

KANKAKEE VALLEY THEATRE ASSOCIATION'S

YOUNG PEOPLES THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS:

PLAYING AT LINCOLN
CULTURAL CENTER
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.

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"

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.



A Note from the Director . . .

Directing *Moana JR* was a true pleasure. The 54 young people we cast are talented, respectful, and kind. They came to rehearsal every night ready to have fun, but also ready to work. They amazed me each day. I had so much fun bringing this Disney story to life! I hope all the students realize with hard work and determination they too can accomplish anything they set out to do!

A HUGE thanks to my incredible staff, crew, cast and Moana parents for all the love and dedication you have shown to me and to this production. Your willingness to do whatever needed to be done has been exceptional! Thanks also to the audience for coming to the show!

Your support of the youth in our community and Kankakee Valley Theatre Association is genuinely appreciated!

Paula Sutter

KVTA Thanks



for their support this season!



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We are beyond grateful for
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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

Scenes & Musical Numbers

Scene 1: Prologue

In the Beginning Ancestors, Ancestor Ensemble, Villagers

Tulou Tagaloa Ocean Ensemble

Scene 2: The Shore/The Village

Where You Are.....Chief Tui, Sina, Moana, Hei Hei, Pua, Gramma Tala, Villagers

Scene 3: The Village

Scene 4: The Shore

How Far I'll Go.....Moana, Hei Hei, Pua, Ocean Ensemble

We Know the Way.....Chief Ancestors and Ancestor Ensemble

Where You Are (Reprise).....Gramma Tala

How Far I'll Go (Reprise).....Moana, Chief Ancestors, Ocean Ensemble

Scene 5: Maui's Island

You're Welcome.....Maui, Maui Ensemble

Scene 6: At Sea

Warrior Face (Parts 1 and 2).....Maui, Moana

Scene 7: Lalotia

Warrior Face (Part 3).....Maui, Moana, Gate Monsters

Scene 8: Tamatoa's Lair

Shiny.....Tamatoa, Claws, Shiny Ensemble

Scene 9: At Sea

Warrior Face (Reprise)/Logo Te Pate.....Moana, Maui, Ocean Ensemble

Scene 10: At Sea, Near Te KÁ

Song of the Ancestors.....Gramma Tala, Moana, Chief Ancestors, Ancestor Ensemble

Know Who You Are.....Moana, Ocean Ensemble

Te Fiti Restored.....Ocean Ensemble

Tulou Tagaloa (Reprise).....Ocean Ensemble

Scene 11: Montunui Shore

We Know the Way (Finale).....Moana, Chief Tui, Sina, Hei Hei, Pua

Chief Ancestors, Ancestor Ensemble, Villagers, Ocean Ensemble

Bows..... Company

Cast

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

MoanaAbby Purcell
Chief Ancestors.....Emma Van Voorst*, Kane Rushing*, Savannah Whittington*
Maui.....Andrew Bush
Chief Tui.....Hunter Lockhart
Sina.....Mary Alice Kunz
Pua.....Chloe Shinabarger*
Hei Hei..... Zoey Christensen
Gramma Tala..... Hannah Mantooth
Tamatoa..... Lillian Longtin
Left Claw Harper Case
Right Claw..... Kaliph Whitlow*
Te Fiti/TeKÁ..... Alejandra Gomez*

Ocean Ensemble

Lauren Balk, Ruby Christensen, Melaina Hall, JoAnna Jenkins*, Lucy Leroy, Adelyn
Lindsay, Audrey McPhail, Amelia Nugent, Haley O'Keefe, Alyssa Pfeiffer, Kolbee
Shoufler, Essence Talley*, Kylie Veit, Olivia Zwirkoski

Villagers

Bella Beaver*, Sevin Casey, Kinley Collins, Jackson Day, Emma Froeschle, Alejandra
Gomez*, Margie Hess, Lily James, Kaitlyn Kenney, Breckin Lebda*, Austin Lyle, Daniel
Marion, Margot Mau-Bridges, Artie Meyer, Ella Nitschke, Cole Pilbeam, Kindall
Rasmussen*, Adrianna Udstuen, Luke Williams*

Maui Ensemble

Bella Beaver*, Harper Case, Sevin Casey, Kinley Collins, Lily James, Liam Johnson,
Kaitlyn Kenney, Breckin Lebda*, Daniel Marion, Kindall Rasmussen*, Leia Skutt*,
Adrianna Udstuen, Kaliph Whitlow*

