

# PVA BILL

Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts Presents



the *virtual* musical

PREMIERES  
JANUARY 15, 2021  
7 P.M.

**HSPVA**  
Kinder High School for the  
Performing and Visual Arts

The Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts  
Production of



THE MUSICAL

CONCEIVED AND DEVELOPED BY **David De Silva**

BOOK BY  
**Jose Fernandez**

LYRICS BY  
**Jacques Levy**

MUSIC BY  
**Steven Margoshes**

TITLE SONG " FAME " WRITTEN BY **Dean Pitchford and Michael Gore**

PRODUCTION DESIGNER  
**Colin Mee**

PUBLICITY  
**Alexa Halim**

COSTUME LEADS  
**Anna Grace Hethcox  
& Sarah Painter**

PROPS LEAD  
**Liza  
Stckney**

STAGE MANAGER  
**Charlotte  
Stallings**

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
**Anna Marie  
Tobin**

PRODUCER  
**Jonathan  
Klein**

TECHNICAL/DESIGN SUPERVISORS

**Paul  
Davis**

**Dana  
Harrell**

**Travis  
Horstmann**

**Claudia  
Rodriguez**

MUSIC DIRECTOR  
**Ian Dessauer**

VIDEO DESIGNER  
**Nicholas Lam**

VOCAL DIRECTION BY  
**Melanie C. Bivens**

CHOREOGRAPHED BY  
**Christian Warner**

DIRECTED BY  
**Olson Scott Kelly**

Originally produced at the Coconut Grove Playhouse,  
Arnold Mittleman, Producing Artistic Director.

FAME

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.



Chairs Lauren Anderson, M. Kaye DeWalt, & Winell Herron  
cordially invite you to

## HSPVA Friends' 15th Annual Encore Event

Join us for a night of live and virtual performances, gourmet goodies, and more as we honor **2021 Distinguished Alum Justin Simien (Theatre '01)**, writer and director of film and television.



Justin Simien (Theatre '01)

Encore at the Drive-In  
Tuesday, March 30th  
Moonstruck Drive-In Cinema  
Tickets available online at  
[hspvafriends.org/encore](https://hspvafriends.org/encore)



# LETTER *from the* DIRECTOR

Forty years ago, the movie *Fame* premiered, chronicling the lives of the students at New York City's High School of the Performing Arts. We watched the students' various dramas play out as they navigated a challenging school environment fueled by the love of their art. The film's success spawned a TV series and stage musical, making the name *Fame* synonymous with performing arts schools. I took a tour of HSPVA shortly after moving to Houston. As I walked down the halls—hearing music playing, looking at art displays, and hearing Shakespeare being recited from classrooms—*Fame* was the very first thing I thought of.

The thing I love most about this musical is how truly representative it is of Kinder HSPVA's own environment. Students in the show are divided into their tracks of actors, dancers, and musicians, but work together to create art and further their connections with one another. These themes ring especially true in our current environment, where school communities must remain apart, and the creation of art faces hurdles never imagined. Throughout this process, we've had to create new ways to represent the character's connection to one another. We've had to reinvent how we rehearse and perform a musical; collaborating on new ways to authentically tell this story.

I'm incredibly proud of the students involved in this production, from the performers, to the musicians, designers, video editors, and stage management team. This is truly an "all-school" musical in that students from every track at PVA have played a role in its creation. We're fortunate that in a year where musical theatre struggles to exist, we've been able to create something truly unique together. This gives us hope, and reignites our passion for storytelling as the world starts to resume some semblance. "Bring on tomorrow, we can't wait!"

It's been an honor to collaborate with the students of HSPVA on this production. I'm also honored to have collaborated with the genius talents of Christian Warner, Melanie C. Bivens, Nicholas Lamb, Anna Marie Tobin, Charlotte Stallings, and Ian Dessuauser, who have worked tirelessly to adapt to this virtual environment and help fully actualize this version of *Fame*.

Enjoy the show!

