

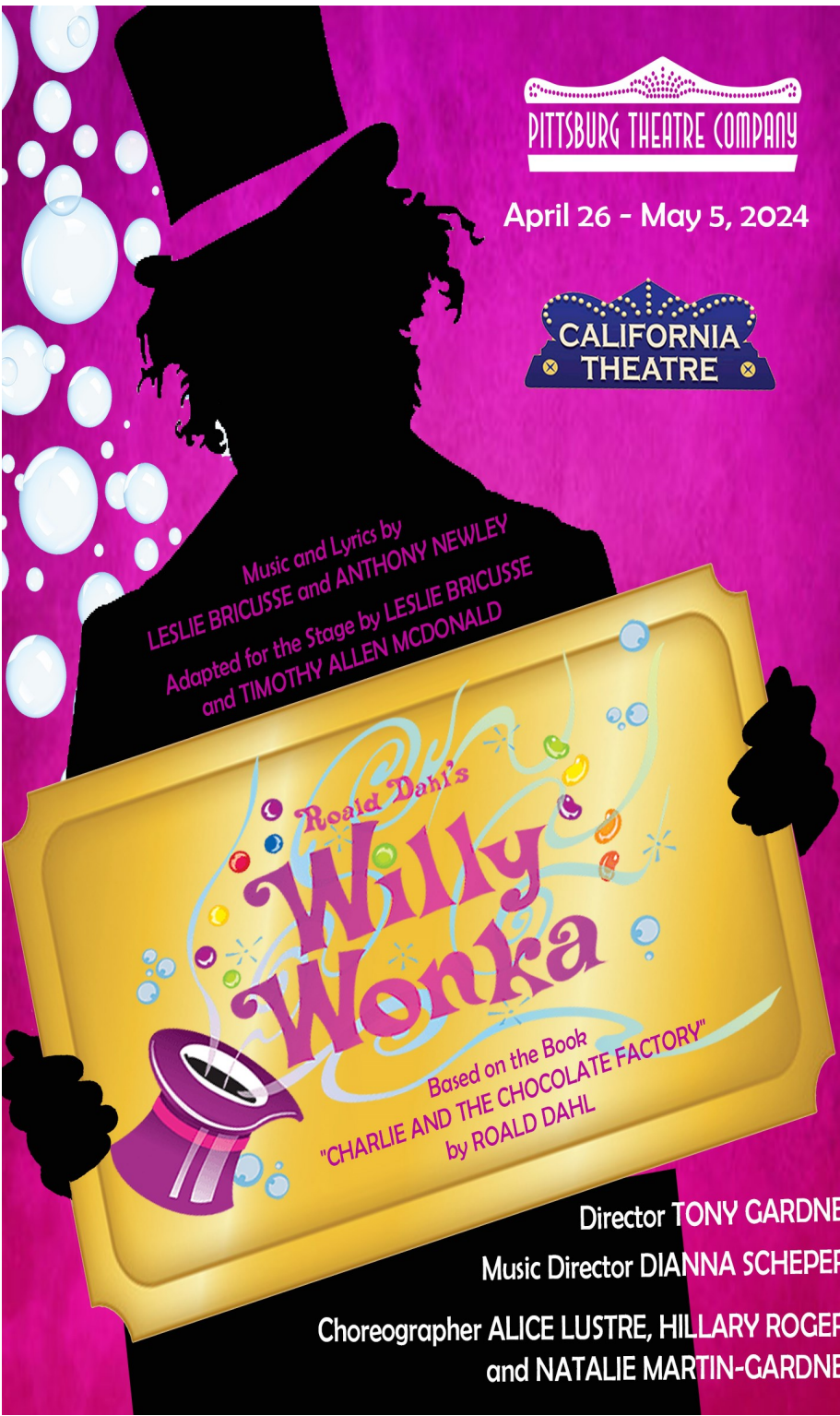


PITTSBURG THEATRE COMPANY

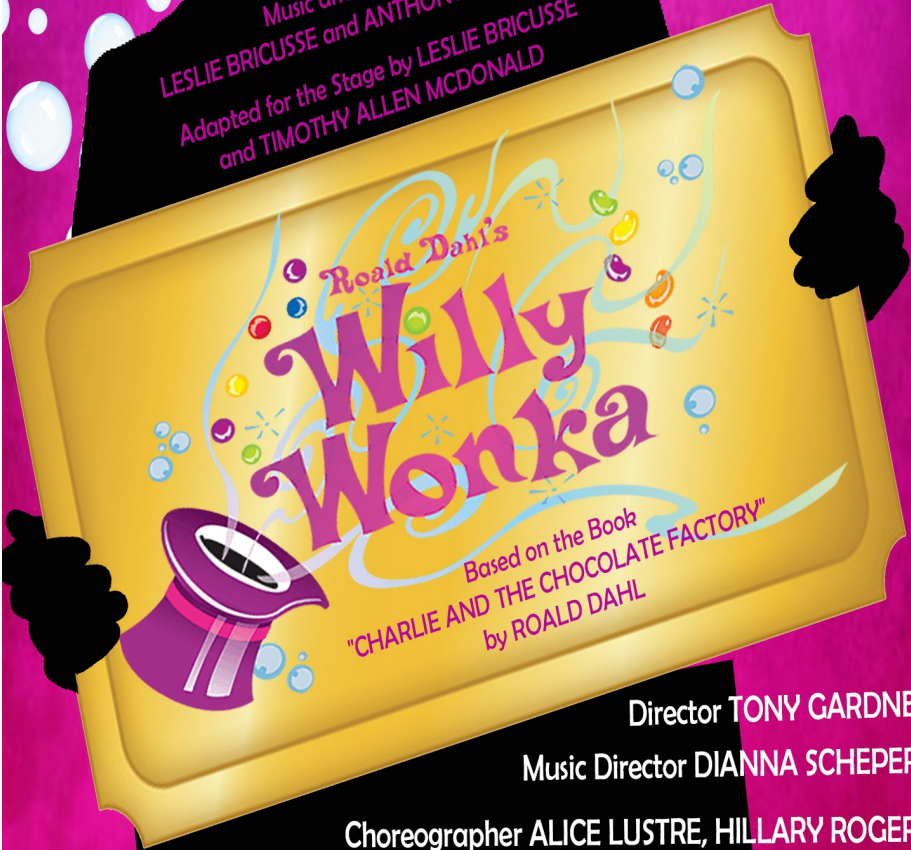
April 26 - May 5, 2024



CALIFORNIA
THEATRE



Music and Lyrics by
LESLIE BRICUSSE and ANTHONY NEWLEY
Adapted for the Stage by LESLIE BRICUSSE
and TIMOTHY ALLEN MCDONALD



Roald Dahl's
Willy Wonka

Based on the Book
"CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY"
by ROALD DAHL

Director TONY GARDNER

Music Director DIANNA SCHEPERS

Choreographer ALICE LUSTRE, HILLARY ROGERS
and NATALIE MARTIN-GARDNER



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PITTSBURG THEATRE COMPANY



Music and Lyrics by
LESLIE BRICUSSE AND ANTHONY NEWLEY

Adapted for the Stage by
**LESLIE BRICUSSE and
TIMOTHY ALLEN MCDONALD**

Based on the Book **"CHARLIE AND THE
CHOCOLATE FACTORY"** by **ROALD DAHL**

Directed by
TONY GARDNER

Choreography by
**ALICE LUSTRE, NATALIE MARTIN-GARDNER and
HILARY ROGERS.**

Assisted by **JOSIE RAPOLAS**

Music Directed by
DIANNA SCHEPERS

WILLY WONKA
Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com

Director's Note



So much space and so little to say. Wait a minute. Strike that. Reverse it.

Growing up, my favorite author was Roald Dahl. I read all of his books, all of which inspired me to take heed to the importance of imagination. There is no intellect that will create without the necessity of imagination. As a teacher and theatre director, I live and work in this spirit. When given the chance to direct this magical play I jumped at the opportunity! Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is a staple

