

KANKAKEE VALLEY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

PROUDLY PRESENTS:

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www.kvta.org

J E S U S C H R I S T **SUPERSTAR**

DIRECTED by: PAMELA RAPELJE-TRAPP

MUSIC by: ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

BOOK & LYRICS by: TIM RICE

This production is sponsored by The Daily Journal, Riverside Healthcare, Taylor Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM, and Taylor Ford of Manteno. This program is partially funded by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency and the National Endowment for the Arts.

FEB. 2ND-5TH,
2023

This production of JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR is presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals visit www.concordtheatricals.com for more information.



KVTA

A Note from the Director . . .

Jesus Christ Superstar was originally written as a concept album; an album whose tracks hold a larger meaning collectively than they do individually. A Broadway show soon followed the album, erupting into controversy, due to the fact that its composers did not include the Divinity of Jesus Christ, about whom it is written. Instead, the focus is on the human side of Jesus. I appreciate this focus. I question how I can personally relate to such a historical person, or how can I relate the stories about him, what he taught, how I can use what he taught in my own life in today's world... if I cannot relate to him as a human being.

Growing up, I remember listening to this concept album. I chose to direct this production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* as a concept show. This story has been produced in different time periods, but seeing as this particular story and its message has transcended time, I chose to focus on the emotions and psychology of being human; to focus on the emotions that Jesus, Judas, Pilate, Herod, Mary, the Apostles, the high priests, and society felt, and those that we still feel today: friendship, love, frustration, anger, fear, anxiety, anticipation, confusion, envy, satisfaction, admiration, mistrust, to name a few.

Color symbolism is used to focus on certain characters, and their relationship to Jesus. Blue represents Devotion. The Apostles are clothed in various shades of blue, which shows various levels of devotion to their teacher. Judas and Peter both wear yellow; the color of Denial and Betrayal. Caiaphas, Annas, and Pilate all wear black, representing Death. Caiaphas also wears red, a symbol of Power as High Priest. Simon Zealotes shows up in orange for Energy, as he is ready to fight against the system for Jesus. Mary shows Affection in pink.

Red is also used for the red carpet entrance of Jesus in the Overture (representing the power of Fame): first in Simon Zealotes (representing who gets the power), second in the table runner in the Last Supper (representing the power of relationship), and in one final scene (look for it) which represents the... Well, I will let you figure that one out... all representing various positions of Power that fight against each other.

Other things to look for, and I won't tell you why: posters in the Overture, Jesus' shirt, and green "palms" (Life) in Hosanna.

And I'll give you a hint to the last use of red, for Power... it's hanging on a cross...

I'm humbled that KVTa asked me back to the area to direct this show... Grateful for the space and freedom to create... So very proud of the cast and staff we put together to bring you this show... Grateful that you showed up... Hoping you realize that you are loved. Enjoy.

Pamela Rapelje-Trapp

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KVTA BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

Tickets can be purchased online at www.kvta.org.

For information, please call 815-935-8510.

Kankakee Valley Theatre Association is a not-for-profit organization. Ticket prices cover only a fraction of the cost of each performance. We welcome volunteers and appreciate donations of any size. We invite you to become a member of KVTA. Contact any Board Member for information or visit www.kvta.org.

KVTA is a Proud Member of:

- Community Arts Council - Kankakee, IL
- Illinois Arts Council
- American Association of Community Theatre
- Illinois Theatre Association - Chicago, IL
- Kankakee Chamber of Commerce
- Manteno Chamber of Commerce

Musical Numbers

Act I:

Overture

Heaven On Their Minds ~ Judas

What's The Buzz ~ Jesus, Mary, Judas, Apostles

Strange Thing, Mystifying ~ Judas, Jesus, Apostles

Everything's Alright ~ Mary, Judas, Jesus, Apostles

This Jesus Must Die ~ Caiaphas, Annas, Priests, Ensemble

Hosanna ~ Jesus, Caiaphas, Ensemble

Simon Zealotes/Poor Jerusalem ~ Simon, Jesus, Ensemble

Pilate's Dream ~ Pilate

The Temple ~ Jesus, Ensemble, Lepers

Everything's Alright Reprise ~ Mary, Jesus

I Don't Know How To Love Him ~ Mary

Damned For All Time/Blood Money ~ Judas, Caiaphas, Annas, Ensemble

Act II:

