

Theatre @ York Presents

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

By Lillian Hellman

Directed by Rob Kempson

March 2026

March 21 - 7:30PM (Preview)

March 22 - 7:30PM (Preview)

March 24 - 7:30PM (Opening)

March 25 - 1PM & 7:30PM

March 26 - 7:30PM (Relaxed Performance)

March 27 - 1PM & 7:30PM

March 28 - 2PM (Closing)

**Sandra Faire and Ivan
Fecan Theatre**

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Theatre at York Presents
THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

By Lillian Hellman

Director

Rob Kempson

Assistant Director

Richard Sutton

Fight Director

Siobhan Richardson

Music Director + Arranger

Sam Clements

Accessibility Coordinator

Natasha Ross

Costume Designer

Nirjara Dwivedi

Set Designer

Olga Korolyuk

Lighting Designer

Paige Thompson

Sound Designer

Alessia Penna

Stage Manager

Kat Wilkie

Assistant Stage Managers

Tiana Nielsen

Alyssa Palma

Ariane Daigle Thibaudeau

Stage Manager Apprentice

Nick Wawrow

Cast

Lauren Matassa

Rory Baechler

Natalie Maddyn

Alexei DeLuca

Kathleen Henthorn

Sam Clements

Julianna Olave

Emily Swartz

Esther Okosun

Justine Angelopoulos

Avery Hearty

Mihaela Kiraca

Gabby Dereje

Kait Gouldby

Mackenzie Heaney

Karen Wright

Mary Tilford

Martha Dobie

Dr. Joe Cardin

Janet

Grocery Boy

Catherine

Rosalie Wells

Helen Burton

Evelyn Munn

Agatha

Mrs. Amelia Tilford

Peggy Rogers

Lois Fisher

Mrs. Lily Mortar

First produced on Broadway at the Maxine Elliott Theatre in 1934, produced and directed by Herman Shumlin.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First Nations peoples have lived on this part of Turtle Island for millennia, stewarding the land, the water and all that contributes to life in this region. Today, the culture and presence of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples enrich the lands and people of this territory.

More than two centuries ago, the Mississauga people welcomed settlers to this territory, providing sustenance and engaging in trade and commerce. Between 1781 and 1820, eight treaties were signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, who opened their territory to settlement. Today, York University's Keele Campus is located on Toronto Purchase Treaty, No. 13 lands and is situated on the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee.

Treaty history is foundational, and it is our collective responsibility to honour the land, as we honour and respect those who have gone before us, those who are here and those who have yet to come. We are grateful for the opportunity to be learning, working and thriving on this land, and we commit to learn the truth and be active in the process of reconciliation.

Ways of Action (continued)

The treaties were negotiated in English, a language not spoken by all parties involved in the treaties. Lands not covered by treaties are called unceded territory. In Canada, there is a vast amount of land that is unceded.

Everyone in Canada benefits from treaties, regardless of your age, ethnicity, background, or immigration status. In particular, non-Indigenous Canadians benefit from treaties because the treaties allow them to live on the land and use resources that were previously exclusively held and inhabited by Indigenous peoples. We all play an important role in respecting the vast land covered by treaties; all Canadians must understand that we are in an eternal relationship where we must know each other in order to properly share and respect our land and water.

Indigenous Canada

- <https://www.coursera.org/learn/indigenous-canada>

"The free Indigenous Canada online course through Coursera opened my eyes to the huge gaps in my education. It's a broad course that covers history, treaties, but also touches on contemporary Indigenous life, art and politics. Working through it with some friends was a good start at remediating my own ignorance."

Indigenous Writes: A Guide to First Nations, Métis and Inuit Issues in Canada

- <https://www.portageandmainpress.com/Books/I/Indigenous-Writes4>

Essays by Métis author, teacher and legal scholar Chelsea Vowel. This is a personal, detailed and accessible primer on historic and present day relationship between Indigenous peoples and the state of Canada. Reading it helped me understand more about the Indian Act, status, treaties and beyond." Chelsea Vowel also writes thoughtfully about territorial acknowledgements here:

- <https://apihtawikosisan.com/2016/09/beyond-territorial-acknowledgments/>

The Native Canadian Centre of Toronto

<https://ncct.on.ca>

One of the first Friendship centers established in the city, this charitable foundation provides cultural education and material support to the urban Indigenous community. NCCT offers a wide range of educational programs and services based on Indigenous traditions to which all are welcome to learn from.

- Donate here: <https://ncct.on.ca/donations/>
- A full list of events that all are welcome to attend: <https://ncct.on.ca/ncct-events/>

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action

In 2015, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission announced their 94 Calls to Action, after 7 years of listening to painful stories of residential school. The aim of the calls is to redress the legacy of residential school, but to date, far too few of the calls have been acted upon. Reading this 13-page document and holding Canada's government to account is a powerful action:

- https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/indigenous-people/aboriginal-peoples-documents/calls_to_action_english2.pdf

Ways of Action (continued)

Legacy of Hope

- <https://legacyofhope.ca/>

The LHF supports the ongoing healing process of Residential School Survivors, and their families and seeks their input on projects that honour them. LHF has worked with Survivors, Indigenous communities, researchers, curators, and educators to develop educational resources to increase public awareness and knowledge of the history and effects of the Residential School System and the ongoing experiences Indigenous Peoples continue to face.

Indian Residential School Survivors Society

- <https://www.irsss.ca/donate>

The Indian Residential School Survivor Society (IRSSS) is a provincial organization with a twenty-year history of providing services to Residential School Survivors and families experiencing intergenerational trauma.

Anishnawbe Health Toronto

- <https://supportanishnawbe.ca/donate/make-a-donation/>

Anishnawbe Health Toronto's (<https://aht.ca/>) model of health care is based on Indigenous culture and traditions. AHT is the only facility in Toronto that cares for Indigenous clients with both western and traditional approaches to health care. During the pandemic, AHT's mobile Covid-19 testing unit has been serving sites throughout the GTA, where the risks of COVID-19 infection are most significant. The Mobile team tests everyone who requests it, regardless of ancestry to ensure the greatest impact against COVID-19 infection transmission.

The Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto

- <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/10351>

The Native Women's Resource Centre of Toronto (<https://nwrct.ca>) provides a safe and welcoming environment for all Indigenous women and their children in the Greater Toronto Area. Our programs offer wrap-around blanket services to address and support Basic Needs, Housing, Families, Advocacy, Employment, Education, Healing from Trauma, and Access to Ceremonies and Traditional Practitioners/Healers.

Free Grassy Blockade

- <https://freegrassy.net/>

In the 1960s, Grassy Narrows First Nation was coerced into moving onto a reserve near Kenora, Ontario. A decade later, in the 70s, mercury was dumped into the Nation's fresh water supply, by a paper mill 320kms upstream, and the Nation continues to deal with the deadly effects of this poisoning. In addition, the provincial government has moved forward with mining and logging contracts on the Nation's traditional territory with no consultation with the community.

The Last Stand for Forests - Fairy Creek Blockade

- <https://laststandforforests.com/>

Old growth forests anchor ecosystems that are critical to the wellbeing of many species of plants and animals, including people, now and in the future. Donate to support legal funding for Indigenous land defenders and forest protector allies who were arrested on the frontlines of this campaign. Up to 40% of funds raised go to general expenses for things like satellite communications, food, camping gear, and fuel for transportation and cooking as well as for personal support for Indigenous land defenders, BIPOC and activist protectors.