of so many of our childhoods. In this simple silly story, we learned how to be greedy and selfish and how not to be humble and honest. Wait a minute. Strike that. Reverse that again.

I am very grateful to the team it took to produce this show. Without their efforts, we would not have such a beautiful and entertaining production! Theatre is a collaborative art and our show is a true testament to collaboration and pure imagination!

Please enjoy the show! As the great Wonka once said, "A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men" (and women)!

Sincerely,

**Tony Gardner
Director**



Cast

Willy Wonka	ADAM GREEN
Charlie Bucket	MAKAYLA RHINE
Grandpa Joe	KIRK WALLER
Grandma Josephina	ROBERTA TIBBETTS
Grandma Georgina	YVETTE NICCOLLS
Grandpa George	DODIE KATAGUE
Mr. Buckets	KEVIN COREN
Mrs. Bucket	AMY MARK
Phineous Trout	KYLE WALZ-SMITH
Candy Man Kids & Oompa-Loompa Kids Chorus	HANNAH BORJA, KENLEE GARDNER, LUCY RAPOLAS, VERA RIRA, SCARLET SANTOS, SOTHEA SAUNDERS
Candy Man Kids & Featured Oompa-Loompas	EMMA BORJA, SHEENA DAVENPORT, QUINN ECKERMAN, ELISABETH LINDE, LIANA OSORIO, SIMON RAPOLAS
Candy Man	DAN ECKERMAN
Jamie	ELISABETH LINDE
Matilda	LIANA OSORIO
Augustus Gloop	BEN RAPOLAS
Mrs. Gloop	KATIE RAPOLAS
Cook Chorus	EMMA BORJA, QUINN ECKERMAN, ELISABETH LINDE, SHEENA DAVENPORT, LUCY RAPOLAS, SIMON RAPOLAS
Mike Teavee	NATE PENNER
Ms. Teavee	HILLARY ROGERSON
Violet Beauregarde	JOSIE RAPOLAS
Mrs. Beauregarde	NATALIE MARTIN-GARDNER
Veruca Salt	LEXI MATTHEWS
Mr. Salt	JON PADEN
Squirrels.....	HANNAH BORJA, KENLEE GARDNER, LUCY RAPOLAS, VERA RIRAY, SOTHEA SAUNDERS

