and is a research technologist at the Mayo Clinic. Katie enjoys camping, hiking (visited 63/66 MN state parks), reading, & traveling (Ecuador, Mexico, Sweden, England, South Africa, Peru). She's been in over 15 productions, including roles as Narrator (*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*), Eliza (*My Fair Lady*), Ado Annie (*Oklahoma!*), Donna (*Mamma Mia!*), Dale Arden (*Flash Gordon*), Nurse (*Romeo and Juliet*), and Dr. Stockman (*An Enemy of the People*).



Ryan Frank (Benedick) - lives in Oronoco with his wife Sydney, 3 kids Aria (9), Brand (7), and Reyna (4), 2 dogs Link & Zelda, and cat Zuko. He has an MS in Biostatistics, BAs in Math/History, and is a statistician at Mayo researching Alzheimer's. Ryan enjoys hiking, running, biking, traveling, and keeping his little ones out of trouble. He's been in over 25 local productions, including roles as Frederick (*Pirates of Penzance*), Bill (*Mamma Mia!*), Mortimer (*Arsenic and Old Lace*), Rum Tum Tugger (*Cats*), Lumiere (*Beauty and the Beast*), Tybalt (*Romeo and Juliet*), and Harry (*Brigadoon*). Viva la vida (long live life)!



Colin Owen (Claudio) - lives in Rochester with his Mom Anne, Dad Dave, and 2 cats - Tula and Tika. He just graduated from Century High School, and enjoys spending his time acting, playing dungeons and dragons, figure skating, singing, spending time with friends and family, and water skiing. Colin has been in over 20 shows, appearing as Romeo (*Romeo and Juliet*), Danny (*Grease*), Puck (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Professor Bhair (Women), Court Clerk/Ensemble (*Chicago*), and Charlie Brown (*You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*).



Jada Rounds (Hero) - was born in Chicago, and lives in town with her mom Tenille, dad Matt, and brother Logan. She's going into 12th grade, attending classes at RCTC. Jada enjoys reading, running (6 years cross country), singing, theatre, and spending time with friends. She's been involved in over 25 productions with Words Players Theater, PAPA, Stewartville High School, and OAFC. Some of her favorite roles include Jasmine (*Aladdin*), Mrs. Bucket (*Willy Wonka*), Laura (*Little House on the Prairie*), and Rosaline (*Romeo and Juliet*).



Andrew Banker (Don John) - lives in Oronoco, and is an alumni from Century High School. He's pursuing a Bachelors degree in Middle School Education from Macalester College in St. Paul. When not on stage, you'll find Andrew wood carvings, wandering in the woods, playing the guitar, enjoying Bob Dylan songs, and traveling (Canada, Ontario, and Kentucky). He's been in over 20 shows, including appearances in *A Midsummer Nights Dream*, *Peter Pan* (Peter), *Aladdin* (Aladdin), *Legally Blonde* (Callahan), *Les Miserables* (Inspector Javert), *Oedipus Rex* (Cleon), and *Into the Woods* (Wolf).



Marcus Johnson (Don Pedro) - lives in Stewartville where he's a sophomore at Stewartville High School. He has a mom Sheryl, dad Dan, stepdad, stepmom, 3 brothers, sister Allison, 3 dogs, 3 cats, 1 fish, and 1 turtle. Marcus loves singing in honor choir (twice), playing the guitar, and drawing. Marcus has traveled to Florida and the Bahamas, and has been in a handful of shows, including roles as Robin Hood (*Robin Hood*), Peter Pan (*Peter Pan*), Mr. Bucket (*Willy Wonka*), and Maurice (*Descendants*). Welcome to OAFC Marcus!



Sheryl Chaloner (Mother Francesca / Balthazar) - lives in Stewartville with her husband Devin, kids Allison, Marcus, and Wyatt, stepson Damian, 2 dogs, and 3 cats. She is a radiology tech at Mayo specializing in pain procedures. Sheryl loves singing in Rochester Symphony Chorale, traveling to FL, and supporting Allison and Marcus in sports, theatre, and choir. She's been in over 15 shows, including roles as Shulie (*School House Rock*), Queen Victoria (*Joseph*), Big Lady (*Little Shop*), and Angry Mom (*Bye Bye Birdie*). Welcome to OAFC Sheryl! Sheryl is grateful to be on stage with her amazing kids.