

presented by
**MILWAUKEE
YOUTH
THEATRE**
Spring, 2024



I never saw
Another Butterfly
and the
Terezin Promise

I NEVER SAW ANOTHER BUTTERFLY *and* THE TEREZIN PROMISE

by Celeste Raspanti

Produced by special arrangement with
The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois

Directed by Harmonie Baker and Elisabeth Markman

Director notes: There came a point at every rehearsal, when the weight of this show would settle on my shoulders and I would have to stop myself from sobbing. **These are real words. Written by real children. Who were really murdered.** Let that sink in.

As a historical event the Holocaust stands out for its vastness but certainly not in its expression of evil. History is full of evil. The present is full of evil. We look at these events and wonder "How can people do these things?" Is there a spark of evil in all of us? Are we all just one word or one event away from stripping others of their humanity and turning on them?

What I hope for my students, and for you, is that you will let the lives of the Terezin children be an example of how to survive through humanity's worst darkness: keep looking for beauty, keep reaching for love and keep fighting against fear and hatred. Let that be a small light of victory.

For the cast and crew, you are amazing. I am so very proud of all of you for taking on this project and for treating it with the respect it deserves.

Thank you **Elisabeth and Rebecca** for being the best possible partners throughout this process. For your creative input, humour and encouragement. MYT will keep you forever if you allow it. Thank you **Dima, Jen, Laura, Sharon, Julia and Jackson** for all your work with the students. Thank you **Fiona, Mia and Bea** for being amazing. Thank you **HERC** for sharing your time, your wisdom, your faith in our production to tell the truth about a history we must never forget.

Assistant Director notes: As a child, I was privileged to hear the poems and writing of children of the Terezin concentration camp through my local choir. Their stories, pictures, and poems have stuck with me since. Through the shows *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* and *The Terezin Promise* we are offered a unique point of view, through the hopes, dreams, and pain of the young artists themselves. We feel the fear and determination through their actions, bravery, and strength. Raja is one of the very few survivors of the camp. Out of the 15,000 children, all under the age of 15 years old, who passed through Terezin, only 100 survived to see the end of the war. The newspaper we discussed was a real paper written by the boys of Terezin. Only one writer is known to have survived to see the end of the war.

Elisabeth Markman, Assistant Director

CAST AND CREW

PLACE

Terezín Ghetto and Concentration Camp, Czechoslovakia

RAJA ENGLANDEROVA	Kezia Robinson
IRINA SYNKOVA	Demieria Jones
HONZA, GERMAN SOLDIER	Soren Baker
EVA, CHILD 9, IRINA SYNKOVA UNDERSTUDY	Alma Goochey
HELGA, CHILD 8, WOUNDED SOLDIER UNDERSTUDY	Addie Andre-Lockwood
HANUS, GERMAN SOLDIER, CHILD 10	Logan Buschmann
PETR, CHILD 6	William Nichols
RUDI, CHILD 5	Michael Kostreva
WOUNDED GERMAN SOLDIER, CHILD 7	Nelson Capriolo
ANNA, CHILD 2, EVA UNDERSTUDY	V Sterner-Miller
CHILD 1, RUDI UNDERSTUDY	Lis Rodriguez
CHILD 4, HELGA UNDERSTUDY	Naomi Wolfe
CHILD 3	Zelah Sain
RAJA ENGLANDEROVA UNDERSTUDY	Beatrix Schweiger
LOUDSPEAKER VOICE	Tyler Stauffacher

Student director

Fiona Kelley

Student stage managers

Mia Brouchoud, Beatrix Schweiger

Lights crew

Eli Caraballo, Asare Christian, Ellie Soto, Louise Tesch

Sound crew

Emmett Brouchoud, Logan Calhoun-Johnson, Messiah Jones, Henry Onorato, Jonah Van Dunk

Props and set crew

Rosie Chenault, Yovanni Hardin-Gonzalez, Casey Meyer, Grace Schmidt, Ben Schmierer, Natalie Schmierer, Rory Shaw, Juniper Stenseth, Khyllie Quinn, Theo Ziegeweid