The Last Supper ~ Jesus, Judas, Apostles

Gethsemane ~ Jesus

The Arrest ~ Jesus, Peter, Apostles, Caiaphas, Annas, Ensemble

Peter's Denial ~ Peter, Mary, Ensemble

Pilate and Christ/Herod's Song ~ Pilate, Jesus, Herod, Ensemble

Could We Start Again, Please? ~ Mary, Peter, Apostles

Judas' Death ~ Judas, Caiaphas, Annas, Ensemble

Trial By Pilate/ 39 Lashes ~ Pilate, Caiaphas, Annas, Priests, Ensemble

Superstar ~ Judas, Soul Girls, Angels

Crucifixion ~ Jesus

John 19:41

Cast

(*Denotes first time in a Kankakee Valley Theatre Association production)

Jesus	Thomas McMahon
Judas	Tyler McMahon
Mary	Jordyn Ward
Simon	Dana James
Peter	Bruce Heyen
Apostles	Michelle Belair*
	Paul Bishir
	Christine Case*
	Ethan Jackson
	Nicole Klimzak
	Walter Krause
	Sara Marion
	Angela Price*
	Amanda Ringler
Caiaphas	Paul Snyder
Annas	Caspian Colbert
Herod	Kolby Meador*
Pilate	Kyle Cassady
Priests	Robert Bishir
	Elizabeth James
	Aisa Rogers*
Ensemble	Jennifer Jackson
	JoLynne Keiser*
	Debbie Oberlander*
	Kaleb Price*

Production Staff

Director Pamela Rapelje-Trapp
Assistant Director Bonnie Brewer
Co-Vocal Directors Pamela Rapelje-Trapp, Bonnie Brewer
Choreographer Mary Schwark
Production Coordinator Courtney Stephens
Costumer Terri Devine
Angel Mirkov
Set Builder Dave Atkinson
Set Decorator Donna Worth
Properties Carol Snyder
Stage Manager Brittaney Beck
Anthony Settle
Box Office Tricia Kohan
House Heather Crooks
Kim Hall
Split-the-Pot Jim Kravat
Stage Door Lounge Ellen Stringer
Cherie Parker, Kirsten Bishir
Programs Kimberly Hall
Heather Crooks, Kayla James, Courtney Stephens, Pamela Rapelje-Trapp
Publicity Sharla Ronchetto
Stephen Menard, Courtney Stephens
Lights Joel Knapper
Johannes Peddinghaus
Sound Main Street Music Production
Aubrey LaLuna



Meet the Cast

Michelle Belair (Apostle) Michelle and her husband Rick live in Orland Hills. She is employed as a Kindergarten teacher. Michelle adds, “This is my first show with KVTa but I have been performing for several years with other South Suburban groups like Orland Park and Palos Park.” Welcome to KVTa, Michelle!

Rob Bishir (Priest) Rob and his wife Kirsten live in Momence with their son Paul. Rob is employed by Johnsonville LLC. Rob was recently seen in KVTa’s 2021 production of *The Music Man*. Rob states, “Thank you to my wife for her continued support and the directors for their confidence in me. I appreciate the opportunity to perform.”

Paul Bishir (Apostle) Paul is the son of Rob and Kirsten Bishir and is a Sophomore at Momence High School. In 2021, Paul portrayed Gaston in KVTa’s production of *Beauty and the Beast JR*.

Christine Case (Apostle) Christine and her husband Stephen live in Kankakee with their children: Jack, Baylor, Char, and Harper. She is employed as a librarian at Hillcrest High School. Christine exclaims, “This is my first show ever! Thank you to my family for cheering me on and convincing me that Mom can have outside interests, too.”

Kyle Cassady (Pilate) Kyle lives in Bourbonnais with his wife Deena and children Nadia and Nathan. He is a safety and training coordinator for Shoup Manufacturing and a professional actor. Kyle holds a BA in musical theatre from Western Illinois University and has been acting professionally across the country from Montana to NYC for the past 18 years. Kyle adds, “I would like to thank Pam, Bonnie, Deena, the kids, all of the babysitters, Bill Kincaid, Mike Murray, and my Shoup manufacturing family.”

