Celebrating 20 YEARS of life-enriching Shakespeare in Winona, Minnesota

AS YOU LIKE IT

IMBROGLIO
by Melissa Maxwell
(World Premiere)

THE WINTER’S TALE

GRSF.ORG | (507) 474-7900

6/20/23 – 7/30/23
For Winona at the turn of the century, faith that a major festival could thrive grew from its history. A look around Winona - at the architecture, the stained glass, the music scene, and the local artists - confirms that the arts and a commitment to a high quality of life have thrived alongside innovative businesses and educational institutions since its founding.

GRSF has always been committed to deeply exploring the texts of the plays we produce. We take the time to question, to examine, and to understand the play. At its core, this allows us to tell the story so that you, the audience, can clearly understand as well. Shakespeare’s plays are full of nuanced insight into the human experience which is revealed only through careful and specific attention to every word.

This anniversary season, we renew that commitment to the text, and we do it, as is also our tradition, by innovating and changing. We are moving the audience into a smaller, more intimate arrangement to get you closer to the action and focused on the subtlety of the language. On our season this year is a world premier, Imbroglio by one of our core artists Melissa Maxwell, that reflects our world through well crafted, modern language. We return to The Winter’s Tale for the first time in 20 years - a play from late in Shakespeare’s life that explores grace in complex poetry. And Tarah Flanagan, who has inhabited the words of Rosalind, Celia, and more in multiple productions, directs As You Like It - a comedy about love in all its forms.

We are presenting three radically different looks at the human condition. In some, you may see your own life which might lead to finding community in shared experience. In others, you may find empathy for lives different than your own. In all, we promise to “...hold the mirror up to nature...” and to spark conversation about what is truly meaningful in our shared journey on this earth.

We have faith that we build community in these conversations, and that faith has been affirmed for 20 seasons. Thank you for being here.

DOUG SCHOLZ-CARLSON
Artistic Director
Welcome to our 20th season! We’re happy you’re here to celebrate with us.

Fate, and faith, have made the Great River Shakespeare Festival an integral part of the Winona community for all these years. Fate, that brought the first group of people together in this beautiful city. Faith, that the Festival would be well-received. And it has been, and continues to be.

We have been entertaining and enriching people’s lives for 20 seasons now. That’s actually an integral part of our mission statement... “to enrich people’s lives by creating dynamic, clearly understood productions of Shakespeare and other playwrights who celebrate the spoken word.”

This year, we’re mixing things up a bit – embracing the new, and remembering our past. The Winter's Tale was part of the very first season, and we return to that, directed by Artistic Director Doug Scholz-Carlson. As You Like It is directed by long-time company member Tarah Flanagan. Imbroglio, written and directed by Co-associate Artistic Director Melissa Maxwell, makes its world premiere right here on our stage.

Speaking of stage, we hope you enjoy being up-close and personal with the company members. As a nod to the days of Shakespeare himself, audience members will be seated around the actors on three sides.

As always, everyone involved with the Festival has put their heart and soul into this season. From costumes to stage design to music to acting... this is going to be a great season.

Beyond the plays, there are several ways to enjoy the Festival. Every night before the performance, the Professional Understudy Company will present a variety of scenes from Shakespeare’s works. These free shows begin about 35 minutes before the play on the green next to the Performing Arts Center. On Friday and Saturday evenings, join us for ice cream socials where you can visit with cast, crew, and fellow audience members. Thursday evenings, feel free to meet the cast after the show during the Post-Show-Talk-Back sessions. And on Sunday mornings, hang out with company members and learn more about them and the shows during the Company Conversations at Blooming Grounds Coffee Shop.

We thrilled that you’re part of our 20th season. Whether this is your first time here, or you’ve been enriched by the Festival for all these years, we are so appreciative of you. It takes all of us to make it happen - audience members, sponsors, donors, the Friends of Will, and the entire creative company.

Thank you for being here as we celebrate the spoken word and share it with people from Winona, around the country, and across the globe.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for continuing to make the Great River Shakespeare Festival possible.

Gratefully, BETH FORKNER MOE
Chair of the Board of Directors of the Great River Shakespeare Festival
“Good shepherd, tell this youth what 'tis to love...”
This project is generously supported by an anonymous gift in memory of John & Janet.

IMBROGLIO is also sponsored by:

CHAR & BILL CARLSON

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**Imbroglio**

world premiere

By MELISSA MAXWELL

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**CREATIVE TEAM**

Director ...................... Melissa Maxwell**
Voice and Text Coach ......... Katie Cunningham
Scenic & Properties Designer .... Ivy Treccani
Costume Designer ............. John Merritt
Lighting Designer ............. James Balistreri
Sound Designer ............... Scott O’Brian
Wig & Makeup Designer ....... Keryana Trambles
Intimacy Director ............. Tonia Sina
Fight Choreographer .......... Benjamin Boucvalt
Dialect Coach ................. Tarah Flanagan
Production Stage Manager .... Madison Tarchala*
Stage Manager ............... Abbi Hess
Assistant Stage Manager ...... Nicholas Carlstrom
Costume Design Assistant ..... Brittany Staudacher

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**CAST**

Herman ................. Chauncy Thomas*
Viola ............... Ashley Bowen
Lou .................... William Sturdivant*
Betty ................. Eliana Rowe
Manny .......... Adeyinka Adebola*

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* Denotes membership in Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional stage actors and stage managers in the USA.
** Denotes membership in Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

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The author would like to thank Great River Shakespeare Festival for this tremendous opportunity and the following individuals and institutions for their support in the development of this play: Susan and John McKelvey, Char & Bill Carlson, Claudia Barnett (MTSU’s In Process workshop), Jennifer Egan, Kent Thompson, Deborah Savadge (The Playwrights Gallery), Eliza Ventura (Cap 21), L. Trey Wilson, Judy Tate, Peter Almeida, Sherri DaCruz and Lisa Jaye.
THE WINTER’S TALE
By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

CREATIVE TEAM

Director ...................... Doug Scholz-Carlson
Voice and Text Coach ............ Katie Cunningham
Scenic & Properties Designer ........ Ivy Treccani
Costume Designer ............... Sarah Bahr**
Lighting Designer .............. Avery Reagan
Sound Designer ................. Jeff Polunas**
Wig & Makeup Designer ......... Keryna Trambles
Intimacy Director .............. Tonia Sina
Stage Manager .................. Alexander Carey*
Assistant Stage Manager ......... Kristen Benner
Costume Design Assistant ......... Jenna Jamison
Puppetry Consultants .......... Timmy Turner & Stephanie Jones

CAST

Actor 1 who plays Leontes ............... Benjamin Boucvalt*
Actor 2 who plays Hermione & Clown .......... Emily Fury Daly*
Actor 3 who plays Polixenes & Antigonus .......... Christopher Gerson*
Actor 4 who plays Paulina & Old Shepherd .......... De’Onna Prince
Actor 5 who plays Camillo & Cleomones .......... Michael Fitzpatrick*
Actor 6 who plays Perdita, Mammlius, Emilia, & Mariner .......... Alegra Batara
Actor 7 who plays Florizel, Servant, & Lord .......... Duncan McIntyre*
Actor 8 who plays Time & Autolycus .......... Tarah Flanagan*