Department of Theatre, Dance and Performance

York University's Department of Theatre, Dance and Performance is one of the largest and most comprehensive in Canada, combining in-depth academic studies and rigorous practical training in all aspects of theatre, dance and performance. Each year, the Theatre Program mounts a season of fully staged productions through Theatre @ York, which also includes workshops, performances, and student-run works in progress. Also, the Dance Program mounts its own season of choreographic works developed through 3rd and 4th year choreography classes, as well as the York Dance Ensemble's winter production, and the student-run Bloom festival in the spring. Theatre, Dance and Performance students are required to take courses through the School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design, including the Departments of Cinema and Media Arts, Computational Arts (Digital Media and Integrative Arts), Design, Music, Visual Art & Art History, as well as Creative Technologies at the newly opened Markham campus. Combined with their General Education coursework, these learning opportunities make our students well-rounded collaborators, ready for all aspects of professional work in theatre, dance, and performance. The Theatre Program offers the following undergraduate degrees: Specialized Honours BA (Performance Creation); Specialized Honours BFA (Production and Design); Specialized Honours BFA (Acting & Performance); Specialized Honours BFA (Performance Creation). The Dance Program offers a Specialized Honours BFA (Dance Choreography/Performance). The Graduate Program in Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies offers two degrees, an MA and a PhD, both of which emphasize our collective interest in theatre, performance, and cultural politics.

Full-time Faculty:

Marlis Schweitzer (Chair); Patrick Alcedo; Eric Armstrong; Erika Batdorf; Rebecca Caines; Bridget Cauthery; Jackie Chau; Courtney Ch'ng Lancaster; Sylvia Defend; Mary Fogarty; Ian Garrett; Alberto Guevara; Syreeta Hector; Jennifer Jimenez; Magdalena Kazubowski-Houston (GPD MA/PhD); Aaron Kelly; Laura Levin; Keira Loughran; Gavin McDonald; James McKernan; Archer Pechawis; Jamie Robinson; Candice Spynkers; Michael Wheeler

Contract Faculty:

Tosha Doiron; Lisa Lahue; Jareth Li; Allyson McMackon; Jayna Mees; Laurel Paetz; Stephen Raposo; Melissa Renaud; Steve Ross; Ivan Sherry; Rachel Smith; Gwyneth Whalen-Hughes

Staff:

Christina Cicko, Production Coordinator; Mary Pecchia, Administrative Coordinator; Julia Kenny, Graduate Program Assistant; Divya Mehta, Student Services Administrator; Makeda Daley, Operations Manager, Theatre, Dance and Performance and Music; Terry Wright, Manager, Facilities, Health and Safety, and Technical Services; Luciano Femia, Facilities Coordinator

CHAIR'S NOTE

Welcome to Theatre @ York's production of Lillian Hellman's *The Children's Hour*, directed by Rob Kempson. Like all our productions, *The Children's Hour* was designed, produced, and realized by a group of incredibly talented undergraduate Theatre and Performance students; and features a wonderful cast of actors from the BFA program in Acting and Performance. Of course, none of this would be possible without the unwavering support of our faculty and staff, who bring their skill, professionalism, and love of theatre into the classroom every day.

York University's Department of Theatre, Dance and Performance is one of the largest and most comprehensive performing arts departments in Canada, combining in-depth academic studies and rigorous practical training in all aspects of theatre, dance, and performance. Each year, the Theatre and Performance program mounts a season of fully staged productions through Theatre @ York, along with workshops, studio performances, works in progress, and the student-run festivals PlayGround and the Devised Theatre Festival. The Dance program likewise mounts its own season of choreographic works developed through 3rd and 4th year choreography classes, as well as the York Dance Ensemble's winter production, and the student-run Bloom festival.

Theatre, Dance and Performance students also take courses through the School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design, including the Departments of Cinema and Media Arts, Computational Arts (Digital Media and Integrative Arts), Design, Music, Visual Art and Art History, as well as Creative Technologies at the newly opened Markham campus. Combined with their General Education coursework, these learning opportunities train our students to be well-rounded collaborators, ready for all aspects of professional work in theatre, dance, and performance. The Theatre and Performance program offers the following undergraduate degrees: Specialized Honours BA (Performance Creation); Specialized Honours BFA (Production and Design); Specialized Honours BFA (Acting and Performance); Specialized Honours BFA (Performance Creation). The Dance Program offers a Specialized Honours BFA (Dance Choreography/Performance). The Graduate Program in Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies offers two degrees, an MA and a PhD, both of which examine the intersection of theatre, performance, and cultural politics.

Please join us for what promises to be an amazing year of theatre, dance, and performance!



Marlis Schweitzer, Chair, Dept. of Theatre, Dance, and Performance.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

This is a play ahead of its time. Written in 1934, with a shockingly contemporary perspective on queerness, *The Children's Hour* also asks questions about generational divides and the status of women. Throughout our process, we have been particularly interested in the pace of information at this time—how the events of the play unravel slowly and methodically, rather than responding to a 24-hr news cycle. This play requires that we sit in discomfort, rather than expecting these difficult questions to be resolved immediately. It requires that we get comfortable in the grey area between what is right and wrong, good and bad. And what a rich environment to spend time in with a company of fantastic artists.

Celebrated 19th c. poet (and queer icon) Emily Dickinson wrote:

I'm nobody! Who are you?
Are you nobody, too?
Then there's a pair of us—don't tell!
They'd advertise us, you know.

To this day, advertising one's identity is a great act of courage. It was even more so the case in 1934. For me, that is the crux of this story: the great challenge associated with finding oneself, accepting who you are, and sharing that with the world—even with the less savoury parts. Working with this incredible group of students has been enormously inspiring, as I've seen them show up every day with their whole identities, alongside an enormous amount of curiosity and courage. I hope you enjoy the results of that courage.



Rob Kempson, *The Children's Hour*.

DIRECTING TEAM

Rob Kempson - Director (He/Him)

Rob Kempson is a director, writer, and educator, and has been the Artistic Director at the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope since the fall of 2021. Rob has served in various leadership positions, including as Associate Artistic Director at the Thousand Islands Playhouse (Gananoque, ON), Associate Artistic Producer at Theatre Passe Muraille (Toronto, ON), and Co-Artistic Producer of ARC Stage (Toronto, ON). He was also the founding Artistic Director of timeshare performance, a multi-award-winning Toronto-based collective, and has been lucky enough to work across the country as a freelance director and playwright.

As an artist-educator, Rob has worked for all GTA school boards as well as Young People's Theatre, Canadian Stage, Pleiades Theatre, Opera Atelier, and Casa Loma. He has also served as an instructor and/or director at University of Toronto Mississauga, Humber College, Sheridan College, St. Lawrence College, Randolph College, Centennial College, and George Brown College. Rob also works as a community arts facilitator and curator, collectively creating performances and interactive exhibits with community members. He is a graduate of Queen's University. More info at robkempson.com.