Shiny Ensemble

Sevin Casey, Jackson Day, Emma Froeschle, Geselle Fuentes, Lily James, Liam Johnson,
Kaitlyn Kenney, Harper Linnell*, Margot Mau-Bridges, Naimah Mans, Cole Pilbeam,
Kindall Rasmussen*, Peytan Sandeno*, Leia Skutt*

Gate Monsters

Kinley Collins, Thane Fruehling*, Margie Hess, Austin Lyle, Artie Meyer, Ella Nitschke,
Anneliese Troendle*, Luke Williams*

Ancestor Ensemble

Geselle Fuentes, Thane Fruehling*, Liam Johnson, Harper Linnell*, Naimah Mans,
Peytan Sandeno*, Leia Skutt*, Anneliese Troendle*

Understudies

Moana - JoAnna Jenkins*
Maui - Hunter Lockhart
Chief Tui - Jackson Day

Production Staff

Director	Paula Sutter
Assistant Director	Beth Sutter
Vocal Director	Amy Shinabarger
Choreographer	Victoria Wiskniewski
Production Coordinator	Kimberly Hall
Costumer	Kayla James
Jeanne Brown, Katie Kunz, Michelle Lockhart, Megan Pilbeam, Parents/Guardians of cast	
Set Builder	Mark Sutter
Set Decorator	Erin Thomas
Jerrod Collins, Michelle Lockhart, Kim McPhail, Art Meyer, Casey Meyer, Margie Meyer, Nick Troendle, Stephanie Troendle, Balian Troendle, Aidan Troendle, Addie Udstuen, Katie Udstuen, Candice Van Voorst, Grant Van Voorst	
Rehearsal Pianist.....	Gwen Fox
Properties	Aubrey LaLuna
Co-Stage Managers	Jenny Molthan, Scott Molthan
Christina Jordan, Todd Lindsay, Art Meyer, Emmerson Rushing, Mark Sutter, Katie Udstuen	
Hair.....	Heather Norden-Lebda
Box Office	Tricia Kohan
House	Heather Crooks
Kimberly Hall	
Split-the-Pot	Jim Kravat
Kid Patrol.....	Cyndee Mantooth
Parents/Guardians of cast	
Stage Door Lounge	Rozy Labriola
Programs	Kimberly Hall
Heather Crooks, Kayla James, Courtney Stephens, Paula Sutter	
Publicity	Sharla Ronchetto
Stephen Menard, Courtney Stephens, Andrew McBurnie	
Lights	Brad Mietzner
Sound	Main Street Music Production
Dana James	

Meet the Cast

Lauryn Balk (Ocean Ensemble) Lauryn is the daughter of Doug and Amanda Balk of Bourbonnais and attends St. George Elementary. Lauryn previously performed in KVTa's 2022 production of *Mary Poppins JR*. Lauryn states, "I would like to thank my friends and family for always pushing me to be my best and try my hardest. I also thank my sister for all the tips on performing."

Bella Beaver (Maui Ensemble, Villager) A student at Bradley Central, Bella is the daughter of Jennifer Aldridge and Gregory Beaver. In 2022, Bella was seen in the Bradley Central performance of *Annie JR*. Bella adds, "Thank you to my mom and dad for always being there. A special thank you to my sister Jillian for all the help with getting me ready for tryouts."

Andrew Bush (Maui) Andrew is the son of Allison and Greg Bush and is in the 6th grade at Liberty Intermediate School in Bourbonnais. Andrew most recently portrayed Akela in the KVTa 2022 production of *The Jungle Book*. Andrew says, "A very big thank you to Miss Paula and the rest of the team for your confidence in me and to my family for your continued support and encouragement."

Harper Case (Left Claw, Maui Ensemble) The son of Stephen and Christine Case of Kankakee, Harper is a 5th grader at Kennedy Middle School. In 2022, Harper was Man Father and Chil the Vulture in KVTa's *The Jungle Book*. Harper exclaims, "I'm having so much fun! Thank you to Ms. Paula for including me, to my family for their support, and to the Halls for all the rides."

Sevin Casey (Shiny Ensemble, Maui Ensemble, Villager) A 4th grader at Liberty Intermediate, Sevin is the daughter of Brandon and Lindy Casey of Bourbonnais. *Moana JR* is Sevin's 4th production with KVTa! Sevin states, "I would like to thank Ms. Paula, Ms. Beth, and the KVTa directors for making *Moana JR* fun!"