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

Alegra Batara (Actor 2), Brock Looser (Actor 6, 7, & 8), Duncan McIntyre* (Actor 5), Eliana Rowe (Actor 4), William Sturdivant* (Actor 1), Chauncy Thomas* (Actor 3),

CREW

Production Managers .......... Joseph Millett & Karl Gfall
Asst. Production Manager ........ Ella Egan
Fight Captain ................. Benjamin Boucvalt*
Props Artisans ............... Karl Gfall, Gamma Lister, & Skylar Revell
Draper/Carpenter/Painter/Rigger .......... Alejandro Treccani
Carpenter ................. Carl Schack
Master Electrician .......... David O. Smith
Lighting Design Assistant .......... James Balistreri
Lighting Apprentice .......... Beth Fritton
Sound Apprentice .......... Landen Norton
Costume Shop Manager .......... Stephanie Jones
Lead Draper ............... Heather Hirvela
First Hand ............... Dayne Sabatos
Costume Crafts .......... Sydney Martin
Stitchers .......... Sparrow Matthews & Maya Schaefer-Fiello
Wardrobe Supervisor .......... Carrie Wieland
Wardrobe Apprentices .......... Chloe Kummer & Erika Warrix

Special thanks to Chelsea M. Warren, NYU Tisch School of the Arts Department of Design for Stage and Film, Indiana Repertory Theater for their help with this production.

“Resolve you for more amazement”

THE WINTER’S TALE
IS SPONSORED BY:

THERN
theaterleague

* Denotes membership in Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional stage actors and stage managers in the USA.
** Denotes membership in United Scenic Artists.
ICE CREAM SOCIALS

Friday & Saturday Evenings
Join us right after the show every Friday and Saturday night outside the theatre for our Ice Cream Socials! Enjoy a FREE frozen treat, mingle with the cast and crew, and share your experiences of the plays with your fellow audience members.

ICE CREAM SOCIALS ARE SPONSORED BY:

POST-SHOW TALK-BACKS
Thursday Evenings (June 29 - July 27)
On Thursday evenings, stay in your seats after the show and meet the cast who just performed! Have your questions ready as our actors and crew share what goes on behind the scenes and how we bring our productions all the way from page to stage.

POST-SHOW TALK-BACKS ARE SPONSORED BY Sally Sloan

COMPANY CONVERSATIONS
Sunday Mornings at 11:00am
Grab a coffee and settle in for fun, fascinating, and in-depth conversations with our Company members about the plays, the productions, and life in the theater.

Company Conversations take place on Sunday mornings at 11:00am at Blooming Grounds Coffee House in downtown Winona - come ready with your questions!

COMPANY CONVERSATIONS ARE SPONSORED BY:
Greg and Terri Evans

Select conversations are broadcast on Facebook Live (facebook.com/GreatRiverShakes), so you can also join from the comfort of your living room!
**GRSF EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Great River Shakespeare Festival provides extensive formal training programs for a wide variety of ages. Our focus is not only on theater production but on the development of human character. We are a company of artists, and we are part of a community. **We value respect, empathy, and compassion every bit as much as we value excellence, authenticity, and innovation.** Students focus on intensive study of language interpretation, movement, costume design, lighting design, and scenic design in one-week and three-week day camps. All classes are led by teaching artists who are actively involved in creating work at this year’s festival. Younger students perform for their families and friends. The middle and high school-aged students perform for the general public. Please visit our website grsf.org/classes to learn about the myriad programs we offer for people of all ages.

**JOIN US FOR OUR YOUTH SHOWCASE!**

Sunday, July 23rd at 6:00pm - FREE!

You are invited to attend an evening showcasing the work of our young artists. View design presentations in the lobby starting at 6pm, followed by a **live performance of Richard III** starting inside the theatre at 7pm.

GRSF’s classes are supported by a grant from the Elizabeth Callender King Foundation. GRSF classes are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund.

**CHILL WITH WILL**

**Friday Afternoons**

(Workshops 12:00 Noon & Matinees 1pm)

Students age 11-18 can enroll in a FREE workshop prior to each Friday afternoon performance. The festival’s education team will guide them through theater games and activities related to the show. Participants will then receive free tickets to the afternoon show. Guardians wishing to accompany a student will receive a discounted rate of $20. Contact the box office to sign up.

**SPONSORED BY:**

Altra Federal Credit Union

**ACCESSIBLE AND FIDGET-FRIENDLY PERFORMANCES**

**Friday Afternoons at 1:00pm**

All Friday Matinee performances will be interpreted in American Sign Language (ASL) and audio-described live for the blind (via headset). Additionally, these performances will have adjustments to accommodate those who may struggle to sit quietly through an entire performance or who have sensory concerns. Accommodations include priority seating with easy access to the exits, increased audience lighting, and an introduction to sudden sounds and lighting effects during the pre-show remarks. Those who would benefit are encouraged to discuss their needs with the box office so that special seating requests can be accommodated.

**ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES ARE SPONSORED BY:**

Merchants Bank

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Like many non-profits, Great River Shakespeare Festival’s temerity, effectiveness, and longevity is not due to a single factor. The festival benefits from donors, it charges for tickets to create income, it hires proficient, talented artists, trains the next generation of professional theater folk, and it partners with other organizations throughout the community. No single pillar supports the festival; collaboration is not only an artistic tenet - it is how we continue to breathe and grow as an organization.

Just as we cannot survive without monetary or artistic support, Great River Shakespeare Festival would fall flat without the support of its corps of volunteers, the Friends of Will. As a new organization in 2004, the festival benefited from a small group of Winonans who immediately identified that such a festival would need volunteer people-power. Thus began the Friends of Will, and the group has continued to grow over the last eighteen years of the festival, and will continue to do so in the future thanks to the passion of its current members.

We at the festival are so incredibly grateful for the thousands and thousands of hours the Friends of Will have donated to the festival for two decades. From airport pickups to artist housing to tech meals, the Friends of Will keep us safe, sheltered and fed. In the costume shop, in the front of house, and in the office, the Friends of Will consistently join in on the theater-making process and become our colleagues, our coworkers, and most of all our friends. The Friends of Will know that to be a community, to have difficult conversations, and to create beautiful, challenging, inspiring, and magical art, we all need some help from our friends.

Thank you, dear volunteers. Thanks, and ever thanks. If you’d like to join the Friends of Will, visit grsf.org/volunteer today!

BECOME A DONOR TODAY!

The mission of the Great River Shakespeare Festival is to enrich people’s lives by creating dynamic, clearly understood productions of Shakespeare and other playwrights who celebrate the spoken word.

Can people’s lives really be enriched by engaging with clearly-understood 400-year-old texts? The thousands of audience members, students, artists, and administrators who have been part of the 20 year history of Great River Shakespeare Festival can resolutely answer YES! Enriching lives is more than just watching a play, however. Through all of the education and outreach programs and deep exploration into human nature, GRSF has been inspiring conversations in cars, homes, coffee shops, bars, and across political aisles. It is those conversations which enrich our understanding of “others,” inspire a resolve to become better members of society, and become change agents in our own lives. As a result, relationships improve, marginalized voices are celebrated, and communities are knit together. This is the work of a non-profit organization and the work you make possible with your charitable support.