Richard Sutton - Asst Director & Dialect Coach (They/He)

Richard Sutton is a queer, Torontonionian artist of mixed descent. Currently in his fourth year of the BFA Acting and Performance program, he specializes in both Acting and Directing. Their recent credits include *The Witch of Edmonton* (Soupepper Theatre Co., staged reading), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Theatre @ York), *The Penelopiad* (T. @ Y.) and *Concord Floral* (T. @ Y.), as well as *Summer Child* (playGround Festival) and *Meat Market* (p.G. Fest.); also, Asst. Director for *Sex*, *Silverfish*, and *Sunset Society* (p.G. Fest.), Dialect Coach for *All of Them Gone* (p.G. Fest.) and *Luscinia* (p.G. Fest.), and as Stage Manager for *Meat Market* (Hamilton Fringe). He is so honoured to be working on this show alongside such talented artists and would like to thank Rob, Jamie Robinson, Payton Oswald, and Brianna Wheeler for their encouragement and support in fostering his development as a director.



Siobhan Richardson - Fight Director (She/Her)

Siobhan Richardson is an award-winning Fight Director, Intimacy Director and Coordinator, actor/fighter/singer/dancer, and a teacher, all of which have taken her across Canada, into the States and across Europe, in professional and amateur settings, and in educational institutions. She is a pioneer voice in Intimacy for Stage and Screen across Canada and around the world. As a part of the negotiating team, Siobhan was an instrumental element for bringing terms regarding Intimacy and Intimacy Directors into the Canadian Theatre Agreement. As a certified Fight Director (Fight Directors Canada), and an internationally-respected instructor, Siobhan has taught stage combat across Canada, USA and Europe. She received an Arts Response Initiative grant (Ontario Arts Council) to bring her unique approach to stage combat to Ontario and the world, through online lessons for skills development and maintenance.

<https://joyfulworkspaces.teachable.com>. Her work on *HEIST* (Grand Theatre, London and Citadel Theatre, Edmonton) was nominated for a Sterling Award.

Coming soon: *Combat Cabaret*,
<https://www.burningmountain.ca/combatacabaret>

Selected Credits: *Waitress* (Grand Theatre, London, and Theatre Aquarius, Hamilton), *Fulfillment Centre*, *Waiting for Godot* (Coal Mine Theatre), *Jersey Boys* (Tweed and Company), *Indecent* (Studio 180/Mirvish), *Room* (Grand Theatre/Covent Garden, England/Mirvish), *Sex*, *Getting Married*, *The Russian Play* (Shaw); *Phaedra's Love* (Stratford Festival), resident fight and intimacy director at the Canadian Opera Company
www.SiobhanRichardson.com, Instagram: @fighteractress



DIRECTING TEAM



Sam Clements - Music Director + Arranger (He/Him)

Sam Clements is an Multidisciplinary artist based in Toronto, and currently in his final year of the BFA Acting and Performance program at York University. He recently played Don Pedro in York's production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Some of his other credits include *The Penelopiad*, *Concord Floral* and many shows at the Playground Festival. Sam is so thrilled to have had the opportunity to arrange and direct the music for this show! He would like to thank his mom, dad, siblings, friends and many mentors for their endless love and support.



Natasha Ross - Accessibility Coordinator (They/Them)

Natasha (they/them), is a 3rd year Production & Design student at York. Described as a "Swiss army knife of talent" they have tried their hand at design, accessibility, costuming, puppetry, lighting, sound and so much more! Some recent credits include Accessibility Coordinator for *Much Ado About Nothing* (T@Y), Costume Designer for *Lost & Found* (Secret City Adventures) & Curator for Scenes By Design: SCRAPPED (T@Y). If you enjoyed the show and would like to see a behind the scenes look, come check out Scenes By Design running Mar 23-28 in the JGG Theatre.

DESIGNERS



Alessia Penna - Sound Designer (She/Her)

Alessia Penna is very excited to be the Sound Designer for this year's winter show *The Children's Hour*! Alessia is in her fourth year at York University in the BFA program for Production & Design. Some of her past work experience in the theatre program would involve being in first year lighting crew between 2022-2023, being the Assistant Head of Sound for the fall show *Bakkhai* of 2023, Assistant Stage Manager for *Radium Girls* 2024, Assistant Stage Manager for *She Kills Monsters* 2024, and Sound Designer for *People, Places and Things* 2025. Involving outside of school, Alessia Penna is a substitute teacher at St Elizabeth CHS in Thornhill between grades 9-12. A little fun fact about Alessia is that before university, she used to do semi-professional musical theatre for 10 years and went to an arts high school in the regional arts program for Drama! Alessia is so excited for you to see the show and hopes you enjoy it!



Olga Korolyuk - Set Designer (She/Her)

Olga is a 4th year Production student at York University's theatre program, interested in all things hedonistic. She's thrilled to be working in collaboration with all her talented classmates on this project, alongside Rob's evocative direction. The set design explores the fragile rigidity of systems of power, and how they compare to the complexity of people's actual existence. Designing for theatre is not at all different from making fan art, it's all re-interpretation and head cannons. She hopes you enjoy the beautifully written story of *The Children's Hour*. Previous credits include Costume design for Theatre @ York's *People, Places and Things* in 2025. She posts her work, and lots of conceptual designs on instagram; @Olga.Korolyuk.



Paige Thompson - Lighting Designer (She/Her)

Paige Thompson is delighted to be finishing off her BFA in Theatre Production and Design as the Lighting Designer for *The Children's Hour*. Previous credits with York University include: Head of Lighting (*People, Places, and Things*); Lighting Design (*Raccacoon*); Co-Direction (*Dogwood Gospel*); Lighting Design (*Irreparable Being*). Selected credits with the Port Stanley Festival Theatre include: Lighting & Sound Design (*goldfish*); Assistant Lighting Design (*Doris and Ivy in the Home*); House Technician. She would like to thank everyone she has worked with along the way. Including family, friends, and professors who have given their unwavering support. She couldn't have asked for a better four years!



Nirjara Dwivedi - Costume Designer (She/Her)

Nirjara Dwivedi is a multidisciplinary theatre artist with experience in costume design, performance, and film. Her previous work includes *Bakkhai* as well as acting in several short films. She is grateful to be designing costumes for *The Children's Hour* and extends heartfelt thanks to Jackie Chau for her belief and support, and to Sylvia Defend, Gwyneth Whalen-Hughes, and the wonderful wardrobe team for their care, collaboration, and generosity.

CAST



Lauren Matassa (She/Her)
Karen Wright

Lauren Matassa is a multidisciplinary emerging theatre artist currently completing her BFA in acting and performance at York University. Since moving to Toronto Lauren has been fortunate enough to perform and collaborate alongside many other artists that have fuelled her passion for theatre. Most recently, Lauren has performed in YorkU's production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *The Penelopiad*. Lauren wants to take the time to thank her teachers, mentors, friends and loved ones for the support they have given her in her career this far.



Natalie Maddyn (She/They)
Martha Dobie

Natalie Maddyn is a final-year BFA Acting & Performance student at York University and an emerging actor, playwright, and director. Their recent performances include Frank Thorney in a staged reading of *The Witch of Edmonton* (Soulpepper Theatre/YorkU), Randia in *Randia's Quiet Theatre* (YorkU), and Eurycleia in *The Penelopiad* (YorkU). In addition to performance, Natalie also had the opportunity to act as Assistant Director in *Concord Floral* (YorkU), as well as Playwright and Co-Director of original short plays *All of Them Gone* and *Rosemary Lies Where the Hill Meets the Sky* (YorkU PlayGround Festival). Natalie is deeply excited to have worked alongside a cast and crew of passionate young artists these past months, and is grateful to help carry a story about queerness—from a time before it could be named—into the present, where it can finally be seen and understood.