Costume crew

Charlotte "Lottie" Eames (Student Lead), Rosie Chenault, Ruby Gervais, Natalie Schmierer, Elliott Vander Zanden Nabbefeld

MENTORS

Director

Harmonie Baker

Assistant director

Elisabeth Markman

Prop design & build

Julia Teegarden

Costume design & build

Laura Hughes and Sharon Sohner

Sound designer

Dmitriy Pochtarev (The New State)

Stage manager

Rebecca Mitchell

Set build

Jackson McCoy and Harmonie Baker

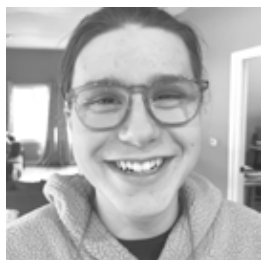
Light designer

Jen Letscher



Addie Andres-Lockwood

is 13 and attends Golda Meir Middle School. This is her 4th show with MYT. Her favorite role was The Woman of the North in *The Snow Queen*. Addie plays the clarinet and would like to be a toxicologist when she grows up. She has a vendetta against figs.



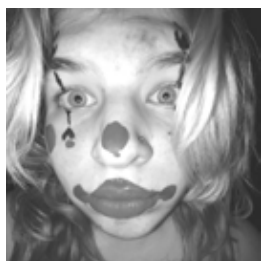
Soren Baker

is 16 and attends Milwaukee High School of the Arts. His favorite role with MYT was Gandalf in *The Hobbit*. He plays the trumpet, is on the forensics team and in a D&D club. Soren is passionate about music, Magic the Gathering and dogs.



Emmett Brouchoud

is 12 and attends Fernwood Montessori. This is Emmett's first show with MYT. He loves games and would like to be a game designer. His favorite game is Magic the Gathering and his favorite food is pizza. He is passionate about video games, rubix cubes and building things.



Mia Brouchoud

is 15 and attends Reagan High School. This is Mia's 3rd show with MYT and her first time as Stage Manager. Mia plays the drums, loves creative writing and can crochet a sweater in 3 hours. Her favorite movie is Princess Mononoke. She is passionate about her friends and family.



Logan Buschmann

is 14 and attends Reagan High School. This is Logan's first show with MYT. Recently he played Will Bloom in Reagan's production of *Big Fish*. Logan's favorite muppet is the Swedish Chef. He is passionate about acting and loves everything about being on stage.

JUNE & MIA & LOTTIE & RUBY friends in drama



Henry,

You bring light to the dark.

You fill the air with music.

We are very proud of your work.





Logan Calhoun-Johnson is 14 and attends Woodlands. This is his 4th show with MYT. Logan plays the guitar and enjoys listening to Lynyrd Skynyrd. He also wants you to know that he is insanely good at Wrestle Mania 2000. His favorite food is fried rice and his favorite sport is pillow fighting.



Eli Caraballo is 10 and attends Escuela Fratney. This is his first show with MYT. Eli can jump from high places and not get hurt. He is flexible and does stuff like gymnastics. He can also run for a long time even though he has asthma. His favorite movie is Beetlejuice.



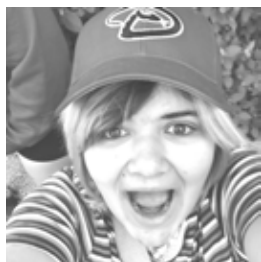
Nelson Cariolo is 15 and attends Reagan High School. This is his first show with MYT but he is also involved with his high school's theater program on the sound team. Nelson has a pet gecko named Mark. His favorite team is the Brewers and his favorite food is burgers.



Rosalynn Bee Chenault is 13 and attends Golda Meir Middle School. This is her first time working with MYT. Rosie loves to draw with bright, unnatural colors. Her favorite movie is *Coraline* and her favorite person is ALL HER FRIENDS. She believes passionately that everyone should be able to do what they want as long as they are not hurting anyone.