Olson Scott Kelly

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## –ACT 1–

<i>Hard Work</i> .....	Company
<i>I Want to Make Magic</i> .....	Nick
<i>Can't Keep It Cool</i> .....	Joe, Boys
<i>Tyrone's Rap</i> .....	Tyrone
<i>There She Goes</i> .....	Carmen, Company
<i>Let's Play a Love Scene</i> .....	Nick, Serena
<i>Bring on Tomorrow</i> .....	Schlomo, Carmen
<i>The Teachers' Argument</i> .....	Miss Sherman, Miss Bell
<i>Hard Work (Reprise)</i> .....	Company

## –ACT 2–

<i>The Junior Festival</i> .....	Nick, Joe, Carmen, Iris, Tyrone
<i>Think of Meryl Streep</i> .....	Serena
<i>Mabel's Prayer</i> .....	Mabel, Girls
<i>Dancin' on the Sidewalk</i> .....	Tyrone, Company
<i>These Are My Children</i> .....	Miss Sherman
<i>In LA</i> .....	Carmen
<i>Love Scene (Reprise)</i> .....	Nick, Serena
<i>Bring on Tomorrow (Reprise)</i> .....	Company
<i>Finale</i> .....	Company

# THE CAST

Mabel Washington.....	Tomi Akinwande
Ms. Sheinkopf.....	Savannah Coyne
Serena Katz.....	Alina Garcia
Miss Esther Sherman.....	Jackie Hickman
Ms. Greta Bell.....	Shannon Hoffman
Nick Piazza.....	Philip Hulten
Iris Kelly.....	Molly Oubre
Carmen Diaz.....	Bela Ramirez
Ms. Myers.....	Rebecca Rock
Tyrone Jackson.....	Tobias Rytting
Joe Vegas.....	Gabi Wager Saldivar
Grace 'Lambchops' Lamb.....	Riya Shah
Schlomo Metzenbaum.....	Jordan Sheldon
Goodman 'Goody' King.....	Ronen Wenderfer
Dance Captain.....	Dionne Bracey

## —DANCE STUDENTS—

Dionne Bracey Danielle Chetta Beatriz Copello  
Megan Matthieu Kaitlyn Posada Myranda Sanchez Lily Stockton

## —MUSIC STUDENTS—

Ashley Chu Margaret Euscher Sydney Gibson Anaya Judson  
Kristyn Leroy Lara Li Lucia Maynard Samantha Pape  
Niara Singleton Reid Sline Chloe Vuong

## —ACTING STUDENTS—

Cortlandt Barrett Clarq Bishop Rebecca Bloome Scout Brooks  
Olivia Gonzales Avalon Hogans Elijah Islam Sadie Luce  
Gentry Claire Lumpkin Brian Oliveira Haley Prince Nia Yero

# ORCHESTRA

Caroline Lawson ..... Flute

Aimee MacDonald .....Saxophone

Isias Workeneh .....Saxophone

Benjamin Gomez ..... Trumpet

Apoorv Nednur ..... Trumpet

Callum Curtis .....Trombone

Caeden Harrison .....Trombone

Michael Saulsberry .....Trombone

Alondra Roland ..... Guitar

Hayden Miller ..... Keyboard

Maika Nebgen..... Keyboard

Jack Rota ..... Bass

Matthew Fu.....Drums

Connor Loftin.....Drums

Max Whittaker .....Percussion

# PRODUCTION TEAM

## —STUDENT PRODUCTION STAFF—

Nicholas Lam	Video Designer
Ian Dessauer	Music Director
Anna Marie Tobin	Assistant Director
Dionne Bracey	Dance Captain
Amanda Bloome	Assistant Editor
Lily Afghani	Videography Assistant
Alexa Halim	Publicity/ Camera Op
Colin Mee	Lead Scenic Designer/ Camera Op
Anna Grace Hethcox	Lead Costume Designer
Sarah Painter	Lead Costume Designer
Liza Stickney	Lead Props Designer
McKenna Leach	Assistant Scenic Designer
Robin Schaefer	Assistant Scenic Designer

## —MANAGEMENT TEAM—

Charlotte Stallings	Production Stage Manager
Katie Randall	Assistant Stage Manager
Ellie Linde	Assistant Stage Manager

## —ADDITIONAL DESIGN TEAM—

Mia El-Yafi	Costume Shadow
Izabella Zhang	Costume Shadow
Harper Zook	Costume Shadow
Ayanna Denning	Prop Shadow
Ella Rodriguez	Prop Shadow
Sarah Klein	Prop Shadow

## —ADULT PRODUCTION STAFF—

Olson Scott Kelly	Director
Christian Warner	Choreographer
Melanie C. Bivens	Music Director
Kris Wood	Audio Mixing and Mastering
Claudia Rodriguez	Costume Shop Manager
Travis Horstmann	Technical/Design Consultant
Paul Davis	Technical/Design Consultant
Dana Harrell	Technical/Design Consultant

# WHO'S WHO

**Tomi Akinwande** (Mabel Washington) is excited to work on her third All-School Musical at HSPVA. She began her debut as Funmilayo in the 2019 musical *FELA!* and has recently been in *The Color Purple* as Deloris/Soloist/Ensemble. The trio she was a part of called "The Church Ladies" won Best Featured Performer in the 2020 Tommy Tune Awards. She would like to thank the director, the music coordinator, and the cast and crew for their encouragement. She would also like to thank her family for their immense support throughout her journey in and out of school.