Meet the Cast

Caspian Colbert (Annas) A resident of Bradley, Caspian portrayed a Calypso Brother and was the Joseph understudy in the 2022 Highland Performing Arts Group production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. They state, “I am forever thankful for the constant support from friends and family. My love to the family I have gained with theatre; you are why I continue this adventure.”

Bruce Heyen (Peter) Bruce and his wife Janell live in Bourbonnais where he is employed at Olivet Nazarene University as a Chemistry professor. Bruce recently portrayed Sparky in KVTa’s 2022 production of *Plaid Tidings*. Bruce says, “Thanks to my wife for allowing me to be in consecutive productions, and thanks to KVTa for producing this great show!”

Ethan Jackson (Apostle) Ethan is the son of Jennifer Jackson and Steven Jackson and lives in Manteno. He is a Junior in high school. He portrayed the Beast in KVTa’s 2021 production of *Beauty and the Beast JR*.

Jennifer Jackson (Ensemble) Jennifer resides in Manteno with her children Ethan and Isabelle. She is employed as a Clinical Pharmacist. Jennifer was the Costumer for the 2022 KVTa production of Disney and Cameron Mackintosh’s *Mary Poppins JR*. Jennifer adds, “I would like to thank my children and my friends for believing in me.”

Dana James (Simon) Dana and his wife Kayla live in Kankakee with their daughters Kristina, Madison, Lily, and Abigail. He is employed by the Kankakee County Health Department. Most recently, Dana was seen as Arvide Abernathy in KVTa’s 2022 production of *Guys and Dolls*. Dana states, “Thanks to the staff, cast, volunteers, and my family for making this an unforgettable experience.”

Meet the Cast

Elizabeth James (Priest) Elizabeth lives in Bradley with her children Jace, Chance, and Penelope. Elizabeth says, “I want to thank my incredible kids for their support.”

JoLynne Keiser (Ensemble) A resident of Kankakee, JoLynne is married to David and their children are Desiree and Erick. She is a retired Social Worker. JoLynne was previously in her high school production of *Li'l Abner*. JoLynne adds, “I joined this cast as a tribute to my brother who loved the musical *Jesus Christ Superstar*.”

Nicole Klimzak (Apostle) Nicole lives in Kankakee and has a son, Miles. She is employed at LN Engineering. Nicole recently portrayed Society Max in KVTa's 2022 production of *Guys and Dolls*. Nicole states, “All my love to fellow castmates/found family T, A, and C for always being there, and to my Miles always.”

Walter Krause (Ensemble) Walter is the son of Jill and Stephen Krause of Kankakee and attends Bishop McNamara Catholic High School. In 2019, he was previously seen in KVTa's summer camp production of *High School Musical JR*. Walter says, “Thanks to the director for casting me.”

Sara Marion (Apostle) Sara and her husband Steve live in Bourbonnais with their children Nick, Jenna, Sam, and Daniel. She is employed as a planner. Sara was also a cast member in the 2021 KVTa production of *The Music Man*.

Thomas McMahon (Jesus) A resident of Bradley, Thomas is engaged to Tyler. He is employed as a paraprofessional at Liberty Intermediate School. Thomas previously portrayed Action in South Bend Civic Theatre's 2022 production of *West Side Story*. Thomas states, “Thank you to everyone involved in the production that made this show come to life the way it has. Special thanks to AACJCNMADM and especially Tyler.”

Meet the Cast

Tyler McMahon (Judas) Tyler lives in Bradley with his fiance Thomas and is employed at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center. Most recently, Tyler was the Director for the KVTa 2022 production of *Plaid Tidings*. Tyler exclaims, "Thank you to Pam, Bonnie, and Mary for making a 25 year dream come true. Thank you Thomas for everything!"

Kolby Meador (King Herod) Kolby is a Manteno resident and a Laser Retention Technician for Agiliti. He has also performed Stand Up Comedy around Chicago from 2018-2023. He was in the 2017 Acting Out Theatre Co production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Kolby adds, "I wish to thank the entire staff of KVTa for this chance to get back on the stage, and for my friends who have supported me through it all. Soli Deo Gloria!"