Asare Christian is 13 and attends Golda Meir. This is Asare's fourth show with MYT. His favorite show to date is *The Day the Waters Came*. His favorite TV show is *JuJutsu Kaisen*. He can crack his toes on command. Asare is passionate about music, acting and video games.



Lottie Eames is 14 and attends Golda Meir. This is her 4th show with MYT. Her second as the Costumes Team Lead. Lottie is insanely good at Legos, loves to draw and has 2 frogs, 2 tarantulas and a snake named Raphael. She likes to wear something new and fun every day and slays dragons in her free time.



Ruby Gervais is 14 and attends Reagan High School. This is Ruby's 2nd show with MYT, her first on the Costume Team. Ruby loves to draw, enjoys watching Monty Python and owns a bearded dragon named Chi Chi. Her favorite band is Oingo Boingo. She is passionate about making people laugh.



Alma Goochey is 13 and attends Golda Mier. This is Alma's 4th production with MYT but her first as an actor. She makes branded bracelets for The New State and has never had a TV in her house. Her favorite book is *Ready Player One*. She is passionate about crafts and her friends.



Yovanni Hardin-Gonzalez is 10 years old and attends Horace Mann Elementary. Yovanni has worked on 3 shows with MYT on props and sets. His favorite so far is sets. He loves sleeping and swimming but does not like school. His favorite animal is a dog, specifically Dalmatians and Pugs.



Theo Hayden-Ziegeweid is 16 and attends Shorewood High School. Theo is good at drawing monsters, and loves horror movies. He can move one of his eyes independently of the other. Theo is passionate about creature design and world building.

**Yovanni,
We are so proud of you!
Continue to chase your dreams.**



**We we will forever support your artistic endeavors. Never let go of your sight, as the spark of light inside you feel so passionate about will guide you along the way.
XOXO Love, your family XOXO**



Naomi –

We are so very proud of you and excited for all the fun opportunities you have to explore your creativity, kindness and exuberant personality.

We love you so much!

Love

**Mama & Papi
& Harriet**

(your biggest fans)





Fiona Kelley is 16 and attends Wisconsin Virtual School. Fiona played the role of Mary in MYT's *The Secret Garden*. She has also been in shows with SMYT. Cheetah is her favorite clothing print and she makes a great carrot cake. Fiona is passionate about using her voice to stand up for what's right.



Michael Kostreva is 12 and attends Parkside School. This is Michael's first production with MYT. He has been in *A Christmas Carol* at The Rep twice. Michael likes horror films, soccer and rock and roll. His favorite shows are *Stranger Things*, *Demon Slayer* and *Gravity Falls*.



DeMieria Jones is 13 and attends Milwaukee College Prep. This is DeMieria's 3rd show with MYT. She has a birthmark on her right arm and when she was younger it was the shape of Africa. Her favorite book is *The Outsiders*, her favorite food is avocado eggrolls and her favorite sport is volleyball.



Messiah Jones is 15 and attends Destiny High School. This is Messiah's second show with MYT. He loves nature and the outside world. He dislikes apples but adores apple pie. His favorite animal is the blue whale and his favorite person are his friends at MYT. He is passionate about becoming an actor.



Casey Meyer is 11 and attends Humboldt Park Public School. This is Casey's third show working on props. He has a YouTube channel and somebody in his messages from Savannah has the same name as him. His favorite food is ice cream.



William Nichols is 12 and attends Highland Community School. This is his 3rd show with MYT. Will is one of the founders of The Group of Weirdness. His favorite book is *The Road* and his favorite food is grandma's chocolate cake. Will is passionate about becoming an actor and having two cats.



Henry Onorato is 13 and attends Golda Meir. This is Henry's 4th show with MYT. His favorite is *The Snow Queen* because of the friends he made. Henry plays the trumpet and soccer. His favorite animals are ducks and capybaras. Henry is passionate about soccer because he wants to play professionally.