Ruby Christensen (Ocean Ensemble) Ruby is the daughter of Scott and Sara Christensen of Kankakee and is an 8th grader at Kankakee Junior High School. In 2022, Ruby portrayed Veruca Salt in the KJHS production of *Willie Wonka JR*. Ruby adds, "I'd like to thank my family for supporting me and all the people who have encouraged my music, drama, and dance this past year."

Meet the Cast

Zoey Christensen (Hei-Hei) Zoey is a 2nd grader at Taft Elementary School and is the daughter of Scott and Sara Christensen of Kankakee. Zoey recently performed in *The Jungle Book* with KVTa in 2022. Zoey says, "I'd like to thank my family for encouraging me and all the people who believe in me and support me singing and doing theatre."

Kinley Collins (Villager, Maui Ensemble, Gate Monster) Kinley lives in Bourbonnais with her parents Jerod and Kristin Collins where she is a 4th grader at Liberty Intermediate. Kinley was a Teacup in 2021 with KVTa's *Beauty and the Beast JR*. Kinley exclaims, "I'm so excited to be a part of *Moana JR* this year. I love doing musicals!"

Jackson Day (Villager, Shiny Ensemble, Chief Tui Understudy) The son of Robert and Heather Day of Bourbonnais, Jackson is a 5th grader at St. George Elementary School. He was a Storyteller in the KVTa 2022 production of *The Jungle Book*. Jackson states, "I would like to thank Mrs. Paula and all staff members for supporting me and others within this musical."

Emma Froeschle (Villager, Shiny Ensemble) A 5th grader at Manteno Middle School, Emma lives with her parents Paul and Stacey Froeschle. She previously performed as Amaryllis in the 2021 KVTa production of *The Music Man*. Emma says, "Thank you to everyone involved with the show for making this such a fantastic experience. I have had so much fun!"

Thane Fruehling (Maui Ensemble, Ancestor Ensemble, Gate Monster) Thane is the son of Mike and Rachel Fruehling of Bourbonnais and is in the 4th grade. This is his first KVTa experience! Thane adds, "Thank you for this wonderful experience! I have had so much fun and met so many friends."

Geselle Fuentes (Ancestor Ensemble, Shiny Ensemble) Geselle is the daughter of Teresa Fuentes and Gabriel Fuentes of Kankakee and is in the 6th grade at King Middle School. Geselle performed in the 2022 KVTa Summer Camp *We Will Rock You*. Geselle says, "Thank you to my mom, my lovely sister, and everyone else that has supported me."

Meet the Cast

Alejandra Gomez (Te Fiti/TeKÁ, Villager) The daughter of Amalia Carmona and Alejandro Gomez, Alejandra is a student at BBCHS. She was recently in the ensemble in the 2022 BBCHS performance of *The Little Mermaid*. Alejandra states, "Thank you to all the staff members and theatre kids who have worked hard to bring this musical to life!"

Melaina Hall (Ocean Ensemble) A 6th grader at King Middle Grade School, Melaina is the daughter of Dan and Kimberly Hall of Kankakee. One of Melaina's favorite roles was playing Young Elsa in KVTa's 2019 *Frozen JR* production. Melaina adds, "Thanks to my parents for supporting me, Mrs Paula for casting me, Mrs Vicky for teaching us the excellent dances, and Mrs Amy for teaching us the really hard words in Samoan."

Margie Hess (Villager, Gate Monster) Margie is the daughter of Jason and Cathy Hess of New Lenox and is in the 4th grade at Nelson Ridge School. In 2021, she played Gracie Shinn in KVTa's *The Music Man*. Margie says, "I would like to thank my family and all my friends for being supportive and helping me along this incredible journey with KVTa."

Lily James (Villager, Maui Ensemble, Shiny Ensemble) Lily is a student at LCC Montessori and is the daughter of Dana and Kayla James. One of her favorite roles was portraying Shere Khan in KVTa's 2022 *The Jungle Book*. Lily states, "Thank you to my family and friends for being supportive through the whole show. Thank you to Ms. Paula, Ms. Beth, Ms. Amy, Ms. Vicky and Ms. Gwen for being so kind and helpful."

JoAnna Jenkins (Moana Understudy, Ocean Ensemble) The daughter of Mallory and Patrick Jenkins of Bourbonnais, JoAnna is a student at Bradley Central Middle School. In 2022, she played Annie in Bradley Central's performance of *Annie JR*. JoAnna adds, "Thank you to Ms. Paula and all the other crew members who made this show possible. I am so grateful for the new friendships that were formed with my cast mates."