**Cortlandt Barrett** (Acting Student) is a sophomore and a Level 2 Theatre major and aspires to be a published author and Broadway actress. She sincerely thanks the people who have gotten her to where she is today, especially her parents, grandparents, teachers, and friends. Although it is her first virtual show, she is extremely proud of the production, and hopes every single person who watches thoroughly enjoys it.

**Clarq Bishop** (Acting Student) is a junior theater student at HSPVA and is so excited to be a part of a show even in the midst of a pandemic! She is very grateful for the opportunity to perform and is excited for the show.

**Rebecca Bloome** (Acting Student) is a sophomore in the theatre department and is very excited to be participating in her 3rd All-School Musical. This is her first acting position in an all school and she couldn't be happier. She would like to thank her sister Amanda for her amazing editing and Mr. Olson, Christian, and Ms. Melanie for being so innovative and understanding throughout this process. She would also like to thank Gabi for keeping online rehearsals exciting.

**Amanda Bloome** (Assistant Editor) is a senior in the Visual Arts Department. She hasn't had very much theatre experience, but is excited to lend her video-editing skills to this unique production. She would like to thank her parents and sister Rebecca for being so supportive during these times, the Visual Arts staff for encouraging her to pursue video, and the whole Fame team for bringing this new kind of production together.

**Dionne Bracey** (Dance Captain & Dance Student) is a senior in the Dance Department at Kinder HSPVA. Her credits include performing in the ensemble of *The Color Purple* at Kinder HSPVA and the teen ensemble of *A Chorus Line* at Theatre Under The Stars. Dionne is excited to continue exploring the performance side of Musical Theatre while adding *Fame* to her growing list of performances.

**Scout Brooks** (Acting Student) is a theatre sophomore at HSPVA, and she's excited to see this amazing show come to life! Some of her favorite, more

recent roles were in *Carrie* (Ensemble), *Heathers* (Heather Duke), *Anything Goes* (Passenger), *White Christmas* (Susan), and *Sweeney Todd* (Tobias). She wants to thank her fellow cast members for working so hard, and the tech team and directors for working even harder.

**Ashley Chu** (Music Student) is a sophomore violinist. She was disappointed that she couldn't play her instrument in the pit this year but is glad that she got the chance to be on stage as an ensemble member this year. She loved learning choreography and being a part of the cast but next year hopefully she can return to her favorite role: being in the pit.

**Beatriz Copello** (Dance Student) is a sophomore in the dance department and is so excited to be participating in her first all-school musical at Kinder HSPVA. She has danced at the Houston Ballet and some of her favorite shows she's been in are *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*. She'd like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her in her dance career!

**Savannah Coyne** (Ms. Sheinkopf) is a Junior in the Theatre Department. She is so excited to be performing in her first All-School Musical. Her previous credits include shadowing Stage Management and Props for *Chicago* in her freshman year and Assistant Stage Manager for *Mary Poppins* in her sophomore year and being Stage Manager for HSPVA's *A Grand Night for Singing* for the 2019 Lower-Level Showcase. She has performed in HSPVA's 2019 Fall Theatre Gala and the Mary Swan Theatre Cabaret in 2019. She would like to thank her friends, family, and teachers who support her and inspire her to be better in her craft.

**Callum Curtis** (Trombone) is a Senior Trombonist in the instrumental department and is looking forward to playing in this year's all-school musical, *Fame*. Callum is a member of the Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra and Jazz Band and is looking forward to a great performance. Callum has performed in every all-school musical since his freshman year including: *At the Apollo*, *Chicago*, *FELA!*, *Mary Poppins* and *The Color Purple*. Enjoy the show!

**Mia El-Yafi** (Costume Shadow) is a Sophomore in the theatre department. She was a props shadow for *Mary Poppins* and is so excited for her first virtual musical!