Rory Baechler (She/Her)
Mary Tilford

Rory Baechler is a Toronto-based Filipino-Canadian actor and fourth-year Theatre student in the Acting and Performance program at York University. She's been performing since the age of nine, when she discovered that her stutter disappeared on stage, sparking a lifelong love of acting. Rory's mixed heritage fuel her passion for storytelling that celebrates identity, resilience, and human connection. Outside of acting, she brings her athletic, competitive spirit into every performance, striving to push creative boundaries and inspire audiences through honest and engaging work.



Alexei DeLuca (He/Him)
Dr. Joe Cardin

Alexei DeLuca is a Toronto based artist, born and raised in Stratford, Ontario. He is extremely excited to bring the role of Dr. Joseph Cardin to life in his final York U performance of *The Children's Hour*. Before York, Alexei studied at Playmakers! Theatre School in Stratford, where over the course of 9 years under the direction of Susan Kennedy he would take on such classic roles as Hamlet (*Hamlet*), Romeo (*Romeo and Juliet*), Macduff (*Macbeth*), and more.... Some other credits include *Macbeth*, and *Romeo and Juliet* (Stratford Festival); *Tracks*, *Sherlock Holmes*, and *Dare to Love: The Musical* (Studio 119); and other various plays and projects over the last 4 years at York. Alexei would like to dedicate his work to his family, as well as Susan from Playmakers! as without her, he is not here. You can catch Alexei this summer as Ewart in 4th Line Theatres production of *Schoolhouse* directed by Monica Dottor! Instagram: @alexeidelu



Kathleen Henthorn (She/Her)
Janet

Kathleen Henthorn (she/her) is a Toronto-based actor and artist graduating from the BFA Acting program at York University. She was born in Prince Edward Island where all things Anne of Green Gables helped foster her love for the stage and strong female characters. Kathleen is thrilled to join these amazing creators to tell this compelling story about the power of a lie and resistance to change. You can also catch her this summer in the Charlottetown Festival's Young Company at the Confederation Centre of the Arts! Select credits include: Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Theatre@York), *The Penelopiad* (JGG Acting Show), *Concord Floral* (Acting Studio Show), *TEIRG* (York PlayGround), *Anne and Gilbert* (The Guild), *Anne of Green Gables* (The Charlottetown Festival). Love to her family and friends for their constant support throughout her journey at York!

CAST



Sam Clements (He/Him) **Grocery Boy & Music Director + Arranger**

Sam Clements is an Multidisciplinary artist based in Toronto, and currently in his final year of the BFA Acting and Performance program at York University. He recently played Don Pedro in York's production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Some of his other credits include *The Penelopiad*, *Concord Floral* and many shows at the Playground Festival. Sam is so thrilled to have had the opportunity to arrange and direct the music for this show! He would like to thank his mom, dad, siblings, friends and many mentors for their endless love and support.



Julianna Olave (She/Her) **Catherine**

Julianna Olave is a multidisciplinary queer Colombian-Canadian theatre artist currently completing her BFA in Acting and Performance at York University. Her work is inspired by magic realism, culture, spirituality, and honesty. She recently performed in the Fall MainStage show as Benedick in Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* (Theatre at York 2025). Eager to deepen her artistry, she seeks representation and strives to challenge hegemonic norms. To see more of Julianna's work you can see her as Catherine in the York University Winter MainStage show of *The Children's Hour* by Lillian Hellman directed by Rob Kempson. Julianna thanks her friends, teachers, and mentors for their support and the opportunities to grow. She is deeply grateful to share this profound and beautiful story with such talented people. Más que todo, a mi familia y Diosito que me han apoyado siempre. Los amo.



Emily Swartz (She/Her) **Rosalie Wells**

Emily Swartz is an Acting and Performance student from Welland, Ontario, currently based in Toronto. Her previous performances include Iole in "*The Penelopiad*" (York University), Number 9 in "*Concord Floral*" (York University) and Laura in "*The Labyrinth of Desire*" (Vanier College Productions). Last summer, she wrote and performed in "*Wired For Connection*," which premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. She has also performed with the Vanier Improv Company for the last four years. Emily is passionate about sharing joy and making change through acting, both on-stage and on-screen. When not in rehearsals, you can find her trying to befriend her temperamental cat, Chichi, or reading a good book.



Esther Okosun (She/Her) **Helen Burton & Fight Captain**

Esther Okosun is an actor who is currently studying at York University and is very excited to be playing Helen Burton in *The Children's Hour*! Through her art, her goal is to tell stories and convey characters that people can relate to and help others feel less alone in their human experience. She has recently been in *Much Ado About Nothing* (York University), *The Penelopiad* (York University), and *Concord Floral* (York University). She is very excited to embark on this journey at Wright-Dobie school with the incredible cast and crew who are all pouring their hearts into this amazing play!



Justine Angelopoulos (She/Her) **Evelyn Munn**

Justine Angelopoulos is a multi-racial Indian-Macedonian and Toronto-based artist drawn to the complexities of human behaviour. She is passionate about creating and performing art that explores the raw, complex, and sometimes contradictory emotions we experience in life. She is delighted to be playing Evelyn Munn in *The Children's Hour* and is so proud to be part of a unique project that has been both transformative and rewarding. Throughout her time in the BFA Theatre Acting & Performance program at York, Justine has worked on the studio productions of *The Penelopiad* as Helen of Troy/Selene and *Concord Floral* as Nearly Wild (#6). At the core, Justine is a fun-loving prankster and wellness enthusiast, and when she's not performing, you can catch her running or doing hot yoga! She owes everything to her supportive family; nothing would be the same without them. Thank you mom and dad, you are my everything. <3

CAST



Avery Hearty (She/Her)
Agatha

Avery Hearty is a 4th-year Acting student at York University. While she currently resides in Toronto, she is originally from Newfoundland, where she graduated from Holy Heart's Performance Program. While at York, Avery has had the pleasure of performing in productions such as *Much Ado About Nothing* (Theatre@York), *The Penelopiad* (Studio Show), *Concord Floral* (Studio Show), *Rosemary* (York Playground), and *Modern Love* (York Playground). She has also enjoyed being a part of film productions, including *Astrid and Lilly Save The World* (Crave), *Son of A Critch* (CBC Gem) and *The Reacher* (Prime Video). Avery is beyond grateful to round off her transformative journey at York with the incredible story of *The Children's Hour* and hopes that you are moved by all it has to offer.



Mihaela Kiraca (She/Her)
Mrs. Amelia Tilford

Mihaela is honoured to be a part of *The Children's Hour* and grateful for the opportunity to work on this production as her final show at YorkU. During her time at York, she has had the privilege of performing in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Leonato) and *Concord Floral* (Bobolink). She would like to give the biggest thank you to Rob, the most devoted cast and talented crew. It's been a sincere joy working with such inspiring artists, and the perfect conclusion to her time at York.