Liam Johnson (Maui Ensemble, Shiny Ensemble, Ancestor Ensemble) A 6th grader at Bishop McNamara, Liam is the son of Dan and Jen Johnson of Bourbonnais. He most recently portrayed Mowgli in KVTa's 2022 *The Jungle Book*. Liam says, "I'd like to thank Mrs. Paula for always making the KVTa shows so much fun! I love being a part of KVTa."

Meet the Cast

Kaitlyn Kenney (Maui Ensemble, Villager, Shiny Ensemble) Kaitlyn is the daughter of Rob and Lisa Kenney of Bourbonnais and is an 8th grader at St. Paul's Lutheran School. She was the Peacock in KVTa's 2022 *The Jungle Book*. Kaitlyn exclaims, "Thank you to Ms. Paula and KVTa for this wonderful opportunity!"

Mary Alice Kunz (Sina) A student at St. Paul's Lutheran School, Mary Alice is in the 8th grade. She lives in Bourbonnais with her parents Ben and Kate Kunz. She was last seen on the KVTa stage in *The Jungle Book* in 2022. Mary Alice says, "Thanks to Miss Paula and staff for this opportunity to exercise my maternal instincts."

Breckin Lebda (Villager, "Mini Maui" in Maui Ensemble) The son of Tom Lebda and Heather Norden-Lebda of Kankakee, Breckin is Home Schooled. This is Breckin's first show and he is in awe of the cast surrounding him and looks up to the entire cast. He has loved making new friends!

Lucy LeRoy (Ocean Ensemble) Lucy is a freshman at Grace Christian Academy and is the daughter of Mary and Justin LeRoy of Kankakee. Lucy performed in two productions through the Kankakee schools last year. Lucy states, "I want to thank all of my friends and family for always helping and encouraging me especially through my first year in high school."

Adelyn Lindsay (Ocean Ensemble) Adelyn is the daughter of Todd and Catherine Lindsay of Bourbonnais and is in the 6th grade at Liberty Intermediate School. This is Adelyn's 4th KVTa production dating back to 2019. Adelyn would like to thank all of her cast mates and staff who help put on these awesome shows. Also thanks to her parents and big brother for all of the support!

Harper Linnell (Shiny Ensemble, Ancestor Ensemble) Harper attends Liberty Intermediate School and is the daughter of Eric and Erin Linnell of Bourbonnais. She has previously performed in various musicals through College Church of the Nazarene from 2019-2022. Harper shares, "I am excited to be in *Moana JR* because I really like musicals. This is my first time outside of church musicals or dance recitals. I am having a lot of fun."

Meet the Cast

Hunter Lockhart (Chief Tui, Maui Understudy) The son of Michelle and Scott Lockhart of Braidwood, Hunter is a Homeschooled 7th grader. In 2019, Hunter played Olaf in KVTa's *Frozen JR*. Hunter wants to thank his family for the love and support they show. Also, a special thank you to Ms. Paula for allowing him to have this valuable experience.

Lillian Longtin (Tamatoa) Lillian is in the 8th grade at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center and is the daughter of Hollie White and Tony Longtin of Bourbonnais. Her last production was in KVTa's *The Jungle Book* in 2022. Lillian adds, "Thank you to my parents and all the KVTa staff for making this experience possible!"

Austin Lyle (Villager, Gate Monster) Austin is the son of Jeremy and Tracy Lyle of Bourbonnais and is in the 5th grade at Liberty Intermediate School. In 2022, Austin portrayed Grey Brother in *The Jungle Book* with KVTa. Austin says, "Thank you to everyone who helped put on this play."

Naimah Mans (Ancestor Ensemble, Shiny Ensemble) The daughter of Tarsha Miller-Mans of Kankakee, Naimah is Homeschooled. She last portrayed Man Mother in KVTa's 2022 production of *The Jungle Book*. Naimah exclaims, "Thank you so much for making this play happen! I'm super excited for what else the crew has in store for all of us. I am also super excited to see the shiny set."

Hannah Mantooth (Gramma Tala) Hannah lives in Limestone with her parents Ron and Cyndee Mantooth and is Homeschooled. She has performed in various KVTa performances with the latest being *Mary Poppins JR* in 2022. Hannah shares, "Thank you to my mom and dad for their love and support and my sisters who always encourage me. Thank you to the directors for gifting me with this performance."