**Maggie Euscher** (Music Student) is a freshman in the instrumental department and is excited to be in her first show at HSPVA and hopes it isn't her last.

**Matthew Fu** (Drums) has previously worked on previous HSPVA musicals including *FELA!* (Cowbell Enthusiast), *Mary Poppins* (Disciple of the Cowbell), and *The Color Purple* (Drum Set). Preemptively, he is confused why you thought there would be more here if you are still reading, and is currently enjoying pez from a pez dispenser while writing this.

**Alina Garcia** (Serena Katz) thanks family and friends for always supporting her. She is super excited for her debut role at Kinder HSPVA. Alina is 15 years

old and is a proud member of the vocal department. Some of her favorite shows on stage are *A Christmas Carol* (Fan, Alley Theatre, 2018-19), *La Boheme* (Houston Grand Opera), *The Phoenix* (Louisa, Houston Grand Opera), and the Arts for Autism Concert/Benefit (Matilda, Gershwin Theatre). Her favorite screen role is Josephine Otero in *Murder Made Me Famous* (Season 6, Episode 1). Alina can't wait to perform for you all!

**Sydney Gibson** (Music Student) is a Freshman in the vocal department and is so excited to perform in her first HSPVA production! Sydney loves theatre and hopes to light up the screen or stage in the future. She appreciates all of the support from her family and friends.

**Benjamin Gomez** (Trumpet) is a junior and has been playing trumpet since 3rd grade. He is currently in the mariachi department but has been hooked on playing in the pit orchestra since his first musical, *Fela!*. He has also played in *Marry Poppins* and *The Color Purple*. He is excited to work in this online and to play in *Fame* for this interesting year. Benjamin would like to thank his family for allowing him to explore the several genres of music and he would like to thank his trumpet teacher for helping explore trumpet style in general.

**Olivia Gonzales** (Acting Student) is absolutely ecstatic to perform in her first All-School Musical. While she enjoys musical theatre Olivia is a sophomore in the Vocal Department, a student at the Humphrey's School of Musical Theatre, and a member of the St. Paul's Choral Scholars. She would like to thank her parents for supporting her through all her shenanigans as well as letting her go to this "crazy art school." Thanks mom and dad!

**Alexa Halim** (Publicity/Camera Op.) is so excited to be head of publicity as a part of *Fame!* She has previously been a part of *At the Apollo* (ensemble), collaborated on the promotional video for *Chicago!*, filmed and edited the promotional video for *Mary Poppins*, and was Head of Publicity for *The Color Purple*. She is thrilled to branch outside of her art area and pursue her other passions for design and videography. She would like to thank her friends and family for their support.

**Anna Grace Hethcox** (Lead Costume Designer) is a theatre junior with a design emphasis at Kinder HSPVA. This is her fourth All-School Musical. Previous costume credits include: *Chicago: High School Edition* (costume design shadow), *Fela!* (costume design shadow), and *Mary Poppins* (assistant costume designer).

**Jackie Hickman** (Miss Esther Sherman) is a junior in the vocal department. *Fame* will be her first HSPVA musical, although she has participated in vocal performances such as *Limelight*, concerts, and recitals. She is incredibly grateful to the *Fame* administrators for providing the opportunity to make art, even while at home.

**Shannon Hoffman** (Ms. Greta Bell) is a sophomore in the theatre department at HSPVA! This is her first ever HSPVA All-School Musical and she is so

thrilled to be a part of it! She is so thankful to the team/staff who gave us the opportunity to put on this virtual show! She hopes you enjoy!

**Avalon Hogans** (Acting Student) is a creative writing junior at Kinder HSPVA. Her passions include writing, acting, and singing. Avalon has performed at various local and school events but makes her musical debut in *Fame!* She is incredibly grateful for this opportunity, and she has had so much fun in this new experience.

**Philip Hulten** (Nick Piazza) is a senior in the theatre department with a preference towards Musical Theatre. He is really excited to play Nick Piazza in *Fame!* His previous shows include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Oberon), *Peter Pan*, *A Grand Night For Singing*, and *Mary Poppins*.

**Elijah Islam** (Acting Student) is a sophomore in the theatre department making his first musical theatre debut in the ensemble for *Fame!* He's more than excited to have the opportunity to be a part of the company, and is looking forward to pursuing musical theatre in coming years.