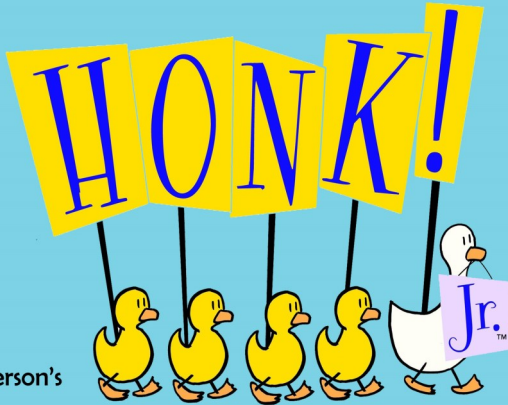
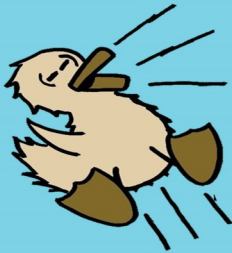
Understudy for the role of Willy Wonka
and appearing Saturday April 27
DAN ECKERMAN

Production Team

DirectorTONY GARDNER
ChoreographerALICE LUSTRE,
NATALIE MARTIN-GARDNER and HILARY ROGERS
Music Director/ProducerDIANNA SCHEPERS
Assistant DirectorKATIE RAPOLAS
Assistant ChoreographerJOSIE RAPOLAS
Stage ManagerAVA DURAN
Deck ChiefsMAYA DURAN and SHARA MAIN
Set DesignDIANNA SCHEPERS
Costume DesignFLORENDA BUCHANAN , VIKKE PHALEN
Lighting DesignMIKE MORRIS
Sound Effect Design DIANNA SCHEPERS
PropertiesDIANNA SCHEPERS, KENDRA BORJA, TALA CALUB MENCHER,
YVETTE NICCOLLS, KATIE RAPOLAS, NATALIE MARTIN-GARDNER,
MICHELE RHINE, ROBERTA TIBBETTS
Light Operator
Spot Light OperatorKENDRA BORJA
Sound MixingRON KEELER and MARK LINDE
Sound PlaybackJULIE DOMINGO
Stage CrewMARIA CONIGLIO, CAILA COUCHMAN, BRIDGET DAVENPORT,
KATHRYN LOPEZ, ALEXANDER PAZ
Master CraftsmanBRUCE BRANDT, MIKE TEEL, MICHAEL WILSON
Set Construction/General PaintingTONY GARDNER,
TODD PENNER, DIANNA SCHEPERS,
CAST MEMBERS, CREW AND FAMILY
Specialty Set PaintingYVETTE NICCOLLS, KIRK WALLER
Costume Alterations/ConstructionFLORENDA BUCHANAN,
VIKKE PHALEN, GWENDOLYN SAMPSON BROWN
VideographerMEL NASH
Show PhotographerSARA NICOLE MINDFUL PHOTOGRAPHY
Graphics/Publicity & ProgramsDIANNA SCHEPERS
HospitalityKATIE RAPOLAS, CHRISTIANA CHOW, KENDRA BORJA
BarCHRISTINA FLINT, GWENDOLYN SAMPSON BROWN, MICHAEL WILSON