Daniel Marion (Villager, Maui Ensemble) Daniel attends St. George School and resides in Bourbonnais with his parents Steve and Sara Marion. Performing in the ensemble of KVTa's 2021 *The Music Man* was one of Daniel's favorite productions. Daniel adds, "Thanks to Ms. Vicky and Ms. Amy for teaching dance and vocals and thanks to Ms. Paula and Ms. Beth for directing."

Meet the Cast

Margot Mau-Bridges (Villager, Shiny Ensemble) Margot is in the 7th grade at Lincoln Cultural Center and is the daughter of Carra Mau-Bridges and Jesse Bridges of Kankakee. This is Margot's seventh show with KVTa, and she has enjoyed every show she's been in. Margot says, "Thanks to everyone who made this show happen, including the audience, who supported this show."

Audrey McPhail (Ocean Ensemble) The daughter of Chris and Kim McPhail, Audrey is in the 7th grade at Kankakee Junior High School. She was previously in *The Jungle Book* with KVTa in 2022. Audrey adds, "I have had so much fun being in this production."

Artie Meyer (Villager, Gate Monster) Artie lives in Kankakee with his parents Arthur and Casey Meyer and is in the 4th grade at Herscher Intermediate School. He was recently seen on the KVTa stage as Chip in *Beauty and the Beast JR* in 2021. Artie states, "Thank you so much to my Grandma for being the rehearsal pianist and to my parents for all their help and support."

Ella Nitschke (Villager, Gate Monster) Ella is in the 8th grade at Grace Christian Academy and lives in Kankakee with her mother Rebecca Nitschke. She previously portrayed Mao in 2022 in KVTa's *The Jungle Book*. Ella says, "Thanks to my mom for her constant support and taking me to and from practice."

Amelia Nugent (Ocean Ensemble) The daughter of Devin and Monica Nugent of Manteno, Amelia is a 5th grader at Bishop McNamara Catholic School. In 2022, Amelia played the part of Jane in KVTa's *Mary Poppins JR*. Amelia shares, "I would like to thank my parents, family, directors, my fellow cast-mates, and the audience. You all encourage me to work harder at acting! Thank you so much!"

Haley O'Keefe (Ocean Ensemble) Haley attends St. Paul's Lutheran School where she is an 8th grader. She is the daughter of Amanda O'Keefe and Matthew O'Keefe of Bourbonnais. Her last production with KVTa was in 2022, when she portrayed Ikki in *The Jungle Book*. Haley adds, "I would like to thank all directors and staff for casting me and putting this show together. I would like to thank my parents for their support and for bringing me."

Meet the Cast

Alyssa Pfeiffer (Ocean Ensemble) A 7th grader at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center, Alyssa is the daughter of Scott and Jenny Molthan of Bourbonnais. Alyssa most recently performed with KVTa in *Mary Poppins JR* in 2022. Alyssa states, “I want to thank my family and friends for always supporting me. Also thanks to the directors for casting me in this role. Thank you for believing in me!”

Cole Pilbeam (Villager, Shiny Ensemble) Cole lives in Manteno with his parents Megan and Mike Pilbeam and he is in the 5th grade. One of Cole’s favorite roles was that of a Penguin and the Understudy for Michael in KVTa’s 2022 production of *Mary Poppins JR*. Cole says, “Thank you to all who have believed in me and supported my love for theater!”

Abby Purcell (Moana) The daughter of Andy and Meredith Purcell of Manteno, Abby is in the 10th Grade at Bishop McNamara Catholic School. She recently portrayed Winifred Banks in 2022 with KVTa’s *Mary Poppins JR*. Abby shares, “Thank you to my family for their encouragement. I am so grateful to Mrs. Paula for the opportunity to work with this amazing cast and production staff.”

Kindall Rasmussen (Shiny Ensemble, Maui Ensemble, Villager) Kindall attends Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center and is the daughter of William and Lindsey Rasmussen of Bourbonnais. She was previously seen in BBTEP’s *Alice in Wonderland*. Kindall adds, “Thank you to the Moana staff for this opportunity. I have learned so much about theater. A special thank you to all my friends and family for their support.”

Kane Rushing (Chief Ancestor 3) Kane is the son of Rebeccah Rushing, Jerome Warner, and Emerson and Andrea Rushing. He is in the 7th grade at Limestone Middle School. Kane is excited this is his first production with KVTa!