We invite you to keep the conversation going by making a tax-deductible gift to GRSF today. Visit grsf.org/support or contact Brittany Clipsham, Director of Development, at development@grsf.org or call 507-474-9376. Thank you!
Adeyinka Adebola • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’22
Adeyinka Adebola is ecstatic to return to beautiful Winona! Adey hails from NYC where he acts year round and performs with the Brooklyn based group “Something Positive”. Adey is the founder of “Monologue Roulette!” a creative Network, workshop and showcase series that brings the best of NYC’s writers, directors, and actors to collaborate under one roof. Recent credits include “The Beautiful Ghost” (DD Productions), “The Black That I Am” (BRAATA Productions), “A Cops and Robbers Story” (Vernon Films), “Ruined” (The Heights Players), “Macbeth” (Lehman Stages).

Lonnie Rafael Alcaraz • Co-associate Artistic Director • GRSF Seasons: ’08,’09,’10,’11,’12,’13,’14,’15,’16,’17,’18,’19,’21,’22
Lonnie is a professor at the University of California, Irvine, where he is the head of the lighting program. He has designed for various regional theatres around the country. Recent designs include Opera Festival on Ice for Bietak Production (Muscat, Oman), Curie Curie for Transversal Theatre Company in Warsaw, Poland, A Christmas Carol at the Denver Center, American Mariachi and A Shot Rang Out at South Coast Repertory. All is Calm at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival; Moja at Oregon Shakespeare Festival and Portland Center Stage. He is also an associate artist and resident designer at South Coast Repertory. He is a member of the United Scenic Artists, Local 829/International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. His complete design portfolio can be found at: www.lradesigns.com.

Sarah Bahr • Costume Designer
Sarah Bahr she/her/hers Sarah is a Twin Cities based freelance Costume and Scenic Designer for theater, opera, and dance. Her work has been featured with companies including the Jungle Theater, Ten Thousand Things Theater, Trademark Theater, Guthrie Theater, Theater Mu, Theater Latte Da, Penumbra Theater, History Theater, Minnesota Opera, and Vail Dance Festival. In addition to freelance design work, Sarah teaches design courses at various universities and advocates for meaningful opportunities for emerging theater artists. She is also an advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion among designers and technicians in the performing arts industry. She holds a Design and Technical Theatre MFA from the University of Minnesota, a Studio Art MA from New York University, and a Design and Technical Theatre BFA from University of Minnesota Duluth. Sarah is a United Scenic Artist Local 829 Union Member. sarahbahr.com @sarahbahrdesign

James Balistreri • Lighting Designer
Jimmy is excited to be working on his first show at GRSF! His recent work as a lighting designer or assistant includes the Utah Shakespeare Festival, Golden State Ballet Company, REDCAT Theatre, Northern Sky Theater and more. He is currently studying to receive his MFA in Lighting Design at UC-Irvine. Enjoy the show! Full portfolio at jablights.com. Go Pack Go!

Alegra Batara • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’19
Alegra (they/she) is honored to be back at GRSF for the summer! They were last in Winona as a member of the Apprentice company in 2019. Since then, they have received their BFA from the Conservatory of Theater Arts at Webster University and begun performing around the country. Recent credits include: Marianne Dashwood in Sense and Sensibility (Village Theatre), Mercutio in Romeo and Juliet, and Miss Honey in Matilda (Festival 56). Alegra has also begun their career as a director and writer; most recently
conceiving and leading a devised theater piece called "shuffle" that featured experimental movement and explored the link between music and memory. In their free time, they bake, crochet, and collect trinkets. Eternal thanks to Doug, Tarah, and Melissa for welcoming them back to the company and being fantastic mentors. Love to family and friends for their continued support of their dream chasing. Alegrabatara.com

Kristen Benner • Assistant Stage Manager • The Winter’s Tale • GRSF Debut
Kristen Benner is from Buffalo NY, and is currently entering her fourth year at SUNY Purchase where she is studying for her BFA in Theatre Design/Technology with a concentration in Stage Management. Past credits include As You Like It at Shakespeare in Delaware Park; The Opening Ceremony of the World University Games at Lake Placid; The Nutcracker at Greenwich Ballet Academy. At Purchase College, she has stage managed The Senior Acting Showcase, Serious Money, and Henry IV Pt.2 among others. She would like to thank her family and friends for aiding her in where she is today.

Benjamin Boucvalt • Actor/Fight Choreographer • GRSF Seasons: ’13,’14, ’15,’16,’17,’18,’19,’20,’21,’22
This will be Benjamin’s 11th season with Great River Shakespeare Festival; notable performances include Cymbeline/Iachimo, Julius Caesar/Cassius, Midsummer/Oberon, and Romeo and Juliet/Romeo, other theaters include the Asolo Repertory Theatre, Curtain Theatre, St. Petersburg Shakespeare Company, and the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre where he performed Vanya, Sonya, Masha, and Spike/Spike. Benjamin is also a writer and published his first novel, “The River Road” in 2014; the audiobook of the novel was also produced that same year, which he narrated. As an active martial artist, he is often choreographing fights for both film and theatre. Benjamin teaches acting and stage combat at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, Los Angeles & New York. MFA, SAG-AFTRA/AEA @boucvalt

Ashley Bowen • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’21,’22
Ash Bowen (she/they) is an actor from Dallas, Texas and is an MFA Acting student (class of 2024) at the University of Missouri- Kansas City. She has a BA in Government and a BA in Theatre & Dance from the University of Texas at Austin. She was an acting company member last summer here at GRSF where she played Ann Johnson in The African Company Presents Richard III and understudied the role of Viola in Twelfth Night. She was an apprentice at GRSF in 2021 where she understudied the role of Miranda in The Tempest and she played Lord Capulet, Benvolio, Chorus, and Gregory in the apprentice Romeo & Juliet production. At the UMKC Conservatory, she has recently been seen in Not I, Fixing King John, The 39 Steps, Thinner than Water, Jane Eyre, Cymbeline, and understudying for Jump. Thank you to my loved ones at home! For more information: Ashbowen.com, @tea03

Emma Bucknam • Box Office Manager • GRSF Seasons: ’14,’17,’19,’21,’22
Emma Bucknam (she/her) is an actor, director, and student at Nebraska Wesleyan University, where she is pursuing her Acting BFA with a minor in Gender Studies. Some highlighted acting credits from her time there include Twelfth Night (Olivia), Measure for Measure (Mariana), and Bondagers (Tottie). A Winona native, she also kickstarted the Winona Youth Shakespeare League, a group of primarily high school students with a passion for Shakespeare, and has directed projects with that group including Romeo and Juliet, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, and Much Ado About Nothing. Over the years, she has been involved with GRSF in multiple capacities, including as a young actor (The Merry Wives of Windsor, Richard III, Macbeth), SYA student, box office associate, house manager, SYA teaching assistant, attendee since age 8, and now is very excited to be celebrating 9 years with the festival this 20th Anniversary Season, as the box office manager!