PITTSBURGH THEATRE COMPANY

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Musical Numbers

Act 1

Prologue: Wonka's Factory

Pure Imagination.....Willy Wonka

The Golden Age of ChocolateWilly Wonka and Oompa-Loompas

Scene I: The Bucket Shack

Scene II: Outside the Bucket Shack

The CandymanCandy Man, Charlie, the Kids

Scene III: The Bucket Shack

Scene IV: Outside the Bucket Shack

Scene V: Augustus Gloop

I Eat MoreAugustus, Phinea, Mrs. Gloop, Cooks

Scene VI: Veruca Salt

Scene VII: Outside the Bucket Shack

Think Positive!Charlie, Mr. Bucket

Scene VIII: The Bucket Shack

Scene IX: Violet Beauregard

Scene X: Mike Teavee

I See It All On TVMike, Ms. Teavee, Phinea Trout

Scene XI: The Bucket Shack

Cheer Up CharlieGrandparents, Mr. Bucket, Mrs. Bucket

Scene XII: Two Weeks Later—Snowy Streets

Think Positive! RepriseCharlie

I've Got A Golden TicketCharlie, Grandparents, Company

THERE WILL BE ONE 20-MINUTE INTERMISSION

Musical Numbers

Act 2

Scene XIII: Outside Wonka's Factory

At The Gates Willy Wonka

In This Room Willy Wonka

Scene XIV: The Chocolate Smelting Room

Oompa-Loompa 1 Oompa-Loompas

Scene XV: Pink Candy Boat

There's No Knowing Willy Wonka

Scene XVI: The Inventing Room

Chew It Violet, Wonka

Oompa-Loompa 2 Oompa-Loompas

Scene XVII: Fizzy Lifting Room

Flying Oompa-Loompas, Charlie, Grandpa Joe

Burping Song Charlie, Grandpa Joe

Scene XVIII: The Nut Room

I Want It Now! Veruca, Company

Oompa-Loompa 3 Oompa-Loompas

Scene XIX: Choco-Vision Room

Oompa-Loompa 4 Oompa-Loompas

Scene XX: End of the Tour/Wonkavator/Home

Flying (Reprise) Grandpa Joe, Charlie, Wonka

Finale Wonka, Company



Who's Who—Cast



Hannah Borja (Oompa Loompa, Candyman Kid, Squirrel)

Hannah is excited to be back onstage with PTC. She was most recently seen in Frozen Jr. Some of her favorite roles were Jojo in Seussical and Carlotta in The Little Mermaid. When she is not onstage, Hannah is a 4th grader in Antioch and she enjoys reading and being crafty.



Emma Borja (Featured Oompa Loompa, Candyman Kid, Cook)

Emma is thrilled to be in PTC's production of Willy Wonka. She began acting in 2019 with her first show being Annie (Kate). Since then, she has been in numerous shows with her favorites consisting of Elf Jr. (Fake Santa), Frozen Jr. (Bulda), and Oliver (Charley). Emma is a 7th grader in Antioch. In her free time she enjoys hanging out with friends and of course theatre whether it be on or off the stage.



Kevin Coren (Mr. Bucket)

Kevin Coren has been acting in East Bay community theatre since 2010. His absolute favorite role was Igor (Young Frankenstein). Other favorite roles include Motel (Fiddler on the Roof), Christopher Wren (The Mousetrap), and Old Deuteronomy (Cats). Kevin is excited to be back with PTC for this production. When he is not on stage, Kevin deals with his dog and many cats, and teaches high school math where he occasionally performs math songs for his students



Sheena Davenport (Featured Oompa Loompa, Candyman Kid, Cook)

Sheena Davenport started acting in the 2019 production of The Little Mermaid as Carlotta, then as the March Hare in the 2020 performance of Alice in Wonderland. She took a break from acting to play the flute for two years and during that break sang in her 4th grade school choir singing "Rewrite the Stars." In 2022, she did Elf Jr. as Deb. The following summer, she was in The Little Mermaid again but as Pilot. Next up was Frozen Jr. as Pabbie (Head troll, Bulda's wife), and stage crew for Young Frankenstein in 2023. Sheena is a 6th grader at Sequoia Middle School.

Who's Who—Cast



Dan Eckerman (The Candyman, Willy Wonka on 4/27)

Dan was introduced to PTC last year as the pit orchestra drummer for *It Shoulda Been You*, and he enjoyed the production so much, he leaped at an opportunity to audition for this production of *Willy Wonka* with his adorable daughter Quinn (Oompa Loompa). Dan has been a percussionist for various productions all around the Bay Area, and also a competitive barbershop quartet singer at an international level! When he's not hitting the drums, you'll surely find him hitting pickleballs at local courts, or hitting the streets as a City of Brentwood heavy equipment operator.



Quinn Eckerman (Oompa Loompa, Candyman Kid, Squirrel)

Quinn has been fascinated with the performing arts from a young age, and has almost a dozen musical productions under her wings, most notably for *The Sound of Music* (Brigitta), *Christmas at the Biltmore* (Julia), *Addams Family Jr.* (Uncle Fester), and Freedom High School production of *Alice by Heart* (Young Alice), all by the ripe age of 10. Her after-school schedule is fully committed to the arts: theater classes, vocal lessons, rehearsals, Oh My! She is especially excited to have been cast in this production for the first time with her father, Dan Eckerman (Candyman).



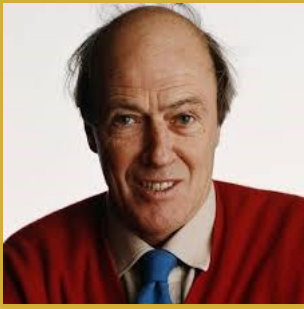
Kenlee Garner (Oompa Loompa, Candyman Kid, Squirrel)

Kenlee has been around theatre all her life, as her dad is the director who cast her into *Seussical* as a young Elephant Bird. With theatrical parents (her mother is also in the *Willy Wonka* cast) she is genetically inclined to be born overly dramatic which she is ecstatic to show you on stage for her PTC debut!