Gabby Dereje (She/Her)
Peggy Rogers

Gabby Dereje (she/her) is an emerging, first generation Ethiopian-Canadian, multidisciplinary theatre artist who is currently completing her 4th year of York's Acting BFA program. Most recently she has been in Theatre @ York's production of *Much Ado About Nothing* and is thrilled to make her appearance as Peggy, in this 1930s classic.



Kait Gouldby (She/Her)
Lois Fisher

Kait Gouldby is a Canadian actor, dancer, singer and creator from Toronto Ontario. Kait has an appetite for human connection and uniting people through storytelling both on the stage and screen. During her time at York University, Kait has had the opportunity to be taught by theatre and performance experts of all fields such as Erika Batdorf, Eric Armstrong, Courtney Ch'ng Lancaster, Keira Loughran and Allyson McMackon. It was there that she got the opportunity to play Euricleia and a suitor in Margret Attwood's *Penelopiad* directed by Keira Loughran. As well as a few student films such as *Blinker* directed by Andrew Santram. Kait is trained in competitive cheerleading, The Batdorf Technique, vocal manipulation and dialects including Standard British, American Southern and Russian. She is also trained in stage combat and intimacy. Kait has a passion for bringing artistic visions to life. Inspired by the diverse opportunities of this career path, Kait is enthusiastic about the artistic and personal development available within this enthralling industry.



Mackenzie Heaney (She/Her)
Mrs. Lily Mortar

Mackenzie Heaney is an emerging, multidisciplinary artist, graduating in June with a BFA in Acting and Performance at York University. Based in Toronto, some of Mackenzie's notable recent credits include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Allyson McMackon) and *The Penelopiad* (Keira Loughran) as well as a range of devised work. With a background in everything from classical text to more innovative and experimental work, Mackenzie approaches each project with a balance of rigor, play and curiosity. Whether building a character, shaping a world as a director, or crafting original work on the page, her practice is rooted in exploration, ensemble-driven collaboration, and the thrill of discovering the layers and complexity beneath story and character. Mackenzie is passionate about work that challenges form, uplifts community, and invites audiences into imaginative worlds. She'd like to thank her family for coming all the way from her hometown Victoria, BC to see her perform, and for putting up with the dramatics of raising a theatre kid.

CREW - MANAGEMENT



Olivia Gouveia - Production Manager (She/Her)

Olivia is incredibly grateful to be working as the Production Manager for *The Children's Hour!* She has most recently worked as a Stage Manager at Canada's *Wonderland*, Head of Wardrobe for York's production of *People, Places and Things*, an Assistant Stage Manager for York's *She Kills Monsters* (2024), an Assistant Stage Manager for *Snacey!* at the Toronto Fringe Festival (2024), as well as an Assistant Head of Wardrobe on York's production of *Radium Girls* (2024). She would like to thank all of the staff, faculty, and peers who have aided in her educational and professional journey and those who continue to encourage her to pursue her aspirations.



Spencer Simpson - Assist Production Manager (He/Him)

Spencer is not new to the Theatre@York festivities with working on shows such as assistant stage managing *Much Ado About Nothing* (2025) and operating flies for *People Places and Things* (2025) though this is first show ever he gets to work alongside such an amazing production team. A huge shout out to all the production people who made this learning opportunity as joyous as it was!



Kat Wilkie - Stage Manager (Any/All)

Kat Wilkie (Any/All) is a multi-disciplinary artist currently pursuing a BFA in Theatre Production & Design. Often considered a Jack-of-All-Trades Kat has been striving to try every single job at least once. However, you can most often find her in the Wardrobe Shop, Stage Managing, Operating a Lighting Board, Performing, or Choreographing Dance! Most recently they has been seen Stage Managing Playdough Productions Award Winning Fringe show "*Raccacloon*" (Hamilton Fringe 2025), Making sexy elf costumes for Theatre @ York's "*She Kills Monsters*" (T@Y 2024), & working as a technician in the very theatre you are sitting in (Yorku Performance Facilities). Working on "*The Children's Hour*" has been a deeply valuable experience for Kat & they are so proud of all of the hard work that has been poured into this production. Kat hopes you are swept up in the world that she has been living in since January & that it stays with you on the journey home.



Ariane Daigle Thibaudau - Asst Stage Manager (She/Her)

Ariane is thrilled to be working on *The Children's Hour* as an Assistant Stage Manager. This marks her third production at York University, and she is incredibly grateful for the meaningful experiences she has gained along the way. Her previous credits include Lighting Apprentice for York University's *People, Places and Things*, Lighting Designer for Spotlight Youth Academy, running crew for York University's *She Kills Monsters*, and scenic painting for *Charactor's Alice in Wonderland* and *The Addams Family*. She would like to thank her fellow stage managers for their hard work and support, as well as all the talented individuals who contributed to this production.



Tiana Nielsen- Asst Stage Manager (She/Her)

Tiana Nielsen is a multidisciplinary artist from Burlington, Ontario, currently in her third year as a production and design student. She is proud to work on a show that is so connected to the queer community and female experience. Some of her previous credits include Costume Designer for *A Memory of Us* (playGround 2026), Lighting Designer for *Tales and Tyranny* (playGround 2026), Co-Head of Props for *Much Ado About Nothing* (Theatre@York 2025), Assistant Production Manager for *People, Places, and Things* (Theatre@York 2025), and Assistant Electrician for *She Kills Monsters* (Theatre@York 2024). Thanks especially to the SM team for making this such an enjoyable experience. Enjoy the show!

CREW - MANAGEMENT



Alyssa Palma - Asst Stage Manager (She/They)

Alyssa Palma is a second year theatre production and design student. She is grateful for the opportunity to work on this show and the wonderful team she got to work with. Selected theatre experience includes shop assistant for Theatre@York's *Much Ado About Nothing*, stage manager for LYTE's *She Kills Monsters*, lighting programmer/operator for Little Theatre Company's *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang JR*, and props apprentice for Theatre@York's *People, Places and Things*. They thank you for supporting the show and hope you enjoy it.



Nick Wawrow - Stage Manager Apprentice (They/Them)

Nick Wawrow is an apprentice stage manager with a background in management and lighting. I have worked on many shows, including York's production of *Much Ado About Nothing* as an apprentice stage carpenter. I'd like to thank my mother for being my rock through first year, as well as my father for fostering my love of production.



Pavly Roushdy - Technical Director (He/Him)

Pavly has spent the last three years and a half working as a stagehand in theatres all over Toronto. Led by his desire to learn Theatre Design and Theatre Management, Pavly started his education here at York University. Throughout his time at York, some of Pavly's most notable work has been being the Assistant Head of Lighting for "*Radium Girls*" and Assistant Technical Director for "*She Kills Monsters*". Being the Technical Director for *The Children's Hour* has allowed Pavly to see a whole new meaning to the phrase, "Theatre is Teamwork." Pavly credits the success of this show getting put up to the dedication, drive and passion of each individual in each of the various departments. Pavly considers it an honour to have been the one to merely pave the path for the rest of the teams to put on this show! Pavly would like to thank James McKernan, Gavin McDonald, Lisa Lahue, Rachel Smith & Steph Raposo for the learning and guidance he has gotten from them along the way. Last but certainly not least, Kafka Roposa for being the best assistant a TD could ask for!