**Anaya Judson** (Music Student) is excited to perform in Kinder HSPVA's first virtual all-school musical. This is her fourth all-school musical. Her previous musical theatre credits include *The Color Purple* at HSPVA, *Mary Poppins* at HSPVA, *FELA!* at HSPVA, *Seussical* at Public Works Houston, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* at Hits Theatre, and others. Anaya has enjoyed the wonderment and creativity that came with adapting to this new mode of performance. Through this virtual platform, she has learned to explore different facets of her artistry and that "The show must go on!"

**Nicholas Lam** (Video Designer) is excited to be tackling *Fame* virtually for the first All-School Musical of the year! Previous all-school credits at HSPVA include *The Color Purple* (Lighting Design), *Mary Poppins* (Projection & Lighting), and *Fela!* (Projection Design). He would like to thank Mr. Klein, Olson, Christian, Amanda Bloome, the creative and production team, and the entire theatre faculty for their work and help in taking on this unprecedented project. He hopes you enjoy the show!

**Caroline Lawson** (Flute) is a sophomore at HSPVA in the Instrumental Band department. She has played flute for 6 years and has placed in TMEA Region and Area Band. She won the Clear Lake Symphony Youth Concerto Competition in the Junior Division and was a finalist in the Houston Flute Club Young Artist Competition. She also won places in the Solo and Ensemble Competitions in UIL and the Houston Flute Club. This is the first musical she has participated, and she is excited for the opportunities she will have at HSPVA.

**Kristyn LeRoy** (Music Student) is a freshman in the vocal department. This is Kristyn's first All-School Musical and she's really excited to be a part of something so wonderful, no matter what the circumstance.

**Lara Li** (Music Student) is a sophomore cellist in the orchestra department. She usually loves being in the pit for the school musical but this year, she is super happy to have the opportunity to step outside her comfort zone, be part of the amazing ensemble, and learn new things!

**Connor Loftin** (Drums) is a Senior percussionist in the Band Department. He has played in multiple musicals at HSPVA including *Fela!* and *Mary Poppins*. He is excited to perform and that HSPVA is continuing to put on musicals, even in this difficult time.

**Gentry Claire Lumpkin** (Acting Student) is a freshman at HSPVA in the theatre department. Her favorite credits include Lavendar in *Matilda JR Pilot Production* and Connie in *A Chorus Line*. She is thrilled to be a part of the first virtual production cast of *Fame! The Musical*.

**Aimee MacDonald** (Saxophone) is a sophomore in the Instrumental department and is very excited to be playing in her first all-school musical! She would like to thank her family for supporting her and her parents for driving her to and from rehearsals.

**Megan Matthieu** (Dance Student) is a sophomore in the dance department, is over the moon to be in her first performance with HSPVA. She's enjoyed getting to experience filming a virtual musical and working with the amazing crew. She would like to give her thanks to friends, family, cast, and crew for helping her make this possible!

**Lucia Maynard** (Music Student) is very excited to be a part of this unique production and would like to give special thanks to her sister and family for their support.

**Colin Mee** (Lead Scenic Designer/Camera Op.) is so happy to have contributed to this production! He has designed for other shows such as *Compleat Female Stage Beauty* (Makeup Designer), *Mary Poppins* (Makeup Designer) and *Valhalla* (Stage Manager/Assistant Director)

**Hayden Miller** (Keyboard) is a sophomore in the Classical Piano Department who is particularly fascinated by collaborative piano and the music of Debussy. Notable achievements include 1st place in the CMTA Concerto and Multi-era Solo Competitions, being a finalist in the TMTA State Competition, and participating in the Curtis Young Artist Summer Program. He is thrilled to be participating in his first All-School Musical.

**Maika Nebgen** (Keyboard) is a Piano Grader in the 11th Department. As her first time in an All-School Musical, Maika is ecstatic to be playing with others and not as a soloist. She would like to thank her friends and family for the drives to and from recording sessions, for dealing with her hours of practicing 3 of the same measures repeatedly late at night, and for persuading her to finally audition for something out of her comfort zone. She hopes to play in future musicals and experience the traditional performances that HSPVA has always had.

**Apoorv Nednur** (Trumpet) is a junior in the instrumental department at HSPVA and is part of the band. He has been in multiple all-school musicals before and is excited to participate in another one. Although the performance needs to be digital so people can stay safe, Apoorv hopes that everyone is doing well and that they enjoy the show.