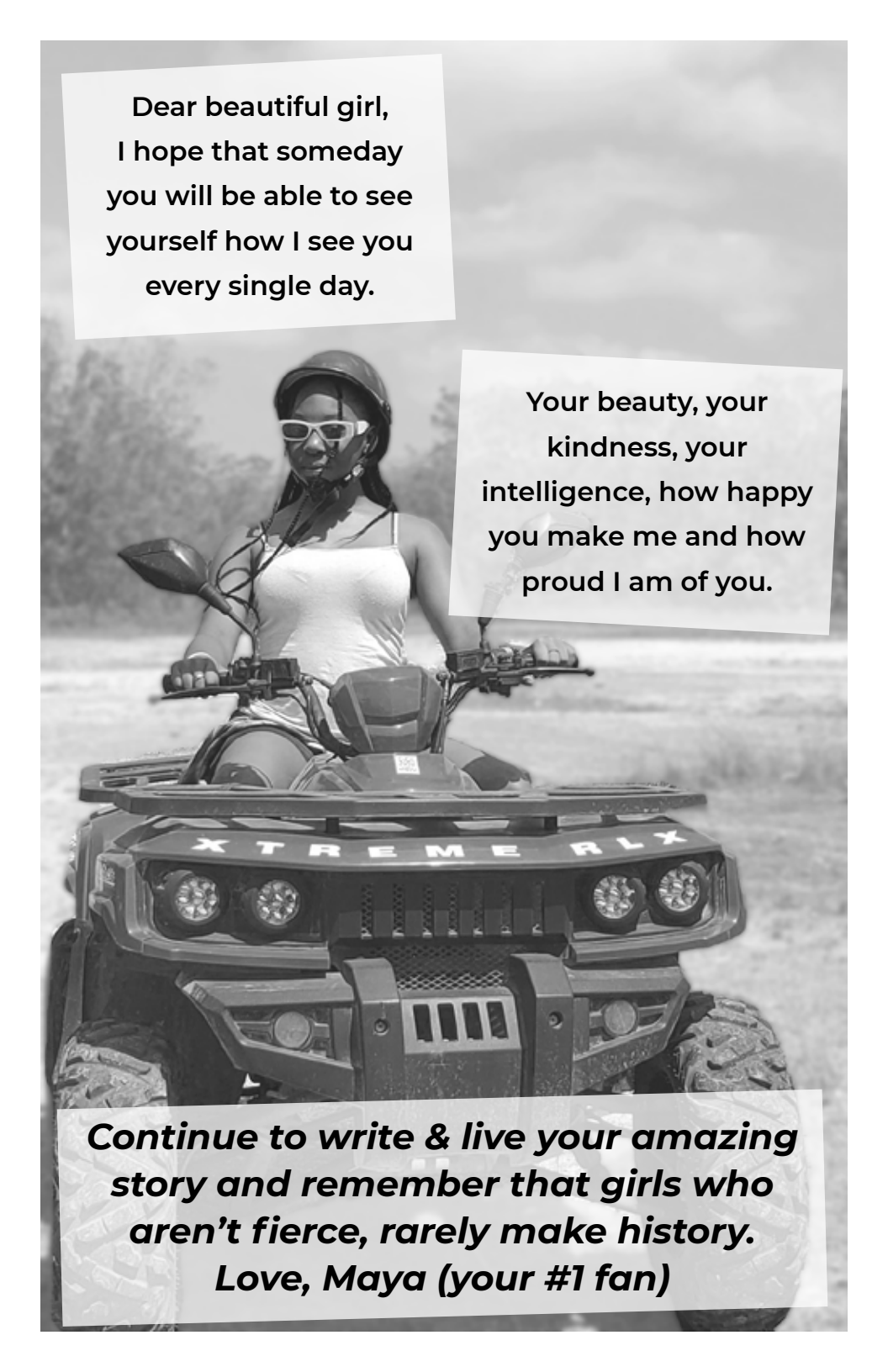
Khylie Quinn is 14 and attends Milwaukee College Prep. Khylie has worked with MYT on and off the stage. She likes to roller skate and has been teaching herself animation. Her favorite food is seafood and her favorite animal is a jellyfish.