Kafka Roposa - Assistant Technical Director (He/She)

Kafka is thrilled to be the ATD for *The Children's Hour*! This is his second Theatre@York production, previously working on *Much Ado About Nothing* as a stage carp. He would like to thank his loving family, as well as his super supportive professors and instructors. He gives special thanks to the stellar shop crew, who did a fantastic job building such a beautifully designed show! www.neoverture.com



Luan Ngo - Front of House Manager (He/Him)

Luan is a fourth year student at York U's Theatre focusing in Performance Creation. He would like to thank everyone from the production for their hard work.

CREW - WARDROBE



Rachel Van Staalduinen - Head of Wardrobe (They/She)

Rachel is a Production and Design student in her third year at York who is excited to be the Head of Wardrobe for *The Children's Hour*. Recent York credits include APM/ATD (playGround festival 2025) and Assistant Head of Wardrobe/Head Dresser (*Radium Girls*). She would like to thank the Wardrobe Crew for their hard work and dedication, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



Calla Soles - Assistant Head of Wardrobe (She/Her)

Calla Soles (she/her) is the Assistant Head of Wardrobe for *The Children's Hour*. After spending 2 years in Integrative Arts, Calla is now where she belongs in Theatre Production. From Head of Sound (*Much Ado About Nothing*, 2025), to Set Designer (*Mayor Pierre & the Dark Town of Dagenham*, 2026), to her current role in the wardrobe, she's loved working with all the amazing people that have welcomed her into theatre. @calla.coma



Rachel Trask - First Hand (She/Her)

Rae/Rachel (She/Her) is a 3rd year student in York University's Theatre Production & Design program focusing on scenic art and production management. She currently works as a technician for The Rose Theatre in Brampton, previously working on *Much Ado About Nothing* as Co-Head of Paint and on *She Kills Monster* as the Assistant Production Manager for Theatre@York. She is excited to be a part of the wardrobe for *The Children's Hour*, exploring costume construction. She would like to thank her friends, parents and Johnny Soln for supporting her.



Frances Molina-Aiken - Wardrobe Apprentice (They/Them)

Frances has previously worked on their high school, Glendale's production of *The Little Mermaid* (2022) as Violin II, and *Newsies* (2024) as a sound board operator. Frances has learned a lot working on this show. They are excited to see the beautiful costumes come to life on stage. It has been a great experience working with everyone on the team. They would like to thank everyone working in the wardrobe for making this such a valuable experience.



Zachary Mayer-Leitch - Wardrobe Apprentice (He/him)

I am a wardrobe assistant with a background in theatre and music performance. I've previously worked on York University's production of *Much Ado About Nothing* in wardrobe. Thank you mom and dad pushing me to do what I enjoy.

CREW - WARDROBE



Abigail McDonald - Wardrobe Apprentice (She/Her)

Hi, I'm Abby! I'm one of the Wardrobe Apprentices for The Children's Hour. I was fortunate enough to be placed on Wardrobe last semester for *Much Ado About Nothing*, and I'm so glad I get to continue making the costumes for this show. My previous production experience involves carpentry work on high school productions of *The Addams Family* and *Les Misérables*, as well as many years of lighting and stage managing work. Thank you so much for coming to see our production *The Children's Hour*, I hope you have a blast.

CREW - SHOP



Sierra Bonavota - Head of Props (She/Her)

Sierra Bonavota is a third year Theatre student who excited to be the head of props for *The Children's Hour*. Her past work with Theatre@York includes hair, makeup, breakdown and dying for *People, Places, and Things*. Sierra would like to thank the entire Props team for their hard work and helping hands throughout this and my cutie patootie designer Olga.



Pierce Buban - Co-Head of Props (Any/All)

Pierce Buban is thrilled to be Co-Head of Props for *The Children's Hour*. She previously worked as Playground's Assistant Stage Manager, where she learned to keep the chaos organized and the show running smoothly. Pierce is a third-year Production student with a love for behind-the-scenes storytelling and collaboration. When not backstage, she enjoys playing games and getting crafty—especially when creativity meets problem-solving. Pouring a ton of work into the show, I hope you'll love this as much as I do. And I would like to give a huge thank-you to everyone supporting the show and coming out to watch—so excited to see you there!



Sixx Badalov - Assistant Props (He)

Sixx is a first year student in the Theatre at York program and is excited to be assistant props on *The Children's Hour*. They have worked on many shows with the TCDSB as an Assistant stage manager including *Legally Blonde*, *The Addams Family*, and most recently *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. He is grateful for the opportunity to work with such an amazing crew and would like to thank the entire shop team, and especially his crew heads.



Victoria Persaud - Assistant Props / Paint (She/They)

Victoria Persaud (she/they) is a third year devised theatre student, working as a Props/Paint Assistant for *The Children's Hour*. Her past productions include Props Crew, *Radium Girls* (Theatre at York), 2025; and Props/Paint Crew, *The Bakkhai* (Theatre at York), 2024. She hopes that people enjoy all the hard work that has gone into the making of this show!

CREW - SHOP



Nahal Amanirad - Head of Scenic Art (She/Her)

Nahal Amanirad is a third-year Production student at York University and the Head of Paint for *The Children's Hour*. Her previous credits include *Radium Girls*, *Bakkhai*, *People Places and Things*, and *The Kills Monsters*. She is passionate about using paint to enhance storytelling and create atmosphere on stage, and she appreciates both her collaborators and the audiences who engage with the work.



Alyssa Leslie - Co-Head of Scenic Art (She/Her)

Alyssa is one of the heads of props for the York University winter show *People, Places, and Things*. Works include *Bakkhai*, where she gained experience on the lighting crew, and *Radium Girls*, where she honed her skills on the props crew. With a passion for creating and an eye for detail, Alyssa is excited to bring her creative vision to the stage and enhance the immersive experience for the audience. She is looking forward to continuing her growth in the vibrant world of theatre.



Maddy Crawford - Assistant Scenic Art (They/Them)

Maddy Crawford is very excited to have the chance to work on *The Children's Hour* as assistant scenic art. Their previous credits include *Layers*, *Only the Good*, *The Archetype*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Maddy would like to thank their mom, as well as their high school drama teachers: Mrs. Goncalves and Mr. Houston for encouraging their pursuit in theatre.



Hyeun Kang- Assistant Scenic Art (She/Her)

Hyeun is a 2nd year student in the Production & Design program at York University. Her recent credits include Apprentice Wardrobe on *People, Places, and Things* (2025) and Wardrobe/Running Crew on *The Kills Monsters* (2024). Currently working as Scenic Art Assistant on *The Children's Hour*. She looks forward to learning more about hands-on experience and continuing to develop her skills for the future career.



Izzy James - Head of Scenic Carpentry (She/He)

Izzy is a second year theatre production and design student and is so excited for you to see "*The Children's Hour*"! This is her fifth production working in carpentry, and her third at York. Past shows she has worked on include "*The Kills Monsters*" and "*People, Places And Things*". She would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard on this production, as well as her advisors James McKernan and Lisa Lahue for their incredible guidance.