**Brian Oliveira** (Acting Student) is a 14-year-old freshman in the Theatre department. He has been doing musical theatre for 5 years, and is a student of the Humphrey's School of Musical Theatre at TUTS. His previous roles include Professor Jordan in the UIL One-Act Play *The 39 Steps* and Bill in T.H. Rogers' production of *Schoolhouse Rock Live! JR*. In his spare time, Brian enjoys playing the saxophone and creating and editing videos.

**Molly Oubre** (Iris Kelly) is a senior in the theatre department at HSPVA. She's so glad to be experiencing her first virtual musical. She'd love to thank her friends and family for all of the support.

**Samantha Pape** (Music Student) is a junior mezzo-soprano in the vocal department. Though she focuses on classical singing, her musical journey began with her participation in numerous musicals at HITS Theatre throughout middle school. She loves both styles and is extremely grateful to be a part of this amazing production.

**Kaitlyn Posada** (Dance Student) is a junior in the PVA Dance Department and is very excited to be in the production of *FAME*.

**Haley Prince** (Acting Student) is a 15 year old Sophomore in the Theatre Department at Kinder HSPVA. Musical Theatre Credits Include: *The Wiz* (TUTS), *Elf* (TUTS), *Musical* (TUTS), *Joseph and the Amazing Dreamcoat* (TUTS), *Into the Woods* (The Ensemble Theatre), *Thumbalina* (Fort Bend Theatre) and more. Haley is excited to be joining her first all-school musical at HSPVA.

**Bela Ramirez** (Carmen Diaz) is a senior straight acting major in the Theatre Department and is so excited to be a part of this unique production! Her most recent credits at HSPVA were in *Tartuffe* (Elmire), *Bernarda Alba* (Angustias), and in *Anonymous* (Nemasani). Other previous credits include productions of *Hair*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Heathers: The Musical* at Wildfish Theatre and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and teachers for all their support.

**Katie Randall** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore in the theatre department. This is her third All-School Musical at HSPVA. Previous shows include *Valhalla* (costume designer), *The Color Purple* (prod. assistant/props), and *Mary Poppins* (management shadow). She has learned a lot from this process and is looking forward to whatever else this school year brings.

**Rebecca Rock** (Ms. Myers) is ecstatic to be performing in her first virtual musical! She has previously appeared in *Lysistrata* (Dispas), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Starveling/Wall), *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*

(Company), and Bali Tales: The Mayayana (Lakshmana) at HSPVA. She would like to thank her family, friends, and (sometimes) AT&T for their support!

**Alondra Roland** (Guitar) has previously played guitar in the All-School Musical production *Mary Poppins* and the *Color Purple*. She is grateful to her friends and family for their love and support

**Jack Rota** (Bass) is a junior in the jazz department at PVA, and this is his 3rd all-school musical. He plays both the big guitar and the big violin.

**Tobias Rytting** (Tyrone Jackson) is a senior in the Dance Department. He is so excited to work on *Fame*. His previous credits include *Mamma Mia*, *Ragtime*, and *Spring Awakening* with TUTS.

**Myranda Sanchez** (Dance Student) is thankful for her family, friends, and grandpa. I love and miss you so much.

**Michael Saulsberry** (Trombone) is a humble trombone player who still has a lot to learn about his instrument and the world of music. Previously played in *The Color Purple* last year, played at Carnegie Hall in 8th grade, and awaiting more amazing opportunities.

**Riya Shah** (Grace "Lambchops" Lamb) is a junior in the Instrumental Department. She is a percussionist in band. This is the first All-School Musical she has participated in at HSPVA. She previously has been in the pit orchestra for productions outside of HSPVA.

**Jordan Sheldon** (Schlomo Metzenbaum) is in the theatre department as an acting major, and he plans to become a television actor, writer, and producer. This is Jordan's first time performing in an all school production, although he's played major designer roles in both *Mary Poppins* and *FELA!*

**Niara Singleton** (Music Student) is proud and thrilled to be a part of HSPVA and TUTS's first virtual performance! She is playing a member in the music department, but takes the role of musical theatre student in real life. You may have seen her in *Compleat Female Stage Beauty* as Lady Meresvale, *Seussical*, or as Coricopat Cat in Itheatrics's *CATS!* Niara thanks you for viewing and hopes to see you in the future!

**Reid Sline** (Music Student) is a sophomore vocal student and is incredibly excited to be in his first show at HSPVA. He has loved doing theatre all his life, with some of his favorite past roles including Scuttle *The Little Mermaid*, Stockboy *Be More Chill*, and Scar *The Lion King Jr*. He cannot wait for everyone to experience *Fame* and its amazing cast. Enjoy the show!