Peytan Sandeno (Shiny Ensemble, Ancestor Ensemble) Peytan lives in Bourbonnais with his parents Rebecca and Dan Sandeno. He is an 8th grader at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center. He was recently in the Feeder School Ensemble for BBCHS’ *The Little Mermaid* in 2022. Peytan says, “Congratulations to all the KVTa cast members and thank you to the staff for all their hard work on this production.”

Meet the Cast

Chloe Shinabarger (Pua) A student at Bradley West, Chloe is the daughter of Amy and Jonathan Shinabarger of Bradley. Chloe previously performed in her church's Christmas musicals in 2021 and 2022. Chloe states, "Thank you to the staff for organizing such an awesome show!"

Kolbee Shoufler (Ocean Ensemble) The daughter of Adam and Karen Shoufler of Watseka, Kolbee is in the 4th Grade. She began her on stage experience as Baby Wendy in IYB *Nutcracker* at the age of 3. Kolbee shares, "Thank you to my parents for bringing me to practices and their support, to Miss Paula for pushing us to try harder, and Laura for helping me prepare for the audition."

Leia Skutt (Ancestor Ensemble, Shiny Ensemble, Maui Ensemble) A 3rd grader at St. Paul's Lutheran School, Leia is the daughter of James and Amanda Skutt of Bourbonnais. She previously performed in *School House Rock JR* in 2020 with St. Paul's Lutheran School. Leia is thankful for all the love and support she receives from her family, friends, and the amazing cast and production crew of Moana Jr.

Essence Talley (Ocean Ensemble) Essence lives in Sun River Terrace with her mother Cynthia Talley and is an 8th grader at Kankakee Jr. High School. Essence is excited this is her first performance with KVTa!

Anneliese Troendle (Ancestor Ensemble, Maui Ensemble, Gate Monster) Along with her parents Nick and Stephanie Troendle, Anneliese lives in Saint Anne. She is in the 2nd grade at Kankakee Trinity Academy. This is Anneliese's first show with KVTa!

Adrianna Udstuen (Villager, Maui Ensemble) Adrianna is the daughter of Mike and Katie Udstuen of Monee and attends Peotone Junior High. In 2022, she played the part of Raksha in *The Jungle Book* with KVTa. Adrianna shares, "I'd like to thank my parents and family for supporting me in my dream of acting, my Directors for helping me perform my best, and my choir teacher for helping me."

Meet the Cast

Emma Van Voorst (Chief Ancestor 1) Emma is in the 8th grade at St. Paul's Lutheran School and is the daughter of Candice Van Voorst and Grant Van Voorst. She was recently in the 2022 Bishop McNamara musical, *The Last Oz Story*. This is Emma's first production with KVTa!

Kylie Veit (Ocean Ensemble) An 8th grader at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center, Kylie is the daughter of Kristian and Beth Veit of Bourbonnais. Kylie previously performed in the 2022 KVTa production of *The Jungle Book*. Kylie adds, "I would like to thank my family and friends for supporting me through the show. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity!"

Kaliph Whitlow (Right Claw, Maui Ensemble) The son of Christina Jordan and Kaliph Whitlow Sr. of Kankakee, Kaliph attends Kankakee Junior High School. Kaliph says, "I have always wanted to be cast in a play and KVTa allowed me the opportunity. I'm very grateful for this opportunity!"

Savannah Whittington (Chief Ancestor 2) Savannah lives in Bradley with her parents Rodney and April Whittington and is in the 8th grade at Bourbonnais Upper Grade Center. Savannah states, "Thanks to everyone at KVTa for giving me this opportunity."

Luke Williams (Villager, Gate Monster) Luke is a 5th grader at Liberty Intermediate School and lives in Bourbonnais with his parents Dave and Brittany Williams. He previously performed with BBCHS in their 2022 production of *The Little Mermaid*. Luke would like to thank his parents for introducing him to the wonderful world of theatre. Luke says, "Thank you, KVTa, for this special opportunity."

Olivia Zwirkoski (Ocean Ensemble) An 8th grader at St. Paul's Lutheran School, Olivia lives in Manteno with her parents Adam and Kristin Zwirkoski. Olivia recently portrayed Mrs. Corry and a Chimney Sweep in KVTa's 2022 production of *Mary Poppins JR*. Olivia shares, "I am so grateful to my parents for driving me around everywhere and my directors for all the hard work they put into this show! All the glory goes to God!"