Kezia Robinson is 12 years old and attends Whitman Middle School. This is her second show with MYT. She was in *The Day the Waters Came* as an understudy. She loves food and her favorite is french fries. She likes playing volleyball and riding horses. Her favorite movie is *Moana*.



Lis Rodriguez is 13 and attends Golda Meir. This is Lis first show with MYT. She has played volleyball for 4 years and her dream job is to be a photographer. Her favorite food is Italian and her favorite animal is the red panda. She is passionate about doing her best in everything.



Dear beautiful girl,
I hope that someday
you will be able to see
yourself how I see you
every single day.

Your beauty, your
kindness, your
intelligence, how happy
you make me and how
proud I am of you.

***Continue to write & live your amazing
story and remember that girls who
aren't fierce, rarely make history.
Love, Maya (your #1 fan)***

**WE ARE SO *VERY*
PROUD OF YOU
BEATRIX SCHWEIGER!**

WITH LOVE FROM DAD,
PAPA RON, GRANDMA DEBBIE
AND CUPCAKE





Zelah Sain is 13 and attends Wisconsin Virtual Academy. This is Zelah's second show with MYT. Her first was *The Day the Waters Came* which she enjoyed because she had fun and made a lot of friends. Zelah plays football, loves to sing and also enjoys cooking. Her favorite animal is a cheetah.



Grace Schmidt is 12 and attends St. Roman School. This is her 1st show with MYT. Grace is creative and little kids love her. Her favorite book is *Wings of Fire*. She loves strawberries, Rainbow High Dolls, Red Pandas, Fennec Foxes and puppies. She is passionate about animals and children.



Natalie Schmierer is 10 and attends Bayside Middle School. This is Natalie's 1st show with MYT. Natalie loves to bake and is obsessed with Benson Boone. Her favorite animal is the octopus. She is passionate about growing up and becoming a doctor/singer and changing the world. And meeting Benson Boone.



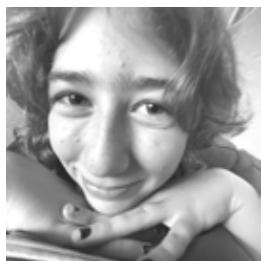
Beatrix Schweiger is 15 and attends Reagan High School. Beatrix has worked with MYT as a Student Director, Student Stage Manager, Sound Tech and Actor. She can play the guitar, bass guitar and saxophone. She is lactose intolerant but loves dairy. She asks her stomach for forgiveness not permission.



Rory Shaw is 10 and attends Clement Ave. School. This is Rory's fourth show with MYT. Rory's favorite book is *The Mark of Athena*, loves wolves and Taylor Swift. Rory is passionate about art, drawing and reading.



Ellie Soto is 14 and attends South Milwaukee High School. This is her 7th show working on crew at MYT. Ellie loves the color purple, hip-hop and R&B music, dogs and cats. She plays 10 sports and is obsessed with reptiles. Ellie wants to be a doctor or lawyer or maybe just an engineer.



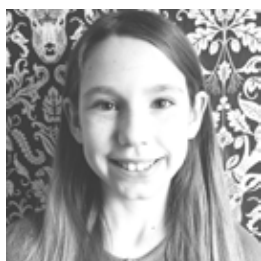
Juniper Stenseth is 14 and attends A.E. Burdick. This is Juniper's 1st show with MYT. She plays the euphonium in her school band and is the 8th grade president at her school. Her favorite movie is *Wolfwalkers* and she loves lemurs. Juniper is passionate about art and would like to pursue an education and career in the art field.