**Charlotte Stallings** (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to work on her third All-School Musical on the stage management team, she previously has worked on the HSPVA productions of *Chicago* (ASM) and *Mary Poppins* (PSM). She would like to thank Olson Scott Kelly for the opportunity, and both the Stallings and Tobin families for their support.

**Liza Stickney** (Lead Props Designer) is a props designer at HSPVA and has worked on *Mary Poppins* in the past. She is a junior at HSPVA and is so excited for the future.

**Lily Stockton** (Dance Student), a sophomore in the Dance dept., is thrilled to be in her first HSPVA All-School Musical. She has been in love with Musical Theatre since 4th grade and cannot wait to add *Fame!* to her repertoire. She has appeared in several HITS theatre shows: *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), *Shrek the Musical* (Ensemble), and *Sideshow* (the Geek) are some of her favorites. She is grateful to her cast, crew, and wife for their support during this new adventure. Enjoy the show and never forget your seasoning!

**Anna Marie Tobin** (Assistant Director) has continued her efforts in her third All-School musical. She was in the management team for *Chicago* and played Mrs. Brill in *Mary Poppins*. As a theatre senior, other PVA shows include *Cats* Video Production (Co-Director/Co-Writer/Cassandra), *Bernarda Alba* (Magdalena), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck), *A Grand Night for Singing* (Vicky), and Stephen Schwartz Revue. She hopes to continue cultivating a passion for art in her peers as a directing major in college and will use the experience she has gained from *Fame!* to pursue theatre despite societal circumstances.

**Chloe Vuong** (Music Student) is a freshman at HSPVA in the theatre department. She is pumped to be a part of the virtual musical, *Fame*. Chloe has previously attended Interlochen, StageDoor Manor, and productions at Hamman Hall, Rice University. She would like to acknowledge her appreciation for all of the hard work the cast and crew has put in for a virtual musical production. Additionally, Chloe would like to thank her family and friends for their unconditional love and support especially throughout the treacherous year of 2020.

**Gabi Wager Saldivar** (José "Joe" Vegas) is excited to be in his first All-School Musical. Gabi is a sophomore in the Theatre Department and a 5th year student at the Humphreys School of Musical Theatre. Favorite credits include (HITS Miller Outdoor Theatre) *Anything Goes* (Moonface Martin), *Shrek* (Donkey), (HSMT MOT) *Joseph....* (Pharaoh) and (HITS) *Sweeney Todd* (Title Role). Gabi expresses his gratitude to his teachers, family, and friends for their love and support. He would additionally like to thank the cast, crew, creative team, and especially Olson for their hard work on this one of a kind project.

**Ronen Wenderfer** (Goodman "Goody" King) is a Junior in the theatre department. He has previously performed in *Be More Chill* (Ensemble), *Big Fish* (Will), and Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson (Calhoun/Messenger) at Wildfish, and in *Lion King* (Simba), *Beauty and the Beast* (Lumière), *The Sound of Music* (Capt. von Trapp) and more, at the JCC. Ronen is appearing in his second HSPVA All-School Musical, having previously been in *Mary Poppins* (Ensemble), but has worked on various technical aspects of HSPVA's *Chicago*, *FELA!*, and

*The Color Purple*. Ronen thanks all the people who work behind the scenes to make this show happen, and the Bernosky family for lending him the trumpet.

**Max Whittaker** (Percussion) has played in (almost) every All-School Musical since *Chicago*. This marks the final musical Max will participate in before he goes off to pursue a career as safety inspector of the Springfield nuclear power plant.

**Isias Workeneh** (Saxophone) is a senior alto saxophonist at HSPVA and has been playing for over 7 years. This is the 3rd school production he has played in, and he's excited to have had this opportunity to be a part of it.

**Nia Yero** (Acting Student) is making her debut acting performance at HSPVA after spending most of her time behind the curtains. She is thankful for all the support from friends, family, cast, and crew.

**Izabella Zhang** (Costume Shadow) is a sophomore in theatre, and she was the costume designer for Lower Level Showcases. She's also part of the costume crew for *Mary Poppins*. She thanks the whole staff that has been working hard on HSPVA's first virtual production. And of course, she is super excited!

**Harper Zook** (Costume Shadow) is a sophomore in the theatre department and assistant costumer. She is beyond excited for her first virtual production!