Meet the Production Staff

Paula Sutter (Director) Paula and her husband Mark live in Bonfield. Their family includes daughter Beth, son Josh and daughter-in-law Amanda, and granddaughters Adelaide and Veda. Paula is retired from the I-Kan Regional Office of Education. She was most recently the Director for KVTa's *The Jungle Book* in 2022. Paula shares, "Thanks to my family, staff, cast members families, and the KVTa Board members for your support. This was a great group of kids and I loved working with them."

Beth Sutter (Assistant Director) A resident of Bonfield, Beth is employed at Applied Systems. She was recently the Co-Director for KVTa's 2022 production of **Peter and the Starcatcher**. Beth adds, "I would like to thank my family and friends for always supporting me! My love for theatre came once my mom found KVTa and the rest is history."

Amy Shinabarger (Vocal Director) Amy and her husband Jonathan live in Bradley with their daughter Chloe. She is the Band Director for Bishop McNamara Catholic School. You might have seen Amy on stage as Specs in KVTa's 2018 production of *Newsies*. Amy says, "Thanks KVTa for continually giving me a chance."

Victoria Wisniewski (Choreographer) Victoria lives in Bourbonnais with her husband Chris and she is employed at Milner Media Partners. Victoria recently shared her dancing onstage as Zaneeta Shinn in KVTa's 2021 production of *The Music Man*. Victoria shares, "Kiddos, you've been a dream. Remember, "V" out and respect the heart of the charger! Chris, thanks for doing the housework while I've been gone..."

Kimberly Hall (Production Coordinator) A resident of Kankakee, Kimberly lives with her husband Dan and children Holden and Melaina. She is a Physical Therapist and Director of Rehabilitation Services at Ascension Saint Mary. She was the Co-Production Coordinator for KVTa's *The Jungle Book* in 2022. Kimberly states, "Thanks to the amazing cast, crew, and parents for such a phenomenal show experience!"

Gwen Fox (Rehearsal Pianist) Gwen is married to Michael J. Fox and they reside in Bonfield. They have three grown children: Casey, Ryan, and Rachel, and five (soon to be six) grandchildren: Gwendalynn, Margie, Artie, Elliott, Boyd, and Baby Fox joining us in September! Gwen is a retired Kindergarten teacher. She was recently the Rehearsal Pianist for *Beauty and the Beast JR* in 2021 with KVTa. Gwen says, "I do enjoy working with such talented kids!!!!"

Meet the Production Staff

Kayla James (Costumer) Kayla lives in Kankakee with her husband Dana and daughters Kristina, Madison, Lily, and Abigail. She recently shared her costuming skills with the 2021 KVTa production of *Beauty and the Beast JR*. Kayla adds, "Thank you to my husband and girls for supporting another KVTa show. I'm grateful for them and all of my sewing helpers for this show."

Aubrey LaLuna (Props) A resident of Kankakee, Aubrey is a Support Technician with Applied Systems. Aubrey has been involved with several productions on and off stage across multiple theatre companies. Aubrey says, "Thank you to Paula and Beth for asking me to be part of this production, and thank you to Erin and Kayla for their help and guidance!"

Scott and Jenny Molthan (Co-Stage Managers) Scott and Jenny live in Bourbonnais with their daughter Alyssa. Scott is a general contractor with HW Molthan & Son and Jenny is a teacher. Scott and Jenny share, "Thank you Paula for entrusting us with this new opportunity. It was fun to work together and be a part of this show with Alyssa."

Mark Sutter (Set Builder) Mark and his wife Paula live in Bonfield. He has been a set builder for multiple KVTa productions. Mark says, "Thanks to all the parents that helped to make this show possible."

Erin Thomas (Set Decorator) Erin lives in Bourbonnais with her husband Mike Thomas and children Vince and Ezra Soper. She is employed in Grounds and Maintenance for the Kankakee South KOA Holiday. Erin has worked on sets and props for a number of shows, most recently the set decorator for KVTa's 2022 *The Jungle Book*. Erin adds, "Thanks to my family for keeping the household afloat. Thanks, Paula, for trusting me. Thanks to all the parents that pitched in to make this happen!"