CREW - SHOP



Alexandra Bellavia - Carpentry Assistant (She/Her)

Alexandra is a second-year production and design student who has a passion for all things theatre. She is very excited to have the opportunity to work on York's production of *The Children's Hour* and is honoured to help bring the incredible piece to life. Past works include: *She Kills Monsters* (2024), *People, Places, and Things* (2025), playGround festival (2025), and *Scenes by Design* (2025). Enjoy the show!



Sophie Cheung - Carpentry Assistant (She/Her)

Sophie is a 3rd year theatre student who recently joined the Production Design stream. She is super excited to be working as a Carpentry Assistant in *The Children's Hour*. Recent credits include: Co-head of Scenic Paint for *Much Ado About Nothing* (Theatre@York), ASM for *Satsuki Sakurai and the Blade of Broken Bonds* (On the Edge Fringe). Prop Designer for *Gas Station At the Edge of the Universe*, Production Assistant for *Wiener Beacon* and Costume Designer for *Faith* (York playGround). She would like to thank her friends and family for their love and support.



Melissa Joseph (MJ) - Carpenter (She/Her)

Melissa (MJ) is a second-year international student and multi-disciplinary theatre artist. Her previous credits range from Technical Director (*Much Ado About Nothing*) and Carpenter (*People, Places, and Things*) to Stage Manager (Little Shop of Horrors) and Lead Actor (*Sunny Side Up*). MJ is excited to return to the carpentry shop for *The Children's Hour* and is honoured to help bring the world of this play to life through scenic construction. She would like to send a huge thank you to her family back home and her shop mentors for their endless support!



Fatima Douha - Carpenter (She/Her)

Fatima Douha is a third-year Psychology student honored to serve as a Carpenter for this production. Drawing on a background in residential construction and home renovations, they enjoy the intersection of structural precision and the theatrical impact of scenic design. Since serving as an Apprentice Carpenter for last semester's *Much Ado About Nothing*, Fatima has been inspired by the challenge of bringing complex, tangible environments to life from the ground up. They would like to thank the technical faculty for their mentorship, and the shop crew for their collaboration and hard work.



Emma Jamed- Assistant Carpenter (She/Her)

Emma is a second year production student from Toronto with a passion for creating theatre. She is the Assistant Carpenter for this production of *The Children's Hour*, and she's so excited to be building away in the shop this semester. Some recent shows Emma has worked on include: Assistant Production Manager for *Much Ado About Nothing* (T@Y Mainstage), Production Assistant for *Weiner Beacon* (Playground Festival '26), and the Choreographer for *Tony Petra Technicolor* (Playground Festival '26). Emma is so great full to be a part of so many productions here at York and is looking forward to many more! :)

CREW - SHOP



Jackson (The Dog) - Shop Mascot (He/Him)

Jackson is a good boy. He enjoys belly rubs and treats. Often found in the scenery shop, he also enjoys the wardrobe. He hopes you enjoy the show! Woof

CREW - THEATRE



Amber Bean - Head Stage Carp (She/Her)

Amber Bean (she/her) is a second year Theatre Production & Design student, and Head of Stage Carpentry for this show. Her previous works include Sound Designer for the shows *Next Stop Chiang Mai* (Playground 2025), *Stupid Cupid* (Playground 2026), *The Gas Station at the Edge of the Universe* (Playground 2026), as well as crew on *She Kills Monsters* (Theatre@York 2024), and *People Places and Things* (Theatre@York 2025).



Jenny Yang - Asst Stage Carp (She/Her)

Jenny Yang is a second-year Theatre major specializing in Production and Design. She previously worked on *She Kills Monsters* and, playGround (2024-2025) in her first year, and is currently the Stage Carp Assistant for *The Children's Hour*. She is excited to work from behind-the-scenes to bring the set to life. Jenny gives her thanks' to the carpentry team and their crew heads. You can find her on Instagram @jjpuzzl3s.



Madeline Winter - Stage Carp Apprentice (She/Her)

Madeline Winter is a first-year theatre student. In the previous semester, she was the Wardrobe Apprentice on *Much Ado About Nothing*. Credits prior to York University include Stage Management for *Little Women*, *Narnia*, and *Artemis VS. Apollo: Clash of the Celestial Twins* (High School Edition) (Edinburgh Fringe 2024). She is working to expand her theater knowledge and is excited to see where her studies take her. She would like to thank her family, friends and teachers for all their support and encouragement.



Samantha Derbyshire - Stage Carp Apprentice (She/Her)

Samantha Derbyshire is a first year Theatre student here at York University and could not be more grateful for the opportunity to work as an apprentice stage carpenter on the production of *The Children's Hour*. She has experience as an actor, assistant director and stage manager at her high school and is excited to expand her knowledge and grow as an artist. She greatly admires everyone on the cast and crew for their level of artistry and could not be more grateful to have worked alongside them. The story of *The Children's Hour* is one that is moving and reflects the power of storytelling. Samantha hopes to continue to work on similar projects and use art to create change. She is thankful to her family, friends and all current and past teachers that have given her the courage to be where she is today.

CREW - THEATRE



Vic Lusby - Head of lighting (They/Them)

Vic is a third-year theatre production student. They are delighted to be able to work on *The Children's Hour* as the Head of Lighting. Vic's previous credits include Set Designer and Builder for *The Gas Station at the Edge of the Universe* (PlayGround 26), Head of Props for *Much Ado About Nothing* (Theatre@York 25), Head Stage Carpentry and Flys for *People, Places and Things* (Theatre@York 25), SM & Lighting Designer for *Wired for Connection* (Edinburgh Fringe 25) and Sound Operator for *Intertwined* (Edinburgh Fringe 25). They would like to thank their assistants and peers for all the support in putting this show together.



Jackson Kikuchi - Asst Lighting (He/Him)

Jackson R. A. M. K. (He/Him) is a second year York University Production student, Actor, Singer, Comedian, Craftsman. Excited to be assistant LX on *The Children's Hour*. Previous works include: Production work on: *Much Ado About Nothing* (Apprentice Carpenter), *People Places & Things* (Carpentry crew), *She Kills Monster* (Wardrobe crew) Acting in: *Legally Blonde* (Emmett Forest), *Mamma Mia* (Priest), *HSM* (Jack Scott), and more.



Isabella Bellisario - Asst Lighting (She/Her)

I am so grateful to be apart of creating this amazing show. There is so much creativity, dedication, and positivity from every team, fostering such an encouraging and fun environment. In the past I have worked on *She Kills Monster*, *People, Places, and Things*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and YorkU's Playground, but this is my first time in the role of assistant electrician. It has been such an educational and enjoyable experience. I would like to thank the cast and the crew and everyone who was involved in the creation of the show, most importantly the friends and family who have always supported me. Enjoy the show. ;)



Dakota Sands- Asst Lighting (They/Them)

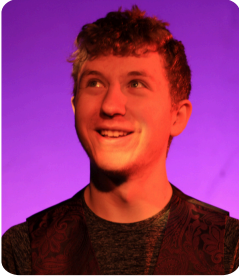
Dakota Sands is in their second year, and started working on shows backstage in their first year as a LX/Sound crew member, for *She Kills Monsters* and *People Places and Things*. They have also been a part of shows as an actor, as Raja in *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, Elizabeth in *Life and Death in an Empty Hallway*, and as an actor and writer in *IRIS*. They are excited to continue their theatre career as both a technician and as an actor.