# PROFESSIONAL CREATIVE TEAM

**Melanie C. Bivens** (Vocal Music Director), a Fort Worth Native, who is excited to work with such talented artists at HSPVA. Her previous shows with HSPVA as Vocal Music Director were *Fela!* & *The Color Purple*. She is currently the Fine Arts Director for Energized for Excellence Academy, Inc., & Energized For STEM Academy, Inc. Melanie has performed in various shows on stage at Jubilee Theatre, Fort Worth Opera Company, Bass Performance Hall, Soul Rep Theatre. Musical Director for *God's Trombone* (which received Best Musical Award), *Crowns*, African American Repertory Theatre, (founded by actress Irma P. Hall), *Mahalia & Da Kink In My Hair* (2018-2019 Season Opener) *School Girls or The African Mean Girls*, The Ensemble Theatre, *Next To Normal*, Bayou Theatre Company in which she won "Best Musical Director" (Broadway World), Vocal Director for *Dancing In The Streets Motown Revue* at Miller Outdoor Theatre, Voice Instructor & Musical Director/Conductor *Once On This Island* TUTS (Theatre Under The Stars), and was the featured pianist for TUTS promo commercial for their Broadway production of *Into The Woods*. Melanie's original song "Have Thine Own Way" is featured in the Women

of Worship GMWA Songbook, and "Trust In The Lord" on the late Dr. Wilma Bivens latest CD Project.

**Olson Scott Kelly** (Director) is the Artistic Associate at Houston's Theatre Under the Stars, where as a part of the artistic team, helps to oversee casting & production. He made the move to Houston in 2017 after working for Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera and graduating from Point Park University's Conservatory of the Performing Arts. He has worked professionally with La Jolla Playhouse, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, and SummerStock Austin. Since joining the team at TUTS in 2017, Olson has been on the producing team for over a dozen main stage productions, as well as the 49th and 50th season galas. He made his virtual directing debut with TUTS' 2020 Tommy Tune Awards. Thank you to Mr. Klein, the team at HSPVA, and this extraordinary group of young artists for making this experience so wonderful.

**Christian Warner** (Choreographer) is a multi-disciplinary artist with a career that spans over dance, musical theatre, and film. He most recently completed a three year commitment with TU Dance (Saint Paul, MN) in which he not only performed concert dance works by artists such as Alvin Ailey and Kyle Abraham, he was also a founding dancer in "Come Through" - an evening length collaboration with the Grammy-award winning band Bon Iver. Christian also provided background vocals for the recent Bon Iver album "i,i" for the track "Naeem." Other dance credits include repertoire acquired by Aszure Barton, Troy Powell, Sonya Tayeh, Dwight Rhoden, and Luke Murphy. His musical theatre credits include productions such as Disney's *The Lion King* (Broadway and Nat. Touring productions), *Oliver! The Musical* (National Tour), and *Hairspray* (Regional/Houston, TX). His choreographic credits include musicals such as *Working* and *Ragtime* as well as residencies with BAK Middle School, HSPVA, and most recently TU Dance and James Madison University.

# SPECIAL THANKS

HSPVA Friends - Alene Coggin, Charlotte Wyatt, and Joan Murrin

Alyson Landry - HSPVA Website

Jeffrey Turner - HSPVA Social Media

The Kinder HSPVA faculty, administration and staff

The Kinder HSPVA PTO

Program Layout by Melissa J. Marek, Sunburst Designs (Theatre '86)



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Alexandrea Williams, *Assistant Principal*  
Sean Tellez, *Assistant Principal*  
Christina Farris, *Counselor*  
Rebecca Johnson, *Counselor*  
Jonathan Klein, *Magnet Coordinator*  
Kim Hines, *Registrar*

## **KINDER HSPVA DEPARTMENT CHAIRS**

Judith Switek, <i>Creative Writing</i>	Amanda Alexander, <i>Science</i>
Janie Carothers, <i>Dance</i>	Jacob Lozano, <i>English</i>
Rodolfo Morales, <i>Instrumental Music</i>	Dan McCommis, <i>Math</i>
Paul Davis, <i>Theatre</i>	Oscar Perez, <i>Foreign Language</i>
Julia Hall, <i>Vocal Music</i>	Jennifer Chase, <i>Social Studies</i>
David Waddell, <i>Visual Arts</i>	Dorothy Patel, <i>Technology</i>

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