Dramaturg Note BY GREGORY BROWN

Roald Dahl and the (Very Dark) Chocolate Factory



In 1953, eleven years before he would create the characters of Charlie Bucket, Willy Wonka, Violet Beauregarde, Mike Teavee and others, British author Roald Dahl published a story about a woman who murders her cheating husband by hitting him in the head with a frozen leg of lamb. She then cooks the lamb while phoning the police to tell them she has found her husband dead on the kitchen floor after returning from shopping. While the detectives look for clues, the woman suggests they all must be getting hungry and invites them to

eat the lamb, thereby getting rid of the murder weapon forever. The story was titled “Lamb to the Slaughter.”

In case anyone had any doubts about the author of Charlie and The Chocolate Factory’s wicked sense of humor and love of the macabre, that story should serve as a clear indication of Dahl’s worldview. In fact, Dahl penned as many horror stories and stories for adults as he did for children but is still famous mostly for the latter. It hasn’t been lost on contemporary readers that his children’s books are written from the point of view of someone who doesn’t seem to particularly like children. Or makes certain there are no shortage of characters who don’t like them. In Matilda, the character Agatha Trunchbull declares, “I have never been able to understand why small children are so disgusting. They’re the bane of my life. They’re like insects: they should be got rid of as early as possible.”

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory has been controversial for its depiction of the Oompa Loompas, who were, in the original edition of the book, black “pygmies” who Wonka smuggled out of the “deepest and darkest part of the African jungle.” In 1970, The NAACP expressed concern about this portrayal, especially in light of the upcoming Gene Wilder film. Dahl himself made the changes, re-imagining the Oompa Loompas in a subsequent edition as having “golden-brown hair” and “rosy, white skin.” (No word on how they got orange with green hair in the movie.) This edit doesn’t change much regarding the way the Oompa Loompas are treated in the book, nor how they are regarded. At one point Grandpa Joe tells Charlie that they are “not people.” Passages like this, coupled with Dahl’s evident Anti-Semitism, is probably what led to a wide-ranging censorship and bowdlerization of the author’s books, carried out by his own publishers, Puffin Books in England.



In 2023, in an article titled “Woke Willie Wonka,” Forbes magazine reported that “classic children’s books written by Roald Dahl, such as Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Matilda, are being rewritten to remove potentially offensive language, a move which has offended readers across the internet.” The article identifies changes to words, phrases, sentences, and even entire passages originally authored by Dahl, some seemingly arbitrary and slightly mystifying. For instance, Augustus Gloop is no longer called “fat.” The offending word is removed and changed to “enormous.” The ensuing description is unaltered except for the ban on the word “fat,” now reading “a nine-year-old boy who was so enormous he looked like he had been blown up by a powerful pump.” Along with: “great folds bulged out from every part of his body, and his face was like a ball of dough.” Hey, at least no one said he was fat!

It is probably fair to say that more people now know the story of Charlie Bucket through films rather than the original novel even if, in the movies, the focus shifts from Charlie to the candymaker Wonka, whose name dominates the titles of two of the films, whittled down to the single name Wonka in its most current iteration. This upfront representation in the first film was probably a nod to the star power of Gene Wilder, who, for many, remains the bar one must hurdle to play the role. Johnny Depp’s famously creepy performance seems to have split audiences but might actually have gotten closer in spirit to Dahl’s conception of the character. (In fact, Dahl was said to have hated the Wilder version.) And Timothée Chalamet’s singing and dancing turn was called “infinitely charming” by reviewers, perhaps relieved that the film wrestled the franchise out of some dark corners.

Speaking of singing and dancing, the 2004 stage musical on offer tonight was the brainchild of Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley (*Stop the World, I Want to Get Off*) who wanted to include songs from the 1971 Wilder version, while contributing some new songs done in what they considered “a retro style” that would work thematically with the originals.

By this time, Dahl had passed away, which left his, by all accounts, formidable widow Felicity to be the gatekeeper of any future representations of her husband’s work. Tim McDonald, co-author of the book for the musical pitched his idea to her, saying: “It’s about a kid who breaks the rules, admits it, and because of that, he wins everything.” This, apparently, won her over. McDonald thought about that pitch after the show opened: “Charlie does wrong; he breaks the rules,” he said. “But he goes to Wonka, and he admits it. That’s why he wins: he made a mistake, but he was smart enough to admit it. We all do things that are wrong, but to admit it, ask for forgiveness, and be given forgiveness is a beautiful lesson for all humans, and for young people.”

Or you can always just club them over the head with a frozen leg of lamb.