This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency through federal funds provided by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Acknowledgements

I-KAN Regional Office of Education ~ Frank Petkunas, Superintendent

Kim Starkey, Principal LCC ~ Tara Kanoski ~ LCC Custodial Staff

Karl's Kreative Fotos ~ Steve Scoggan Video Productions

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Scott Porter ~ Sign Here ~ Superior Embroidery

Andrew McBurnie Videography ~ Van Voorst Lumber

Warburton Storage ~ Duane Brumitt's Tri Star Martial Arts Academy

Jeff Schneider ~ Karen Shoufler Photography

Tim Gordon, Chicago Dough Pizza Company

Amy Kostbade, Coal City United Methodist Church

*Special thanks to those who made donations or volunteered
after the program was completed.*



TICKETS:

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Arm's Length for \$10

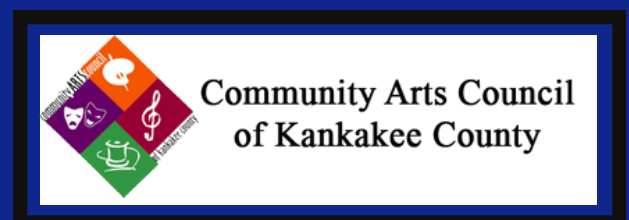
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Why Support KVTA?

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.

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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



FALL 2023

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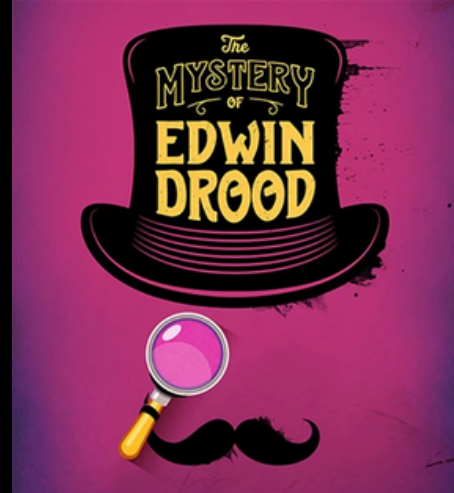


2023



2024

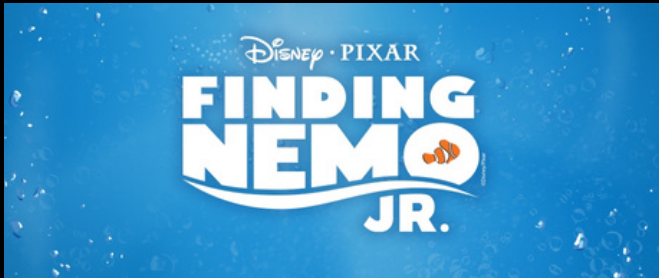
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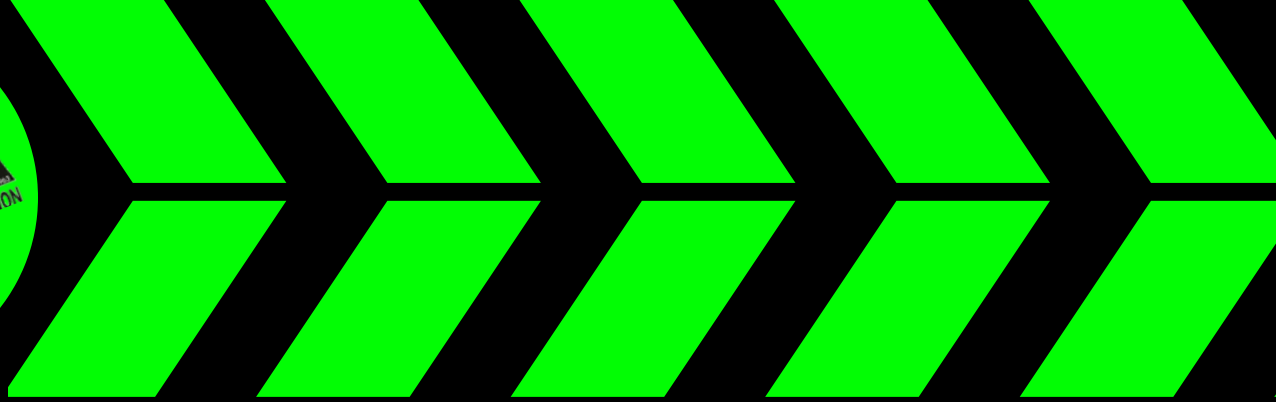
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INTERVIEWS

MONDAY, MARCH 27
KVTA STUDIOS
BEGINNING AT 6:15 PM

APPLICATIONS

READ THE APPLICANT
INFORMATION AT:
WWW.KVTA.ORG