Debbie Oberlander (Ensemble) Debbie lives in Bourbonnais where she is a Hairstylist and Mary Kay Beauty Consultant. She was previously a Pit Singer in A Chorus Line with Acting Out Theatre Co in 2022. Debbie states, "I'm excited and blessed that my first on stage theater experience is in a production that has influenced my life since childhood!"

Angela Price (Apostle) A resident of Bourbonnais, Angela lives with her son Kaleb. She is employed as an EMT and Substitute Teacher. Angela previously portrayed Elizabeth in *Scrooge* circa '07. Angela says, "Special thanks to God for giving me strength to do all that's involved with this and to director Pamela, who truly embraced me during this production and my fellow castmates!"

Kaleb Price (Ensemble) The son of Angela Price of Bourbonnais, Kaleb is in the 5th grade. Kaleb exclaims, "This is my first major show! I want to acknowledge my mommy for encouraging me to be in a show."

Meet the Cast

Amanda Ringler (Apostle) Amanda and her husband Scott live in Kankakee. She is a Special Education Teacher at Liberty Intermediate School. Most recently, she was a part of the 2022 Palos Village Players production of *Something Rotten!* Amanda states, "I'd like to thank my husband Scott, my dear friends Thomas and Cas, and the rest of my found family for their constant love & support."

Aisa Micaiah Rogers (Priest) A resident of Bourbonnais, Aisa is a recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin Green Bay with a BA in Musical Theatre and Dance. She is employed at Olivet Nazarene University. Aisa has been in numerous productions from 2016 until now, but her favorite was Columbia in the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* from UWGB. Aisa adds, "Thank you to KVTa for allowing me the opportunity to be a part of this beautiful production. Also to my boyfriend and my family for their unconditional support."

Paul Snyder (Caiaphas) Paul lives in Kankakee and is employed at Urban Farmer. He recently portrayed Smudge in KVTa's 2022 production of *Plaid Tidings*. Paul is very excited to be on the stage again!

Jordyn Ward (Mary) Jordyn lives in Ashkum and is engaged to Sam Clark. She is a student at Paul Mitchell The School Bradley. Jordyn is also the Assistant Director for KVTa's upcoming production of *In the Heights*. Jordyn says, "I am beyond thankful to Pam for putting on such an amazing show and I am so thankful to have been a part of this really wonderful cast!"

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Meet the Production Staff

Pamela Rapelje-Trapp (Director/Vocal Co-Director) Formerly a resident of Kankakee, Pamela and her husband Greg live in Boise, Idaho. Their children are Asher, Maidie, and Aslan. Pamela's last KVTa involvement was portraying Dottie Ottley in the 2008 production of *Noises Off*. Pamela says, "I am humbled and grateful to direct this production. Returning to the area, connecting with old friends, and creating on a new stage warms my heart! Thank you to the families of cast members and staff members, for sacrificing time away from cast and crew as they prepared for this production. Thank you to Kankakee Valley Theatre Association for a safe space, both physically and mentally, to process the issues presented in this show. Thank you Greg Trapp, Asher Trapp, Maidie Trapp, Aslan Trapp, Beth Yan, Nolan Strauss, Ron and Joyce Rapelje, Lorraine Smith, and all my Dangerous Women sisters - you have carried me for so long - forever grateful."

Bonnie Brewer (Assistant Director/Vocal Co-Director) A retired music and French teacher from District 111, Bonnie is a resident of Kankakee. One of Bonnie's recent performances was portraying Mrs. Paroo in KVTa's 2021 production of *The Music Man*. Bonnie says, "Thank you to Pamela for asking me to work with her on this show."

Mary Schwark (Choreographer) Mary lives in Bradley and is employed as an Elementary School Reading Teacher. She last portrayed Judy in Acting Out Theatre's 2022 production of *A Chorus Line*. Mary exclaims, "It's an honor to choreograph my mom's favorite show! Thank you to all the cast for working so hard! Thank you to the audience for the support of community theatre!"