Thank You

The Production Team thanks the following:

**Anthony Lane and the team at the California Theatre | The City of Pittsburg
Mt. Diablo Resource Recovery | Church of the Good Shepherd
Community Presbyterian Church | Michelle McCabe**

Starlight Theatre Company

*A special thank you to the craftsmen, artisans, cast and family members
who helped to create Willy's Magic Land. With a specific shout out to:*

**Bruce Brandt | Mike Teel | Michael Wilson | Todd Penner | Kirk Waller
Yvette Niccolls | Roberta Tibbetts | Emma Borja**



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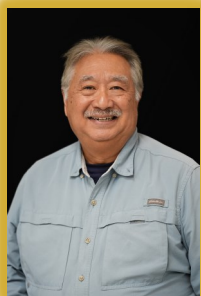
An Open and Affirming Congregation

Who's Who—Cast



Adam Green (Willy Wonka)

Adam Green welcomes you into the world of PTC's Willy Wonka! Most recently Mr. Green was seen in Throckmorton Theatre's *Kinky Boots* (Simon/Lola), SFBATCO's New Works Theatre Festival, *Every Saturday Night*, Pittsburg Theater Company's *Dreamgirls* (Curtis) *Guys and Dolls* with Peninsula Ballet Theater (Benny Southstreet), and *Strange Courtesies* with San Jose Stage Company. When not on the stage himself, Adam works as the music director of the Skyline High School music program. He counts it an honor and privilege to share the lessons of this show with his students, family, friends, and with you!



Dodie Katague (Grandpa George)

Dodie returns to PTC this year between exotic vacations afar and abroad. Since he retired in 2020, he has performed with several Bay Area theatre troupes. His favorite role was Polonius in *Hamlet* with Vallejo Shakespeare. Other roles include Evan in *SWEAT*, Jim Bono in *Fences*, Bob Cratchit in (Not) *A Christmas Carol*, Boatswain in *The Tempest*, the executioner in *The Death of Triboulet*, and Felipe in *SOL* (a reading of a new play by a Filipina playwright). Dodie is also a commercial and movie background extra.



Elisabeth Linde (Medical Student/Quintet/Tasha/Ensemble)

Elisabeth is a freshman at Pittsburg High School and is very excited to be in PTC's production of *Willy Wonka*. She loves singing and acting, and some of her favorite previous shows are *Annie* (Orphan), *The Little Mermaid Jr.* (Ariel), and *Frozen Jr.* (Anna). When she's not on stage, she likes to write, crochet, and play piano and guitar. Elisabeth would like to thank her family for supporting her and increasing her love for theater. She loves theatre because it helps boost her confidence and makes her happy. PTC has grown her love for acting and her dream of someday becoming a professional theater actress.



Amy Mark (Mrs. Bucket)

Amy Mark (Mrs. Bucket) is exhilarated to be back on the stage with PTC this season. She was most recently part of the ensemble for PTC's production of *Young Frankenstein*. Her past theatrical explorations have included various choirs and musical ensembles, improv, Shakespeare, and PTC's own Black Box productions. She loves the camaraderie and joy of being part of a creative team, and is grateful to have been welcomed into the PTC community. She is especially thankful to her family and friends for cheering her on in this adventure. To all she says, "find your song, and sing it loud!"

Who's Who—Cast



Natalie Martin-Garner (Mrs. Beauregarde)

The last time Natalie graced the stage was in 2011, in *The Full Monty* at the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Since then, Natalie has gotten married, had two wonderful children and moved twice. In the early years, she had the opportunity to perform in over 35 productions, and taught dance in Fremont. In recent years, Natalie has been a busy mom of three, works part-time at Sally Beauty, has costumed designed several shows at College Park High School, and still finds the time to be 45 & fabulous. In her spare time, Natalie enjoys reading romance novels, singing Karaoke, and laughing with the love of her life Tony.



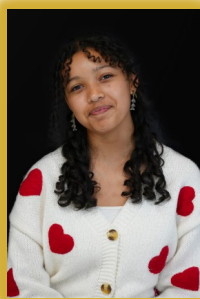
Lexi Matthews (Veruca Salt)

Lexi is a freshman at Liberty High School and is excited to be in *Willy Wonka* with PTC. Lexi fell in love with performing at a young age and has been in over 20 plays and musicals since. Some of her favorite roles include Fantine in *Les Miserables* and the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*. She would like to thank her parents for always supporting her dreams.



Yvette Niccolls (Grandma Josephine)

Yvette is honored to debut with PTC in this exciting and innovative production! Favorite past roles include: Lady Cravenshire (*Calendar Girls* with Ghostlight Theatre Ensemble), Miriam (*Beau Jest* with Vagabond Players), Eve (*The Helpmate* with Festival 10 GTE) and Mouse Queen (*Marvelous Land of Oz* with Orinda Starlight Village Players). She is deeply indebted to Ned and family for their constant encouragement.