CREW - THEATRE



Denise van Griensven - Head of Sound (She/Her)

Denise is excited to be the head of sound for *The Children's Hour*. Previously, she's worked on Theatre@York's *Much Ado About Nothing* as a wardrobe assistant, as well as *People, Places & Things* as the assistant head of paint, and *She Kills Monsters* as the assistant head of sound. She hopes you enjoy the show.



Zach Giardine - Apprentice LX & Sound (He/Him)

Zach Giardine is a theatre production student studying in the Theatre program at York University. He has worked on 30+ productions in lighting, stage management, and production leadership roles across school and professional theatre. His work has been recognized with Best Provincial Production honours and a Distinctive Merit Award for Lighting/Colour Design at the NTS Dramafest (formerly sears). Zach plans to become a high school drama teacher, combining technical theatre practice with arts education to support emerging artists. Website: zacharywgiardine.com | Instagram: @zachgiardine



Natalia Vahl - Apprentice LX & Sound (She/Her)

Natalia is a first year Theatre student at York hoping to specialize in Production and Design. She is incredibly excited to be an Apprentice Lighting and Sound on this production of *The Children's Hour*! Having previously been a performer and stage manager at Almaguin Highlands Secondary School and worked on Lighting and Sound on *Much Ado About Nothing* in the previous term, she is eager to continue developing her knowledge and collaborate with such an amazing new group of people. She extends her gratitude to her friends and family for their support throughout this exciting journey.



Janice Rivera Valdez - Head Dresser (She/Her)

Janice is super excited to get to be joining the wardrobe team in this year's production of *The Children's Hour*! It's her first time taking on the role of a Head Dresser, and she couldn't be more excited! Her past works include Assistant Stage Manager for *Much Ado About Nothing* (2025), Assistant Head of paint / props in *She Kills Monsters* (2024), and Assistant Production Manager in the Playground Festival (2025). Janice thanks her amazing wardrobe team, and dressing team for their patience and grace in this process. So much love, and she hopes you enjoy the show!

ADDITIONAL CREW

Running/ Flycrew

Adrian Chnaiderman
Annalise "Annie"
Henderson
Darren Ho
Elizabeth Kile
Emma Fritzsich
Francis John-Ejimonu
Harmony Carnakie
Lydia Drummelsmith
Muhammed Celik
Niki Khalighi
Ricky Springett
Ryane Gabora
Salvatore Ritacca
Sienna Jacobs
Will Byassee

Dressing crew

Ashley Marie Guerin
Aubyn Brown
Cami Allingham
Chloe Bradt
Corazon Goldman
Dana Jordan
Ella Segal
Evie Lopata
Kye Chao
Lauren Spencer
Madelyn Ferreira
Maggie Martin
Nathan Oriente
Niki Khalighi
Reuben Stewart
Sarah Langley

FIRST-YEAR CREW

Abigail Sevigny
Adrian Chnaiderman
Almaz Berhane
Amrita Shams
Annie Henderson
Ashley Guerin
Aubyn Brown
Ava Ereddia
Ava Todd-Quesnelle
Cami Allingham
Caydon Notte
Charlie Beckett
Chloe Bradt
Christian Isaakidis
Corazon Goldman
Dana Jordan
Darren Ho
Eli Burford-Rodriguez
Elizabeth Kile
Ella Segal
Emma Fritzsich
Emmalthia Eaton-Boehm
Eniola Yusuf
Evie Lopata
Francis John-Ejimonu
Francis Torres
Gauravdeep Sandhu
Giulia Muniz Moraes
Glenn Koceku
Hannah Taylor
Harmony Carnakie

Jessica Ram
Jibraan Qureshi
Julian Zhang
Kye Chao
Lauren Patten
Lauren Spencer
Leah Coupal
Leila Asselin
Leo Bowen
Lesana Yatsenko
Lillian Pitaro
Lucy Cunningham
Lukas Rose-Janes
Lydia Drummelsmith
Madelyn Ferreira
Maggie Martin
Maiya Karim
Mali-Soleil Robar
Marlie Klompstra-White
Mateo Barros
Mel Carlucci
Mia Kulinchenko
Michi Arauco
Morgan Albert
Muhammed Celik

Naomi Rossi
Nathan Oriente
Niki Khalighi
Owen Chiodo
Paul Karpel
Rafa Rijo
Renee Lombardo
Reuben Stewart
Ricky Springett
Ryane Gabora
Rylee Dixon
Sabrina Gallant
Sage Osborne
Salvatore Ritacca
Saimaya Karim
Sarah Langley
Shayden Harze
Sienna Jacobs
Sophia Romano
Sung-Sil Park
Tale Abor-Gabriel
Teodora Magalhaes
Valeria OR Val Fargione
Vivian Krausz
Will Byassee
Zee Watson
Zenon Binkle
Petar Tufegdzic
YiXin "Casey" Zhang

SCENES BY DESIGN



Curated By
Natasha Ross

March 23, 3pm-8pm
March 23, 3:30pm
(season announcement)
March 24, 11:30am-8pm
March 25, 11:30am-8pm
March 26, 11:30am-8pm
March 27, 11:30am-8pm
March 28, 10am-12pm

STEELES AVE WEST

Site Specific Locations - Accolade East, Centre for Film & Theatre, Joan & Martin Goldfarb Centre for Fine Arts Buildings

Series A: Here - March 26th | Series B: There - March
27th 2026 6:00pm, 6:30pm & 7:00pm



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OTTAWA RD

MCLAUGHLIN



YORK DANCES

Artistic Director: Candice Spykers

YORK UNIVERSITY KE

school of the arts, media
performance & design

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BLOOM

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🕒 April 29th, 2026
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📍 York Woods
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Sankofa

A Tale of Journeys

ARTISTIC DIRECTORS
Kemora Manning & Alexis Amey

CHOREOGRAPHERS
Mackenzie Blair, Robyn Haines, Nona Houshiarkhah,
Alyssa Levac, Katherine Mackenzie, Connor McNeil,
Alex St. Onge, Grace Palter



Department of Theatre, Dance & Performance

2025 - 2026
Season

Much Ado About Nothing by William Shakespeare

Additional Text by Erin Shields

Directed by Allyson McMackon

Joseph G. Green Theatre

November 15th - 22nd, 2025

playGround Festival

Artistic Directors: Jay Graham
& Jessica Fowler

Joseph G. Green Theatre

February 7th - 13th, 2026

Devised Theatre Festival

Location TBA

March 10th - 14th, 2026 - TBC

The Children's Hour by Lillian Hellman

Directed by Rob Kempson

Sandra Faire and Ivan Fecan Theatre

March 21st - 28th, 2026

Scenes By Design

Curated by Natasha Ross

Joseph G. Green Theatre

March 23rd - 28th, 2026

Dance Innovations

Artistic Director: Terrill Maguire

McLean Performance Studio

November 19th - 21st, 2025

YDE Showcase

Artistic Director: Syreeta Hector

Sandra Faire and Ivan Fecan Theatre

February 4th - 6th, 2026

York Dances

Artistic Director: Candice Spykers

Site Specific - Locations TBA

March 26th - 27th, 2026

Bloom

Artistic Directors: Alexis Amey

& Kemora Manning

Location TBC

Spring 2026

ampd.yorku.ca/boxoffice

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