Andrew Carlson • Lead Teacher Shakespeare For Young Designers • GRSF Seasons: ’06,’07,’08,’09,’10,’11,’12,’14,’15,’17,’18,’19,’20,’21,’22
Andrew has worked as an educator, dramaturg, director and actor at GRSF since 2006, playing roles such as Hamlet, Macbeth, and Hotspur. He is a co-author of the 11th edition of The Essential Theatre textbook and has published essays in Theatre History Studies, American Theatre Magazine, and the Routledge Companion to Dramaturgy. An award-winning educator, Carlson received the 2016 Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award at the University of Texas. One of his proudest achievements is co-creating the Shakespeare for Young Actors program at GRSF in 2008.

Nicholas Carlstrom • Assistant Stage Manager Imbroglio • GRSF Debut
Nicholas Carlstrom is excited to return to the beautiful driftless region and make their Great River Shakespeare Festival debut! Originally from Blaine, Minnesota, Nicholas has spent the last year traveling and working around the upper Midwest at Peninsula Players Theatre (The Rainmaker, Ripcord, Murder for Two) in Fish Creek, WI, and most recently working at First Folio Theatre (Little Women, adapted by Heather Chisler) in Oak Brook, IL, during their final season. Outside of stage management, Nicholas serves on the advisory board for the Emerging Professionals Ensemble in Eden Prairie, MN. They hold a BFA in Theater, Emphasis in Stage Management and Minor in Arts Administration, from Viterbo University in La Crosse, WI.

Brittany Clipsham • Director of Development • GRSF Debut
Brittany has lived in Winona for about 7 years and in Minnesota for most of her life. She went to undergrad at Concordia College, U of M Twin Cities, and Winona State University, where she completed her bachelor’s. She is currently working towards a Master’s in Public and Nonprofit Administration from Metropolitan State University. Brittany has been doing theater since 5th grade but transitioned from singer/actor to the production/business side of theater a few years after she had a son, Zeke. She just got married this past summer to her lovely partner, Patrick. She has a dog, Jackson, and two cats, Gus and Tad. She also teaches an improv class for kids at MCA and teaches art projects during MIMAM’s Seasonal Saturdays. In her free time, she mostly hangs out with family, but she also likes to cook, bake, and read or just collect books that she hopes to read.
Katie Cunningham • Voice/Text Coach • GRSF Debut
Katie Cunningham is an Assistant Professor of Theatre and Head of Acting at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. As an actor, she has appeared on a host of stages in New York and across the country, including multiple seasons at Utah Shakespeare Festival (Lady Macbeth, Emilia in Othello, and Maria in Twelfth Night among others); Asolo Rep (Annette in God of Carnage, Marjorie in Both Your Houses directed by Frank Galati); and Clarence Brown Theatre (10 seasons in the resident acting company). Recent and upcoming voice, text, and dialect coaching includes PlayMakers Rep; Nashville Rep; Southwest Shakespeare Company; and multiple productions at Clarence Brown Theatre as the resident voice, text, and dialect coach. Katie is a Certified Teacher of Knight-Thompson Speechwork and a PAVA Recognized Vocologist. MFA Acting, FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training; BA, UNC Chapel Hill. She is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association since 2010, SAG-AFTRA, VASTA, and PAVA.

Emily Fury Daly • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’05, ’07, ’08, ’09, ’10, ’13
Emily is so happy to be back in her home-away-from-home, Winona! She spent most of her summers here as a kid, participating in Shakespeare For Young Actors and appearing in GRSF mainstage productions as countless ladies-in-waiting. For the past decade, Emily has worked professionally at theatres across the country: GRSF ’13, American Players Theatre, Pittsburgh Public, Chautauqua Theater Co, Pacific Conservatory Theatre, Theatre SilCo, La Mama, and Soho Playhouse. She also is a stand-up comedienne in NYC, performing in comedy clubs across the city. Next up, Emily will be taking her one-woman-show, “Furious”, to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August.

Marisa Dean • Marketing Apprentice • GRSF Debut
Marisa Dean (she/they) is an actor, arts administrator, and student at Ball State University where she is pursuing a BFA in Acting with a minor in New Works for the Stage. Her favorite recent acting credits at Ball State include Sweat (Tracey), FURY (Clytemnestra), and The Dumbwaiter (Ben). They are the founder of Ball State’s first Play Book Club and are about to enter their fourth year serving on the Artists For Inclusivity Executive Board as Social Media Coordinator, and now Vice President. She currently serves as Academic Peer Mentor of the Performing Arts Living-Learning Community at Ball State. She is very grateful for the opportunity to step into the well-loved and respected community that is GRSF this summer. Instagram: @marisandean

Ella Egan • Assistant Production Manager • GRSF Seasons: ’22
Ella Egan is a freelance stage manager and carpenter based in Saint Paul, MN. They are happy to be returning for their second season at GRSF! Their recent projects include the 2022-23 season at Minnesota Opera, Weathering at Penumbra Theater, Twelfth Night at GRSF, and Church Basement Ladies with Troupe America.

Pedro Oliveira Figueiredo • Video Apprentice • GRSF Debut
Pedro Figueiredo was born in São Paulo, Brazil, and grew up in Salvador, Brazil. He is entering his sophomore year studying Film Studies and Theatre at Ohio Wesleyan University. Pedro was one of the founders of the Incredible Film Club, the first film club at OWU, and serves as President of the organization. At OWU, Pedro has previously been involved in Fill Fill Fill Fill Fill Fill Fill (Assistant Stage Manager), One-Acts 2022: Dynamic Duos (Stage Manager), and Xanadu (Swing).

Michael Fitzpatrick is an actor and designer whose career spans regional theater, off-Broadway, national Broadway tours, concerts, cabaret, film, and television. Selected theater credits include: First National Broadway tour of 42nd St., roles at Utah Shakespeare festival, St. Louis repertory, Kansas City repertory, the Denver Center theater, Ensemble Shakespeare company NYC, Musicals Tonight NYC, A.C.T. In San Francisco, and a company member at the Great River Shakespeare Festival.

Tarah Flanagan is delighted to be returning to beautiful Winona MN for her 15th season. Favorite GRSF credits include the Poet (an Iliad), Viola (Twelfth Night), Miss Havisham (Great Expectations), and Puck (Midsummer Night’s Dream). Recent credits include RAMY (Hulu), ROOTED (Cincinnati Playhouse), and Twelfth Night (Shakespeare Theatre of NJ). Tarah is proud to serve as GRSF’s Program Director for Shakespeare For Young Actors.
Kristine Hipps • Finance Associate • GRSF Seasons: ’21,’22
Kris Hipps (she/her) has worked in theater and film in both the administrative and artistic realms for 30 years, as a performer/Creative Director for Chicago’s Second City, CFO for the Bug Theatre, Denver Co, and Artistic Director of Paper Cat Films. She is an artist, photographer and award winning filmmaker.

Heather Hirvela • Lead Draper • GRSF Seasons: ’13,’14,’15,’16,’17,’19,’21,’22
Bio goes here

Elizabeth Fritton • Lighting Apprentice • GRSF Debut
Elizabeth (Beth) Fritton is a lighting apprentice for GRSF. She will be graduating from St. Mary’s University of Minnesota this December, where she has been studying as a Theatre major on the Design/Technology track. Her previous work includes Lighting Design for The Drowning Girls and The Stonewater Rapture (Saint Mary’s University of MN); Lighting Design for The Animal Kingdom (St. Mary’s University of Twickenham, London); and Technical Assistant for Crackers (Polka Theatre).