Liana Osorio (Featured Oompa Loompa, Matilda - Candyman Kid, Cook)

Josie caught the acting bug when she was just 6 years old. Since then, she has performed in over 30-something shows, with some of her favorite roles being Mayzie La Bird (*Seussical*), Bet (*Oliver!*), Annie (*Annie*), Young Fiona (*Shrek Jr.*), Rafiki (*The Lion King Jr.*), Marie (*Arisocats*), Jovie (*Elf*) and singing with the Shellie Award-winning *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat!* She was most recently on stage in PTC's *It Shoulda Been You*. Josie also enjoys working backstage. Whether it be props, costumes, set changes, lights, or interning with the award-winning PTC's ShowStoppers, she's your gal!

Who's Who—Cast



Jon Paden (Mr. Salt)

Jon is happy to be in his first PTC production. He started acting two years ago and has come to love the theater and those within. He has performed in a few plays over these past two years. He enjoyed playing roles in *Guys and Dolls* and *You Can't Take It With You*. He will be in the upcoming feature of short plays at Festival 10 in Brentwood. A lifelong fan of *Willy Wonka*, he is extremely excited to be in this production.



Nathen Penner (Mike Teavee)

Nathan began his acting career just a few short years ago and quickly realized his passion for theater. He has performed in over a dozen shows since. His favorite roles include *Oliver* (*Oliver!*), *Bullfrog* (*Honk Jr.*), *Gomez* (*The Addams Family Jr.*), and *Michael Hobbs* (*Elf Jr.*). Nate is delighted to be returning to the PTC stage with many of his theater friends to help bring you the wonderful story of *Willy Wonka!*



Ben Rapolas (Augustus Gloop)

Ben joined the Pittsburgh Theatre Company as a tiny 7-year-old, in Disney's *Lion King Jr.* He then continued on with PTC's award-winning *Show Stoppers* as a *Wickersham Brother* in *Suessical Jr.* His first big-stage debut was in PTC's production of *Oliver!* He has enjoyed being in *Elf Jr.* and *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, but his favorite roles have been *Cousin Itt* in *The Addams Family* and *Olaf* in *Frozen Jr.* this past December. He's happy to be with his theater friends again for *Willy Wonka!*



Katie Rapolas (Mrs. Gloop, Asst. Director)

Katie started out as a stage mom, happily working behind the scenes 10 years ago, but somewhere along the way she ended up on stage. Being a wife and mom of four magical children, her favorite shows are the ones where she was on stage with her family: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Sister Act*, *Annie*, *Oliver!*, *The Addams Family*, and *Young Frankenstein*. However, her favorite roles so far have been *Aunt Sheila* in PTC's *It Shoulda Been You* and *Widow Paroo* in *The Music Man* with Pinole Community Players. Being a part of *Willy Wonka* is special, though; it is the first time Katie will share a stage with all 4 of her kids in the same show!

Who's Who—Cast



Lucy Rapolas (Candy Man Kids & Oompa-Loompa Kids Chorus , Cook Chorus, Squirrel)

Lucy was in her mom's tummy when her family became involved in theater. She was excited to be able to perform in Disney's Lion King Jr. when she was 5 years old. Lucy caught the acting bug, and has performed in Oliver!, Seussical Jr., and Elf Jr. Her favorite roles include one of the Shining Twins in The Addams Family, and Flotsam in The Little Mermaid Jr. with Pittsburg Theatre Company. This past December, Lucy was honored to be cast as Elsa in PTC's Frozen Jr. Most recently, she played Amaryllis in The Music Man with Pinole Community Players.



Simon Rapolas (Candy Man Kids & Featured Oompa-Loompas , Cook Chorus)

Simon has grown up surrounded by the PTC family, but it took 7 years to finally get him on stage! You may have seen him as a hyena in PTC's Lion King Jr., as the Mayor of Whoville in Seussical, or as Walter Hobbs in Elf Jr. Although he has enjoyed playing two different princes in The Little Mermaid Jr. (Eric) and in Frozen Jr. (Hans), his favorite role has been Tommy in Ah, Wilderness! He is excited to be reunited with his theater friends for Willy Wonka and hopes you enjoy this fun show!



Josie Rapolas (Violet Beauregarde, Asst. Choreographer)

Josie caught the acting bug when she was just 6 years old. Since then, she has performed in over 30 shows, with some of her favorite roles being Mayzie La Bird (Seussical), Bet (Oliver!), Annie (Annie), Young Fiona (Shrek), Rafiki (The Lion King), Marie (Arisocats), Jovie (Elf), Flight Attendant Ancestor (The Addams Family), Muriel (Ah, Wilderness), and singing with the Shellie Award-winning Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat! She's been keeping busy the past few months with PTC's Young Frankenstein, Frozen Jr., and most recently The Music Man with the Pinole Community Players.