Courtney Stephens (Production Coordinator) Courtney resides in Bourbonnais with her husband, Zac. She is currently serving as the President of KVTa. She was also the Director of KVTa's *Frozen JR*. Courtney exclaims, "There are not enough words to thank everyone that stuck with us through all the ups and downs over the past 24 months. to bring this production to the stage. "

Meet the Production Staff

Dave Atkinson (Set Builder) Dave is a resident of Bradley and is married to Diana Mullins-Atkinson. He is employed at CSL Behring. A veteran of the theater, this is Dave's 44th KVTa production! Dave states, "Thanks to Pamela for giving me this opportunity to work on my favorite Andrew Lloyd Webber show!"

Brittaney Beck (Stage Manager) A resident of Bourbonnais, Brittaney lives with her husband Andrew Cotsones and her children Jacob and Sophia Beck. She is employed at The Exploration Station...A Children's Museum. Brittaney has been involved as a staff member in BTPD/KVTa's *A Night in Sleepy Hollow*. This is Brittaney's first production with KVTa and we are thrilled to have her!

Terri Devine (Costumer) Terri, from Orland Park, is married to Jim Ford and her children include Jack, Kate, & David Ford. Her most recent costume design was Andrew High School's January 2023 production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. Terri states, "I've worked with many of the cast before, but *Jesus Christ Superstar* is my first official endeavor with KVTa. It has been a gas bringing Pamela's vision to the stage. Break legs!"

Carol Snyder (Properties) Carol and her husband Michael live in Bourbonnais. Their children are Beth (spouse Andy), Paul, and Joe. Carol is a retired ICU RN that has worked backstage with props and other positions in numerous productions for 30 years. Carol adds, "I love working on a show with my son and am always flattered to be asked to participate in a KVTa production."

Donna Worth (Set Decorator) Donna lives in St. Anne with her husband Steve. Donna says, "I started learning set construction and decoration "on the job" 30 years ago when our children were first involved with KVTa and have been forever grateful!"

Acknowledgements

I-KAN Regional Office of Education

Frank Petkunas, I-KAN Superintendent

Karl's Kreative Fotos

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after the program was completed.



TICKETS:

6 for \$5

Arm's Length for \$10

The winning split-the-pot ticket
will be drawn at intermission.

Why Support KVTA?

The vitality of a community is determined by its cultural resources. KVTA strives for excellence. Like all other organizations, KVTA depends on support from the community to achieve this excellence. KVTA is a volunteer, community-driven organization. It takes many volunteers and many, many, man hours to produce one show. In our production season, we stage five regular season shows and more often than not, a summer production or a theatre camp for the local youth.

How can YOU make a difference?

- **Cash gifts** - every dollar makes a difference, so please give what you can.
- **Matching gifts** - double or triple the value of your gift! Please contact your human resources or corporate giving department to learn about your employer's matching gift policy.
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this season!



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YOUNG PEOPLES THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS:

PLAYING AT LINCOLN
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240 WARREN AVE. KANKAKEE, IL 60901

TICKETS:
www.kvta.org

Disney
MOANA

DIRECTED by: PAULA SUTTER

JR.



This production is sponsored by The Daily Journal, Riverside Healthcare, Taylor Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM, and Taylor Ford of Manteno. This program is partially funded by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency and the National Endowment for the Arts.

MAR 17TH @7PM
18TH @2PM
19TH @2PM, 2023

This production of MOANA JR. is presented through special arrangement with MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI). Visit www.mtishows.org for more information.

MUSIC & LYRICS by:
LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA, OPETAIA FOA'I &
MARK MANCINA

BOOK ADAPTED & ARRANGED by:
SUSAN SOON HE STANTON

MUSIC & ORCHESTRATIONS ADAPTED &

ARRANGED by:

IAN WEINBERGER

BASED ON THE 2016 FILM "MOANA"



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TICKETS:
www.kvta.org

IN THE HEIGHTS

DIRECTED by: SHARLA RONCHETTO

MUSIC AND LYRICS by:

LIN MANUEL MIRANDA

BOOK by:

QUIARA ALEGERIA HUDES

CONCEIVED by:

LIN MANUEL MIRANDA

This production is sponsored by The Daily Journal, Riverside Healthcare, Taylor Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM, and Taylor Ford of Manteno. This program is partially funded by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency and the National Endowment for the Arts.

APRIL 29TH & 30TH
MAY 6TH & 7TH, 2023

This production of *IN THE HEIGHTS* is presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals visit www.concordtheatricals.com for more information.



KVTA