Christopher Gerson • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’04,’05,’06,’07,’08,’09,’10,’11,’12,’13,’14,’15,’16,’17,’18,’19,’20,’21,’22
Christopher Gerson is an actor and filmmaker living in New York City. Recent theatre credits include Chairs at the Mint Theatre (off broadway) Macbeth, Alabama Story, and BUZZ (dir. Carrie Preston) at the Alabama Shakespeare Theatre, and Richard II at GRSF. The Pearl Theatre, New Georges, Red Bull Theater, South Coast Repertory Theatre, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Cleveland Play House, Actors’ Theatre of Louisville, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, A Noise Within, The Folio Theatre, The Actors Gang, and Pioneer Theatre. Recent Television/Film: The Other Two (HBO), The Blacklist, FBI: Most Wanted, New Amsterdam, Mr. Robot, The Good Fight, Younger, Days of our Lives, Chicago Hope, Fort Greene and Darwin: The Series.

Karl Gfall • Properties Artisan • GRSF Seasons: ’11,’12,’13,’14,’15,’16,’17,’18,’19,’20,’21,’22
Karl is delighted to be returning to Winona once again in the long-held capacity of Props Artisan, and latterly as part time Production Manager. Winona has become a cherished summer home. In the remainder of the year Karl is a Stagehand with the Paramount Theatre of Aurora, IL, as well as an occasional playwright, voice actor, and otherwise flexible itinerant professional.

Viva Graff • Company Manager • GRSF Seasons: ’21
Viva Graff is a recent graduate from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN with a degree in music. She is from Winona and has been involved in GRSF in the past in the box office. As a musician, she has played with the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra as a substitute bassoonist, conducted Concordia’s Symphonia Orchestra, and worked with the Fargo-Moorhead Opera Company. She is excited to be returning to the Winona community and to GRSF!

Abbi Hess • Stage Manager Imbroglio • GRSF Seasons: ’21,’22
Grateful to be back for the third year with the GRSF company and as a SM! Abbi spends the other part of the year in Madison, WI as Forward Theater’s ASM. She is super thankful for family, friends, and teams/companies that allow her to live this great magical, theatrical life.
Jenna Jamison • Costume Design Assistant • GRSF Debut
Jenna Nicole Jamison is very excited to be a part of Great River Shakespeare Festival as Assistant Costume Designer for The Winter’s Tale. This will be her first time here at the festival. Jenna is a recent graduate of Kent State University where she obtained a B.F.A in Theatre Design, Technology, and Production with a focus in Scenic and Costume Design, as well as a minor in Creative Writing. Her previous work includes: A Primer to the End of Days at Kent State University (scenic designer), Urinetown at Kent State University (co-costume designer), White Christmas at Rubber City Theatre in Akron, OH (co-scenic designer), and The Lightning Thief at Rubber City Theatre (costume designer).

Stephanie Jones • Costume Shop Manager • GRSF Seasons: '17,'18,'19,'21,'22

Willa Krase • Box Office Associate • GRSF Seasons: '21,'22
Willa (she/her) began acting as part of the Winona Youth Shakespeare Leagie in 2019, and continued doing so with the Shakespeare for Young Actors program. She began working as a Box Office Associate for GRSF in 2021, and is excited for another wonderful year of Shakespeare in Winona. Willa is currently pursuing a Geography BA and Spanish minor at the University of Minnesota.

Chloe Kummer • Wardrobe Apprentice • GRSF Debut. This is Chloe Kummer’s first season at GRSF. She is a junior at the University of Southern Indiana and has done several productions there as an actor and as a member of the wardrobe crew.

Maya Lavin • Education Apprentice • GRSF Debut
Maya Lavin is a Junior at the University of Texas at El Paso pursuing a BFA in Stage and Theatre Management. She has worked on a variety of shows. She most recently stage managed two High School Theatre Competitions and assisted an elementary school in their competition as well. She hopes to go to grad school for Theatre Education as she is passionate about working with children through art. This will be her first time working at GRSF, but she is excited to work with everyone and hopes everyone has an amazing summer!

Jovita Light • Front of House Associate • GRSF Debut
Jovita recently moved to Winona from San Diego, CA where she worked in human resources and education. She spent the last seven years working with 4th - 8th grade students at an arts academy. She currently works in University Advancement at WSU.

Gamma Lister • Properties Artisan • GRSF Debut
Gamma is a multi-media artist and theater-maker. Born in Chicago-land, they come to GRSF this year from North Carolina, where they are studying for an MFA in Scenic Art. They are over-the-moon about joining GRSF for its 20th anniversary and already feel at home.

Brock Looser • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’22
Brock (she/her) is honored to be back at GRSF after understudying Maria/Fabia/Valentine in last year’s Twelfth Night, before she heads to London to pursue her MFA in Acting at LAMDA. Theatrical credits include Pericles (San Francisco Shakespeare Festival), Full Circle (Chain Theatre, NYC), The Secret Garden (Classic Theatre of Maryland). Film credits include two features in post production with two in development, as well as short films recognized by festivals including HollyShorts, TIWFF, and NFFTY. Brock is proud to serve as an Assoc. Producer at the female-focused media company BraveMouse. She holds her BFA in Drama from NYU Tisch with Honors due to her thesis “Shakespeare’s Social Others.” Love and gratitude to the fam! brocklooser.com / @brockolooser

Sydney Martin • Costume Crafts • GRSF Debut
Sydney Martin is a craft artisan originally from Kansas City, MO. She recently graduated with her MFA in Costume design from Florida State University. She has worked on shows such as Something Rotten!, Dragons Love Tacos and Men on Boats.
2023 COMPANY BIOS

Sparrow Matthews • Stitcher • GRSF Seasons: ‘17
Sparrow is returning to GRSF for the first time since their intern summer in the costume shop in 2017. Currently completing their MFA in Scenic Design at Wayne State University, they were the apprentice resident in the costume shop at Milwaukee Rep in 2021-22, the draper at Hope Summer Repertory Theater in 2019, and graduated with a BFA in costume design from Wayne State University in 2020. They are excited to return to Winona and Great River.

Melissa Maxwell • Co-Associate Artistic Director, Director/Writer Imbroglio • GRSF Seasons: ’17, ’18, ’19, ’20, ’21, ’23
Past GRSF productions: The Tempest, No Child, Cymbeline, Shakespeare in Love, All’s Well that Ends Well, Richard III, Comedy of Errors. Other Playwriting Credits: SALT IN A WOUND (Julie Harris Playwright Competition, received 5 Black Theater Alliance Award nominations and a “Production of the Year” nomination from The African American Arts Alliance of Chicago. UNREQUITED LOVE (received an Audelco Award nomination and a New Professional Theatre’s Our Words Award). FETUS ENVY (manhattantheatre source’s Book of EstroGenius anthology, 2007).


