

P L A Y B I L L

Almost,
MAINE

AUTHOR
JOHN CARIANI

Ashlyn Elliott
Artistic Director

José DelaTorre
Assistant Director

Grace Billingsley
Production Manager

Christian Barnard
Lighting Designer

Hayden Hilton
Sound Designer

Madison Steward
Costume Supervisor

Brandy Rice
Stage Manager/
Properties Manager

FROM YOUR THEATRE WITH HEART



In my time with MCT I have simply fallen in love with the talent, spirit, determination, and sense of support that our students exude. I started my involvement with the theatre believing that I would be the teacher, but quickly realized that I have just as much to learn from them as they do from me.

Almost, Maine has been the perfect project for our high school students to tackle because the story begs for the actors to put a piece of themselves into their characters. It is clear that each student feels a connection with their character(s). For some of them, you can feel how comfortable, safe, honest, and vulnerable they allow themselves to be when portraying their characters. It has been an honor watching these teenagers grow as performers and as young adults in the two months they have been in rehearsals for the play. Our director, Ashlyn Elliott, said it best, "Almost, Maine is all about love. Love in every messy, exciting, challenging, surprising, and joyous way that is possible."

Thank you for joining us this evening to support our senior scholarship program, encourage our youth, and celebrate the love. It truly is all of our efforts together that make Marshfield Community Theatre the "Theatre With Heart".

Grace Billingsley

Education Administrative Director

CAST

Pete.....	Ethan Brower
Ginette.....	Savana West
East.....	Liam Bergthold
Glory.....	Skylar Heinzl
Jimmy.....	Luke Rockwood
Sandrine.....	Mack Mendes
Waitress.....	Ashley Bryce
Gayle.....	Reagan Inman
Lendall.....	Luke Rockwood
Deena.....	Sierra Smith
Shelly.....	Atlas Roderick
Phil.....	Liam Bergthold
Marci.....	Sierra Smith
Hope.....	Jillian Adamson
Man.....	Ethan Brower

CREW

Set Design & Build.....	Brian McArthur, Christian Barnard, Alex Bates
Lighting & Sound Operator.....	Hayden Hilton
House & Box Office Manager.....	Kelby Lorenz
Boutique & Break-a-Leg Gifts.....	Crystal Hilton

MEET THE DIRECTORS

Ashlyn Elliott grew up in Nixa, MO where she was heavily involved in theatre and dance. She received her BFA in Musical Theatre at the Chicago College of Performing Arts at Roosevelt University. She also holds a MS in Leadership for Creative Enterprises from Northwestern University. Immersed in the Chicago arts and entertainment sector, Ashlyn worked in arts administration at Lyric Opera of Chicago, Compass Casting, as well as Broadway Teaching Group in New York City. Now residing in Springfield, MO, Ashlyn is a producer and casting director at Locke and Stache where she helps to bring stories to life everyday through film. Ashlyn also serves on the Associate Board at Springfield Little Theatre. She is passionate and driven to keep the arts and entertainment sector in the Midwest alive and thriving and loves providing opportunity for artists of all kinds. She has loved working with this incredible cast and she can't wait to share these love stories with this community. Big thanks to Jose, her theatre bestie since the 2nd grade, who has made this experience all the more rewarding. To all - love big, love deeply, and love unapologetically. May you experience your own version of the Northern Lights.

Jose DelaTorre is no stranger to the arts community in the Ozarks. He has been seen in several productions with local theatre troupes including Marshfield Community Theatre, Springfield Little Theatre, and Branson Regional Arts Council. He currently serves as the chair for Marshfield Community Theatre's Young Professional Group and is on the planning committee for Springfield Ballet's annual Rendezvous En Pointe fundraising event. When he is not volunteering for the arts, Jose works as the Retail Sales Specialist for Central Bank of the Ozarks. He'd like to thank his theatre bestie of 20 years (yikes), Director, Ashlyn Elliott for taking him on this journey to Almost, Maine with him. It's been an absolute dream come true working with this cast to bring these stories to life. Let these stories speak to your heart and allow you to dream big, love big, and love openly and carelessly!

BIOS

Ethan Brower is a 9th grader at Strafford High School where he recently portrayed Seymore in Little Shop of Horrors. At SHS, he is also active in student council, FCCLA, FTA, and ITS. He made his MCT debut in 2020 as the Royal Page in Descendants the musical. He has since been in Grease: School Edition and The Lion King Jr. Ethan volunteers frequently behind the scenes for both MCT education and mainstage productions. "I would like to thank my friends and family for supporting me to make my dreams come true, and allow me to continue to practice and study this art."

Reagan Inman is a freshman at Marshfield High School and is on the Jaywalkers, The Marshfield High school's dance team. She is in band, student council, choir, has been a stage manager for Marshfield schools, is a manager on the High school's wrestling team, and was on Marshfield's homecoming court as the freshman representative. Reagan used to be a part of the Ozark Mountain Players and Lamp of Liberty Productions. She has been involved with MCT for two years. Her MCT credits include Descendants the Musical and Comedy Tonight Halloween. She was recently accepted into MCT's first ever youth performance troupe! "I would like to thank all of my amazing friends and family. Especially my parents who have always been so supportive of me and all of my dreams and activities. I would also like to thank my sister Paula for never letting me give up. And my little brother Jackson who is my little biggest fan. I would also like to thank my best friend and boyfriend Emmett Thiele for always being there for me."