Kyle Walz-Smith (Phineous Trout)

Kyle is excited to work alongside PTC once more. A graduate of Contra Costa School of Performing Arts, Kyle has previously worked with PTC on It Shoulda Been You and A Streetcar Named Desire. Kyle is anxious to sink his teeth into the role of Phineous Trout.

Who's Who—Cast



Makayla Rhine (Charlie Bucket)

Makayla attends the Contra Costa School of Performing Arts as a Theatre major. She is excited Charlie Bucket in this iconic production of *Wonka*, while getting the chance to put a unique spin on such a classic role. She recently played Ronnette in *Little Shop of Horrors* last fall with YMTC. This is 6th production with PTC. She started acting in the summer of 2021 playing Young Simba in *Lion King Jr.* with PTC; then played Mildred in *Ah, Wilderness*; Ensemble in *Oliver*; Raynell in the Broadway World's San Francisco Award Winning Production, *Fences*; and Sour Kangaroo in *Seussical Jr.* Makayla has also been showcased on a local Berkeley television show, *Wee Poet*, which you can view on YouTube. When she is not on stage, she enjoys traveling and creating various self-care routines. Follow her journey @arayofmakayla on Instagram.



Vera Riray (Candy Man Kids & Oompa-Loompa Kids Chorus , Squirrel)

Vera's first taste of acting in musical theater was in the PTC production, *The Little Mermaid Jr.* as Mersister Alana. Her passion for theater followed when she wanted to join *Frozen Jr.* with PTC last December. She is in the 3rd grade at Foothill Elementary. Vera enjoys singing and dancing on stage and cannot wait to be a part of this show. With this being her third production at PTC, Vera is excited to continue pursuing the theater life in *Willy Wonka* with her new found friends!



Hillary Rogers (Mrs. Teavee)

Hillary has enjoyed a lifelong love of the theater, whether from the stage, the seats, or even behind the curtain. She has performed, directed, and consulted in over 50 productions. She led the theatre program at Redding School of the Arts as their Drama Director from 2009-2023, elevating their program to become an inspiration for the community. She was no stranger to the stage during her tenure there, performing in independent local theater productions that included *Oklahoma (Lorie)*, *Guys & Dolls (Sarah)*, *Matilda (Mrs. Wormwood)*, and *Shrek: The Musical (Fiona)*. She is a new member of the Pittsburg theatre community and excited to meet and get to know new colleagues, friends, and theatre supporters as she begins this new journey with her family in the Bay Area!

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Who's Who—Cast



Scarlet Santos (Candy Man Kids & Oompa-Loompa Kids Chorus , Cameraperson)

Scarlet was first introduced to musical theatre when she saw the live production of Annie at PTC. She decided to join the PTC summer workshop Little Mermaid Jr., with the role of Mer-sister Adela. After that, she could not get enough of musical theatre. She later played Thomas O'Malley in Aristocats Jr. with ECPAC. Her most favorite role was Young Anna in Frozen Jr. with PTC. Scarlet recently performed a vocal piece in her school talent show. Her other interests include drawing, arts and crafts. Scarlet is absolutely excited to work with her theatre friends again, with a new experience being a part of the Willy Wonka cast!



Sothea Saunders (Candy Man Kids & Oompa-Loompa Kids Chorus , Squirrel)

Sothea joined her 1st PTC production of Frozen Jr in December 2023, where she found her love for theater art. She is a 4th grader at Delta View Elementary. Her passion for singing and dancing started as early as 1 year old. As a toddler, her favorite song was "Let it go by Elsa". Aside from acting, she also took ballet, gymnastics, and performs Cambodian traditional dances throughout the Bay Area. During her spare time, she likes to sing and dance on TikTok. She is very excited to be a part of the Willy Wonka production.



Roberta Tibbetts (Grandma Georgina)

A drama Major at UC Berkeley with additional training at ACT, Berkeley Rep and Diablo Valley College, Roberta has worked with most of the local theater companies since 1977, appearing in roles from Shakespeare to Tennessee Williams. Some of her favorite productions, in which she performed, have been Merchant of Venice, Picnic, Bus Stop, and Night of the Iguana. She is happy to have lived to a ripe old age that allows her to play Charlie Bucket's very elderly Grandma Georgina.



Kirk Waller (Grandpa Jo)

Kirk is looking forward to returning to PTC as Grandpa Joe! His recent productions include Streetcar (Doctor), Young Frankenstein (Victor Von Frankenstein), Train Stories (John Henry/The Marsh), Dreamgirls (Emcee) and Fences (Troy Maxson), which won him Best Actor in a Play from BroadwayWorld! Kirk is also a professional storyteller (Kirkwallerstories.com) and a musician (N'goni, balafon & banjo). Think positive!

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