Bridget McCarthy • Mental Health Coordinator • GRSF Seasons: ‘22
Bridget McCarthy (she/they) is an artist, advocate, and a mental health coordinator for theatre, TV and Film. She is a Trauma and Resilience Trainer (CTRT), a Certified Trauma Support Specialist (CTSS) with Trauma Institute International, a Certified Mental Health First Aid instructor with the National Council for Behavioural Health, and is currently training with the North American Drama Therapy Association as a Drama Therapist candidate, as well as pursuing a Master’s in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at New England College. Her solo work has centered around programing that amplifies under-heard voices, including time spent as a staff member and facilitator with Shakespeare Behind Bars. As an actor, Bridget is a resident ensemble member of Stage Door Theatre, and is seen frequently on stages around her beloved chosen home of Atlanta, GA. They have also been on the stages of Atlanta Shakespeare, Synchronicity Theatre, Burning Bones Physical Theatre, Alliance Theatre, Essential Theatre, and Georgia Ensemble Theatre. Nationally, Bridget has appeared with Cincinnati Shakespeare, Elm Shakespeare, Pigeon Creek Shakespeare, and many others. Their original solo show, “Fat Juliet” has toured nationally and features Bridget’s love of stand up comedy, Shakespeare, AC/DC, and the Lion King.

Duncan McIntyre • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’16,’17
Duncan is thrilled to return to Winona for the Great River Shakespeare Festival’s 20th anniversary season. A Chicago-based actor, Duncan has worked regionally at Kansas City Rep, Unicorn Theatre, and Kansas City Actor’s Theatre. Some of his favorite credits include Dev (Stupid F@%king Bird), Casey/Georgia (The Legend of Georgia McBride), Cornwall (King Lear), Hastings (Richard III at GRSF), and Sir Willful Witwoud (Way of the World). Duncan would like to thank the entire company for such incredible work, his ever-supportive family and friends, and the town of Winona (his personal “Forest of Arden”) for their wonderful inspiration and support.

John Merritt • Costume Designer As You Like It, Imbroglio • GRSF Seasons: ’17,’18,’19,’21
John is a freelance Costume Designer for Theatre and a Costume Buyer/Shopper for Film & TV Production residing in Atlanta, GA. Previous GRSF Design credits include Every Brilliant Thing (21) and All the Town’s a Stage: A Winona Story (22). John received his Master’s of Fine Arts in Costume Design at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville (21) and his Bachelor’s of Arts at University of Southern Indiana (18). Notable design credits include Detroit 67’, People Where They Are, Airness (Clarence Brown Theatre) Anon(y)mous, Crumbs from The Table of Joy, The Glass Menagerie, Fool for Love, Venus in Fur (University of Southern Indiana).

Joseph Millett • Production Manager • GRSF Seasons: ’14,’15,’16,’17,’18,’19
Joseph Millett is entering his 6th and a quarter season with GRSF, all as Production Manager. He is an assistant professor of stage management at the University of Arkansas, and he could have sworn he was done with freelancing until he got a phone call from Doug Scholz-Carlson one Saturday morning in May…

Kacie Mixon • Teaching Artist - Will’s Power Players, Will’s Creative Drama • GRSF Seasons: ’17,’18,’19,’21,’22
Kacie Mixon has taught dramatics for young people for over 20 years. She holds a BFA in Theater from Rutgers University, and a MAT in Teaching from Montclair State University. She served as Education Coordinator at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and has taught, adjudicated, directed and mentored young actors at ASF, George Street Playhouse, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare Theater of NJ, Omega Institute, Princeton Montessori School, Newark Public Schools, and with her husband, GRSF actor Chris Mixon, co-founded a Creative Dramatics for Homeschoolers program in rural Alabama. Kacie teaches Literacy, Theater, Civics, Public Speaking and Reading in New Jersey.

Andrew Carlson and Brian White in 2014’s Hamlet Directed by James Edmondson. Photo by Dan Norman.
Landen Norton • Sound Apprentice • GRSF Debut

Landen Norton is a current sound student at Ball State University. He has been in productions as a performer, musician, and crew. He recently just closed his first collegiate show as Sound Designer of A Taste of Broadway. He hopes to have a great summer here at GRSF!

Scott O’Brien • Sound Designer Imbroglio • GRSF Seasons: ’19,’21

Scott O’Brien (Sound Designer) has composed and designed theatre and dance for a variety of off-Broadway and regional theaters. He was the Resident Composer/Sound Designer for American Globe Theatre (2000-2014), the Chautauqua Theater Company (2006-2009), Adirondack Theatre Festival (2013-2015). He has lectured on Sound Design at SUNY-Rockland, Pace University, Fairleigh-Dickinson University, The Duke Ellington School for the Arts and Montclair State University (heading up the Sound Design Program there from 2015-2019). His production company Duck & Trout Music is based out of Gardiner, ME. Currently, he is composing for the Public Theatre ( Lewiston, ME) and Theatre at Monmouth ( Monmouth, ME) and has the good fortune to collaborate frequently with director; actor and playwright Melissa Maxwell.

Lauren Peters • Assistant Stage Manager As You Like It • GRSF Debut

Lauren Peters (she/her) is a freelance Chicago stage manager and production manager. Chicago credits include productions at Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Pegasus Theatre Company, Rough House Theatre, Windy City Playhouse, Theatre Wit, The Story Theatre, and more. She graduated from Loyola University Chicago with a BA in Theatre. She’d like to thank friends, family, Zach, and her two kitties for all their love, support, and light.

Avery Reagan • Lighting Designer As You Like It, The Winter’s Tale • GRSF Seasons: ‘16,’19

Avery Reagan is a lighting designer currently based in the Los Angeles area. Originally from Atlanta, Georgia (a proud and enthusiastic Braves fan), Avery discovered her passion for lighting through school and community theatre productions. As she specified and matured her craft, she found how mesmerizing and impactful light can be within a production. She is very excited to return to GRSF for her third summer with the company. 2016 was Avery’s first year as a lighting intern; 2019 she returned as a lighting designer and assistant lighting designer to Lonnie Alcaraz; and now she returns as a lighting designer for the 2023 season. Avery has designed and assisted from coast-to-coast with companies such as South Coast Repertory Theater, New York City Ballet, San Francisco Opera, L.A. Dance Project and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. She received her M.F.A. from the University of California, Irvine and was the 2020-2022 Gilbert Hemsley Lighting Intern.

China Pharr • Actor • GRSF Seasons: Debut

China is a recent graduate of The Stella Adler Studio of Acting, Day Conservatory. She’s happy to be doing Shakespeare in wide open spaces, with the crickets.

Jeffrey Polunas • Sound Designer The Winter’s Tale, Sound Supervisor • GRSF Debut

Jeff Polunas (He/They) is thrilled to be joining this season. Polunas is the Assistant Professor of Sound and Projections at Kent State University. Polunas received his MFA in sound design from UC-Irvine. He has designed more than 150 productions during his career including Million Dollar Quartet. She Loves Me, Shakespeare in Love, The Sisters Rosensweig, Venus in Fur, Nate the Great, Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed, Ella Enchanted, Flora & Ulysses, Ivy+Bean: The Musical and Between Us Chickens (South Coast Repertory); A Doll’s House Part 2, Silent Sky, Fences, Abigail/1702, A Walk in the Woods and Uncanny Valley (International City Theatre); Passion Play, Seminar and A Bright New Boise (Chance Theatre); The Full Monty, Peter Pan, The Wedding Singer and The Producers (Summer Repertory Theatre); and Company, Much Ado About Nothing and The Importance of Being Earnest (PCPA Theaterfest). He received Scenie Awards (StageSceneLA) for Sound Design in 2015 and 2017 and has been nominated for NAACP, Stage Raw and Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival awards.