Jillian Adamson is an 11th grader who homeschools and studies at Ozarks Technical Community College. She has been involved in theatre since 2015 with Springfield Little Theatre, Class Act, Kitchen Sink, His Way Broadway, and Gloria Deo Academy. At MCT, Jillian has performed in The Holly Jolly Virtual Variety Show, 101 Dalmatians Kids, Descendants: the Musical, Comedy Tonight,

and Grease: School Edition.

Ashley Bryce is excited to be making her MCT debut! She is a senior at Marshfield High School. She volunteers as an A+ tutor, and as a student helper with those who have special needs. She enjoys playing softball in a community league with friends from her church. In her spare time, she likes to create things! She loves writing journals, creating diamond art, crocheting and doing sewing projects. She loves to work with little kids, and to spend time with the elders from my church! She has 2 cats and likes to take road trips! She's an only child but has 11 cousins who she loves to have fun with! After graduation, she would like to fulfill her dream of being a preschool teacher. "I would like to thank my mom for helping and supporting me on my journey through life. I would like to thank my family for knowing how hard it is to do something so big and exciting and supporting me through it all. I would like to thank my church family at MAG for always encouraging me through the good times and bad. I also want to thank my teachers at MHS for always being on Team Ashley."

Sierra Smith is in the 10th grade at Strafford High School where she is an all A honor roll student. She is also active in Chamber Choir, FCA, FTA, Book Club, and International Thespian Society where she was a state competitor. Sierra is no stranger to the stage! Some of her favorite credits include the Branson Regional Arts Council's Staccato Show Choir in 2021-2022, Elle in Freaky Friday and Young Anna/Olaf at Conway Schools Theatre, and as an ensemble and the understudy for Ronette in Little Shop of Horrors at Strafford High School. Sierra has been involved in 10 MCT productions, including her recent role of Adult Nala in The Lion King, Jr. She has taken many MCT Education classes and enjoys helping out with the Broadway Babies class. Sierra was the 2022 Student Board Member for MCT. In her free time, Sierra enjoys singing and volunteering in the Kids area at church. She plans to go into the field of Education for Theatre and/or Choir. "Special thanks to my parents for always supporting me in all I do."

Savana West is a homeschooled 10th grader and works at Dairy Queen. She has her MCT involvement during the 2020 haunted house, and then helped with tech and costume designing for 101 Dalmatians Kids. She then went on to appear on stage for her first time in Descendants the Musical. Since then, she has performed in Comedy Tonight: Halloween, Grease: School Edition, presented awards at the annual MCT Award Show. She most recently played Sarabi in the Lion King Jr. and Trudy Marsh in You Have The Right To Remain Dead. "I would like to thank Brandy Rice, Jared Clair, And My Parents. And a special thanks to Rita Deckard, and the DQ crew and Team."

Skylar Heinzel is a junior at Marshfield High School where she is on the Jay-walker Pom Squad, is Vice President of Centerstage, is a percussionist in band, and is part of the gifted program. At her school, Skylar has performed in Newsies, Rumpelstiltskin: Private Eye, The Wizard of Oz, and Once Upon a Mattress. At MCT, she has been involved in Descendants the Musical, MCT's Grease: School Edition, and the Holly Jolly Holiday Show. "Special thanks to my parents for supporting all of the many, many activities I do, and to Liam because I quite literally could not have done this without him!"

Audie (Altas) Roderick is excited to be performing for MCT again! They previously performed in MCT's productions of Frozen Jr, 101 Dalmatians Kids, and Descendants the Musical! They like to play dungeons and dragons with friends, writing, and reading! Their favorite series is Renegades by Marissa Meyer. "I want to give a special thanks to Carolyn (Grace)! Thanks to her and how she's helped me since Frozen Jr, I've been able to find out where I fit in, and discover new things about me!"

Liam Bergthold is a sophomore at Marshfield High School where he plays in band, and has performed on stage in The Wizard of Oz, Faith County, and Once Upon A Mattress. His last MCT credit was Disney's The Jungle Book!

Mackenna Mendes is a 9th grader at Marshfield High School. At MHS, she is active in student council, quiz bowl, history bowl, soccer, speech and debate,

FFA, and band. She was also recently see in MHS's production of Once Upon A Mattress.

Luke Rockwood is a 9th grader at Marshfield High School. At school he participates in Concert Band, Jazz Band, Choir, History Bowl, and Academic Team. At MHS, he has appeared in Zombie Prom, Newsies, OZ, and Once Upon a Mattress. He was previously seen onstage in MCT productions of Alice in Wonderland, Aladdin Jr. and Frozen Jr. After graduating high school, he plans on going to college at BYU or MSU. Once there, he would love to do something related to plants.

Hayden Hilton is an 8th grader at Marshfield Junior High School where she is a percussionist in band, participates in choir, speech and debate, pole vaulting, and is part of the gifted program. Hayden has been on stage in MJHS's production of Madagascar Junior and can be seen next month in James and the Giant Peach, Jr. Her MCT's performances include: Charlotte's Web; Frozen, Junior; Descendants, the Musical; The Art of Murder; Grease, School Edition; and the Holly Jolly Holiday Show. Hayden has also worked tech on MCT's: 101 Dalmatians, Kids; Lion King, Junior; and You Have the Right to Remain Dead. Hayden would like to thank Grace Billingsly for her unwavering support and the directing team of Jose and Ashlynn for making it fun. She gives special thanks to Christian Bernard for teaching her all the things!

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