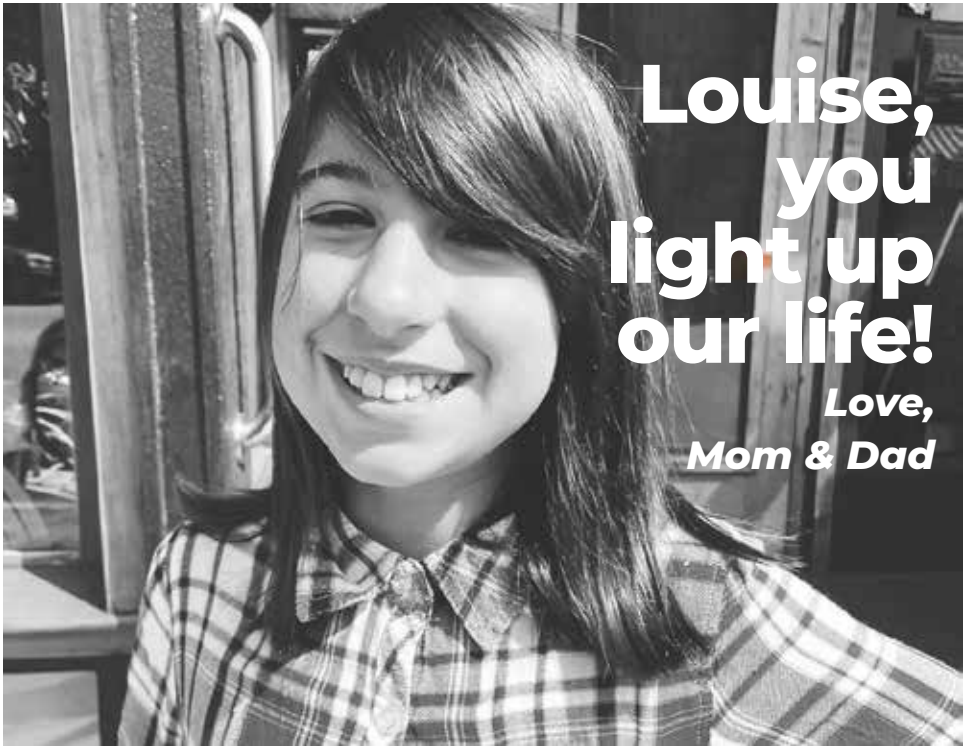
V Sterner-Miller is 12 years old and attends Bridges Virtual Academy. This is V's 4th show with MYT. V has been involved with Costumes, Props, Stage Management and acting. In addition to acting in this show, V is the Student Director for *Lost Tales 2*. V is looking forward to summer and lots of swimming.



Louise Tesch is 11 and attends Downtown Montessori Academy. This is her 3rd show with MYT. Louise loves Greek mythology and her favorite sport is **floozfeter** which she invented so you should ask her about it. Louise has two siblings and is passionate about Forensics.



Elliott Vander Zanden Nabbefeld is 11 and attends Escuela Fratney. This is her 1st show with MYT and she is already planning on working on another show, Elliott loves to rock climb, sew and read. Her favorite book is *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*.



**Louise,
you
light up
our life!**

*Love,
Mom & Dad*



**We love you and are incredibly proud of the
amazing young woman you're becoming Addie!**

Break a leg!

Love, Mom, Mama, Mason, and Potato

LOVE, YOUR CREW



**WE ARE SO
PROUD OF
YOU, ALMA!**

We know you have put your heart into this production, and we are so excited to see your stage debut!

**“IT’S NOT ABOUT
WHAT IT IS, IT’S
ABOUT WHAT IT
CAN BECOME “
- ONCELER**

Juniper, you inspire everyone around you. Keep on creating and being wonderful, you’re doing amazing work!

***Love Always,
Mom, Dad and
Brodie***





Jonah Ray Van Dunk is 13 and attends St. Augustine Prep. This is his 1st show with MYT. Jonah plays the drums, likes to swim and has the fastest time at his school for the 400 meter dash. His favorite animal is a Snow Leopard and he is passionate about music and video games.



Naomi Wolfe is 10 and attends Escuela Fratney. This is Naomi's 3rd show with MYT and her 1st as an actor. She loves to read, sew, knit and draw. Naomi is also part of the *Lost Tales 2* cast. Naomi's favorite food is Japanese food and her favorite animal is a wolf. She is passionate about theater.

**NEVER STOP
CLIMBING AND
REACHING NEW
HEIGHTS! LOVE
AND HUGS KID!**





Michael, we are super proud of you for taking on such a challenging role, and eating all the Mac and Cheese Pizza that Ian's Pizza could make. Love you!!!