De’Onna Prince • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’15,’16,’19

De’Onna Prince is a classically trained actress from Oklahoma City. She earned her Bachelors of Fine Arts in acting from The University of Oklahoma Peggy Dow Helmerich School of Drama. In her third year, she traveled overseas to the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown, South Africa, where she won the Silver Ovation Award for playing the lead role in Miss Evers’ Boys. De’Onna gained professional experience at the Great River Shakespeare Festival in productions of King John, As You Like It, Julius Caesar, Cymbeline, and Macbeth. De’Onna made her break in the film industry as the principal role of Allison Strawberry in Gosnell: The Trial of America’s Biggest Serial Killer.

Avery Reagan is a lighting designer currently based in the Los Angeles area. Originally from Atlanta, Georgia (a proud and enthusiastic Braves fan), Avery discovered her passion for lighting through school and community theatre productions. As she specified and matured her craft, she found how mesmerizing and impactful light can be within a production. She is very excited to return to GRSF for her third summer with the company. 2016 was Avery’s first year as a lighting intern; 2019 she returned as a lighting designer and assistant lighting designer to Lonnie Alcaraz; and now she returns as a lighting designer for the 2023 season. Avery has designed and assisted from coast-to-coast with companies such as South Coast Repertory Theater, New York City Ballet, San Francisco Opera, L.A. Dance Project and the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. She received her M.F.A. from the University of California, Irvine and was the 2020-2022 Gilbert Hemsley Lighting Intern.
2023 COMPANY BIOS

**Skylar Revell** • Properties Artisan • GRSF Debut
Skylar Revell is a scenic artist originally from Oconomowoc, WI and a BFA graduate from Northern Illinois University. Her NIU works include painting and carpentry for the 2019 Fall Dance Concert, A Bright New Boise, and The Conference of the Birds. After moving to Illinois her work includes painting and carpentry for the '22 season at Timber Lake Playhouse, including Escape to Margaritaville, Lend Me A Tenor, and We Will Rock You. Most recently she has been doing carpentry for the Paramount Theater’s Broadway series The Sound of Music, Into The Woods, and School Of Rock. She is excited to continue growing her skills at the Great River Shakespeare Festival, and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Ava Ringlien** • Box Office Associate • GRSF Seasons: '21,'22
Winona native. Upcoming junior at UMD, Biology major, theatre minor! Box Office Associate in seasons 17 and 18. Former student in GRSF's Shakespeare for Young Designers for 4 years (seasons 14, 15, 16, 17).

**Eliana Rowe** • Actor • GRSF Debut
Eliana Rowe is a Theatre Artist/Storyteller based in Albany, NY. Regional: Twelfth Night (Viola) at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, Take Me With You (Mayenne, Evie, Celia) at Capital Repertory Theatre. Educational: Harriet Tells It Like It Is (Harriet) with Capital Repertory Theatre, Shakespeare LIVE! 2022 with The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. Other recent credits include: Twelfth Night with The Rooted Voyagers, The Tempest: Just(ice) like Waters with Black Shakespeare Project, and A Deed Without a Name, Beckett3 Echo Chambers, and City of Myth: Illium Sings all with Troy Foundry Theatre. Rowe is a proud alumni of Fordham University. @ simply_eliana_

**Dayne Sabatos** • First Hand, Front of House Associate • GRSF Seasons: ’22
Dayne (They/He) is an itinerant artist and creative, working and traveling the country. They have a deep passion for preserving the traditions of bespoke clothing creation, while constantly finding new and innovative approaches to garment creation. They love learning and aren’t afraid of a challenge.

**Amanda Salazar** • Director of Inclusion and Belonging, Mental Health Coordinator • GRSF Debut
Amanda has worked as a consultant and educator in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion space for the past decade, specializing in using drama to facilitate behavior change. Additionally, she is currently studying and training in Intimacy Direction and Coordination. Amanda is also a professional actress working off-broadway and regionally with credits including Austin Shakespeare, Marin Shakespeare, Zachary Scott Theatre, New Ohio Theatre, and Theatre for a New Audience. For more information on the work she is doing, please visit www.theamandasalazar.com. Member of Actors’ Equity Association.

**Carl Schack** • Carpenter, House Manager • GRSF Seasons: '22
Carl is from Lincoln Nebraska where he is currently pursuing a BFA in acting at Nebraska Wesleyan University. He has worked in many facets of theatre, including fight choreography, design positions, and as an actor.

**Maya Schaefer-Fiello** • Stitcher • GRSF Debut
Maya is a recent biology graduate from Macalester College. She worked as a stitcher in her college's costume shop for three years, working with other students to assemble costumes for shows such as The Rocky Horror Picture Show, Angels in America, Thunderbodies, and Fête de la Nuit. GRSF is Maya’s first non-academic theater experience, so she is thankful for all the guidance and support she has received so far from her mentors, peers, and friends.

**Doug Scholz-Carlson** • Artistic Director, Director The Winter's Tale • GRSF Seasons: ‘04,’05,’06,’07,’08,’09,’10,’11,’12,’13,’14,’15,’16,’17,’18,’19,’20,’21,’22
Doug works nationally as a director, fight choreographer, actor and certified intimacy director. In 20 seasons at GRSF, Doug played roles including Henry in Henry V, Feste in Twelfth Night, Thomas in Venus in Fur, Guildenstern in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, and Stephen Price in African Company Presents Richard III, and directed productions including Macbeth, Richard III, Cymbeline, Shakespeare in Love, and As You Like It. Doug was the first intimacy director at the Metropolitan Opera working on 9 productions including Fire Shut Up in my Bones and Medea. Other intimacy direction credits include Guthrie Theatre, San Diego Opera and Minnesota Opera. Directing credits include Minnesota Opera, Madison Opera, Austin Opera, Pittsburgh Opera and Park Square Theatre. He choreographed fights for the world premier of Silent Night at Minnesota Opera (which won a Pulitzer Prize for music) as well as productions for companies including New York City Opera, Kansas City Opera, Metropolitan Opera, Children’s Theater Company and the Seattle Police Department. Doug is a graduate of St. Olaf College and the University of Washington.
**Tonia Sina** • Intimacy Director • GRSF Seasons: ’21,’22
Tonia Sina is the first ever Specialty Intimacy Choreographer and created the term in her master’s thesis at VCU. Along with teaching workshops internationally traveling with her service dog, Daphne Rose, she has choreographed intimacy at the Chicago Lyric Opera, Stratford Festival, and Steppenwolf Theatre. Featured in the NY Times, the LA Times, The Washington Post, American Theatre Magazine, CBC Radio, Huffington Post, and hundreds of other publications and podcasts, Tonia has been researching Intimacy for the Stage and Sexual Harassment in the industry since she began research for her thesis in 2004. Also a playwright and performer, Tonia is a triple kidney transplant recipient and rare and chronic disease patient advocate and national motivational speaker. She attended Virginia Commonwealth University where she studied movement and earned her MFA in Movement Pedagogy with a specialty in Intimacy for the Stage. This is her 5th year with GRSF, the first being the Front Porch Series in 2018.

**David Smith** • Master Electrician • GRSF Debut
David has been actively engaged in the art and technology of entertainment lighting for more than 20 years. In addition to his work as a designer and Master Electrician, David has developed additional specialties including wireless lighting systems, DMX and RDM implementations, and use of LEDs in various capacities. He has conducted training sessions for IATSE, touring professionals, and educational institutions as well as functioned as an on-site specialist and consultant for Broadway and regional shows, major tours, and international productions.

**Brittany Staudacher** • Costume Design Assistant • GRSF Debut
Brittany Staudacher (she/her) originates from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She received her BA from the University of Northern Iowa and her MFA from Indiana University. Past theatres include Penobscot Theatre Co., Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, and Florida Repertory Theatre. Favorite design credits include Carrie the Musical, The Threepenny Opera, and Woody Guthrie’s American Song. Brittany is thrilled to be joining the GRSF family this summer!

**Daniel Stewart** • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’18,’19
This will be Daniel’s 3rd season at Great River Shakespeare festival and he is super excited to be back. Currently based in Texas, Daniel works as an actor with the Murder Mystery Theatre Company. He wants to thank the kind people of Winona for always being so welcoming.

**William Sturdivant** • Actor • GRSF Seasons: ’19,’20, ’21, ’22
Will Sturdivant enters his fifth season with GRSF this Summer and is thrilled to be back in Winona. As You Like It will mark his 32nd Shakespeare production. He received a BFA from the University of MN/ Guthrie Theater Actor Training Program and has performed Off Broadway and regionally for the past 17 years. Information on his newest poetry book, “Bounty! a pilgrimage in process,” can be found on his Facebook page @WillSturdivantPoetry.
2023 COMPANY BIOS

Madison Tarchala • Production Stage Manager, Stage Manager As You Like It • GRSF Seasons: ‘18,’19,’21,’22
Madison Tarchala is thrilled to be returning to GRSF for her sixth year! Off-Broadway credits include Misty, Help (The Shed). Regional credits include Much Ado About Nothing (Milwaukee Rep), Our Town (Baltimore Center Stage), Great River Shakespeare Festival Season ’18, ’19, ’21, ’22: Always Patsy Cline, Great Expectations, Cymbeline, No Child, and A Midsummer’s Dream. Madison holds a BFA in Stage Management from UNC School of the Arts. Much love to Mom, Dad, and Alexander.

Olivia Templeton • Front of House Associate • GRSF Debut

Chauncy Thomas • Actor • GRSF Debut
Chauncy is thrilled to make his debut at Great River Shakespeare Festival. He graduated from Washington University in St. Louis and currently resides in New York. Selected Credits - Bay Street Theatre: A Raisin in the Sun (Walter Younger), To Kill a Mockingbird (Tom Robinson); Alabama Shakespeare Festival: Our Town (Mr. Webb), The Tempest (Caliban); St. Louis Shakespeare Festival: Much Ado About Nothing (Don Pedro), The Winter’s Tale (Polixenes); Illinois Shakespeare Festival: Measure for Measure (Angelo), Pride and Prejudice (Mr. Bingley); Gulfshore Playhouse: Radio Golf (Roosevelt Hicks); St. Louis Rep: Clybourne Park (Albert/Kevin); Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival: Romeo and Juliet (Mercutio/Friar Laurence); Capital Repertory Theatre: A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Oberon), Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater: Alabama Story (Joshua Moore). He is a four-time St. Louis Circle Award nominee. He will next be seen in A Midsummer Night’s Dream at Alabama Shakespeare Festival. Television: “Madam Secretary, Run the World.”

Kenyana Trambles • Hair/Makeup Designer • GRSF Seasons: ’22
Kenyana is a 27 year old Hair/Makeup Artist with a passion for the arts. She attended the University of Southern Indiana where she got her Bachelor of Arts Degree with a double emphasis in Hair/Makeup design and Performing Arts. She specializes in Beauty Makeup/Hairstyling but would like to further her skills in Special Effects Makeup. She has over 8 years experience in her field.

Alejandro Treccani • Drafter/Carpenter/Painter/Rigger • GRSF Debut
Bio goes here

Ivy Treccani • Props Designer/Scenic Designer/Co-Technical Director • GRSF Seasons: ’19,’21,’22
Ivy Treccani is a graduate from Northern Illinois University with her MFA in Scenic/Props Design. Recently she was the Scenic Paint Designer for Together at Last at The Second City. She was the Props Designer at The Griffin Theatre Company for the North American Premiere of Solaris and Mary Seacole’s. As well as the Props Designer for The Raven Theatre Company for The Right to be Forgotten. She also works part time as a scenic painter and props artisan at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora, IL. She is returning for her 4th season at Great River Shakespeare Festival.

Timmy Turner • Puppetry Consultant • GRSF Seasons: ’20
Timmy Turner is a puppeteer based in Windsor, NC. He has worked alongside puppeteers and builders from the Henson Company, Project Puppet, and the Rose family (Howdy Doody), and helped build puppets for Disney’s Winnie the Pooh - The New Musical Stage Adaptation in New York City. Timmy is a WSU alumni, and has called Winona home since 2011. He has been a long time attendee of GRSF and is thrilled to partner with the company every chance he gets.

Erika Warrix • Wardrobe Apprentice • GRSF Debut
Erika Warrix is from San Antonio, Texas. She’s a junior Design, Technology and Management Technical Theatre major at Wagner College in NYC. She’s so excited to be part of Great River Shakespeare Festival. Erika thanks her friends & family for all of their love & support!

Caroline Wieland • Wardrobe Supervisor • GRSF Debut
Carrie Wieland just graduated from Wright State University with a BFA in Theatre Design/Technology with a concentration in costume design. She works with the Limon Dance Company as a wardrobe supervisor and has worked as the costume designer for La Boheme at the Bar Harbor Music Festival. She is planning on working as a Wardrobe Supervisor with the Norwegian Cruise Line in the fall.

Aaron A. Young • Managing Director • GRSF Seasons: ’17,’18,’19,’20,’21,’22
Aaron A. Young joined the leadership team of Great River Shakespeare Festival in 2017. Prior to moving to Winona, he spent 13 years as managing director of the Fulton Theatre Company in Lancaster, PA. He has also led the theatre program of Robert Redford’s Sundance Institute and served as marketing manager for the Sundance Film Festival and as general manager of Kansas City Repertory Theatre. Aaron is a graduate of Brigham Young University, and along with his wife Kristen, a clawhammer banjo player, has raised three lovely and very tall daughters. He is happy to devote his career to connecting artists and audiences, making sure artists have meaningful dialogues with their communities, and seeing they earn living wages.
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We would like to thank the following individuals who are ensuring the future of the Great River Shakespeare Festival by designating the Festival in their estate plans:

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The company of 2006’s The Merchant of Venice.
Directed by Paul Barnes. Photo by Alec Wild.
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