V, you are amazing!
We are so proud of
how hard you work
and all of the
positive energy
you bring!

Love, Mama, Papa,
Moose, and family

Congrats to the
whole cast and
crew!



**Way to go
Casey! So
proud of
you.**

Love - Mom, Dad,
Connor and Lucy
P.S. Sorry for the
cheesy pic!



William,
You continue to
amaze us with
your **creativity,**
dedication, and
passion for theatre.
We are so very proud
of you today and
always.

Love, Mom, Dad & Ben

THANK YOU!

Milwaukee Youth Theatre would like to thank our 2023/24 partners. We couldn't tell stories at area schools, lead workshops, hire local mentors and plan future projects - without you!



THE
CHARLES E. KUBLY
FOUNDATION



Francie Luke
Silverman
Foundation

Bert L. and
Patricia S.
Steigleder
Charitable
Trust

Patty & Jay
Baker
FOUNDATION

Kellner/
United Way



UPCOMING EVENTS

We have two 6-week classes coming up, open to all students ages 10-High School Senior.

CLASSES!

Tuesdays, May 7 - June 11, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Improv classes taught by ComedySportz performer Dave Nelsen

Wednesdays, May 8 - June 12, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Acting classes taught by Tisch School of the Arts graduate Peter Arndt

June 14-16

Lost Tales 2: Loster Tales

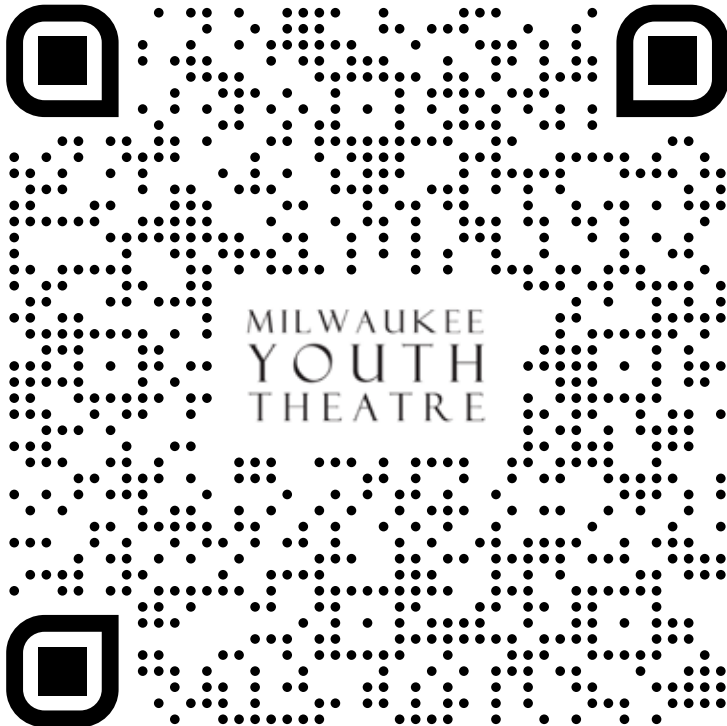
The Lost Tales Players work together to tell family-friendly folktales from around the world. These stories are silly and wonderful for people of all ages. The players use humor, inventive costumes, props, improv and audience participation to tell their stories.

Want the Lost Tales Players to come to your school, corporate picnic, block party, library, or other community event?

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT
MILWAUKEEYOUTHTHEATRE.ORG

DONATE *SECURELY VIA* **PAYPAL**

by pointing your smartphone's camera here



O THAT MY HEAD WERE A SPRING OF WATER, AND MY EYES A FOUNTAIN OF
TEARS SO THAT I MIGHT WEEP DAY AND NIGHT FOR THE SLAIN OF MY PEOPLE.

[JEREMIAH 8:23]

“Try to open up your heart to beauty,
Go to the woods someday
And weave a wreath of memory there.
Then if the tears obscure your way
You’ll know how wonderful it is to be alive.”

- Anonymous Child Poet, Terezin