

Kitsap Forest Theater *Beauty & the Beast* Cast Bios

Jackie Alves (she/her) is delighted to take a break from prancing around her living room to make her Kitsap Forest Theater debut! Previous roles include Marta (*Company*), the Princess of Sweet Rhyme (*The Phantom Tollbooth*), Raccoon (*L'Enfant Et Les Sortileges*) and Harriet (*The Man Who Came To Dinner*).

Eileen Balet (she/her) is incredibly excited to be in her first show at KFT! Favorite roles: Annie (*Annie*) & Westleton (*Frozen Jr*). She thanks the incredible cast/crew of Beauty and the Beast & her family/friends!

Alfonso & Joan Barrera are delighted to be feeling more "human again" after these recent trying pandemic years. They have been enchanted to be a part of the KFT family since their debut in *Fiddler on the Roof* in 2012, followed by *Honk!*, *Mary Poppins*, *Music Man* & *Wizard of Oz*. They also enjoy helping out behind the scenes, including Alfonso's role as official KFT photographer. Enjoy the magic of this beautiful place!

Luciana Barrera was last seen on this stage as Beth in *Little Women*. Other KFT credits include *Newsies, Music Man*, *Mary Poppins*, *Honk!*, & *Fiddler on the Roof*. She's grateful to be dancing in the forest again!

James Castillo is returning for his 6th KFT show. Previous shows: *Narnia*, *Music Man*, *Honk* and *Mary Poppins*. A senior at Archbishop Murphy High School, James looks forward to attending Western Washington University in the fall. James would like to thank his mom Meagan for her love and support.

Meagan Castillo (she/her) is happy to be back in the forest for her 9th KFT show. Previous roles: Mary Poppins (*Mary Poppins*), Princess Fiona (*Shrek*), Marmee (*Little Women)*, Ado Annie (*Oklahoma*). Meagan is pleased to be sharing the stage with her son James. Love to Bryan & family for their continued support!

Kaitlyn Chow (she/her) is very excited to be a part of a theater production for the first time since middle school. She enjoys dancing, singing and getting to do it all outside in such a magical setting!

Shaina Cochrane is thrilled to return to KFT after appearing in *Newsies*, *Oklahoma!*, *Footloose*, *Mary Poppins*, and *The Little Mermaid*. She has appeared in Snowflake Lane for 9 years as a Jingle Belle dancer.

Anthony Dreessen (he/them) is thrilled for the opportunity to bring another perspective to the role of The Beast. He's happy to have grown as an actor and in his love for the theater and his Belle.

Ila Faubion Dreessen (she/they) is happy to return for her 7th KFT show. Favorite roles: Jo (*Little Women*), Liesl (*Sound of Music*), Little Red (*Into the Woods*), Belle (*Beauty & Beast*, 2008). She loves this magical place and cherishes performing with some of her favorite people in the majesty of the great outdoors.

David Duke is excited to be in his 3rd show at KFT. Previous shows: *Mamma Mia! and The Music Man*.

Erin Fall is making her debut appearance with the Mountaineers Players in this production of *Beauty and the Beast*. She loves her cat, Frankie, and is looking forward to starting middle school this fall.

Gail Foster has been part of The Mountaineers Players since the early '90s and is pleased to be on stage again. Favorite roles: Marilla (*Anne of Green Gables*), Glinda/Aunt Em (*Wizard of Oz*), Mrs. Paroo (*Music Man*).

Valerie Foster has been part of The Mountaineers Players almost since she was born. She started performing on stage at age 6 and every year after that until leaving for college. She is happy to be back on stage after ten years away.

Walt Foster has appeared in over 30 previous KFT productions. Roles have included a Reverend (*Footloose*), an evil Wazir (*Kismet*), and even Cogsworth (*Beauty & the Beast*, 2008). He is delighted to once again go marching down the trail to the Kitsap Forest Theater stage.

Laura Howell is enjoying her 3rd show with KFT. She loves to sing/dance in the woods with her daughter Mia. Thank you Gala & Jenny, our pillars of this magical place. Thank you Mimi, J, Mom and Dad!

Mia Howell is having such an amazing experience performing in the beautiful woods for her 3rd show. She can't wait for many more shows to come. Thanks to her mom for all the support of her love of theater.

Jess Lam (they/them) is so excited to be back in the forest singing in the rain/sunshine/hail. Jess enjoys dancing & singing with their preschool kiddos, along with playing with their cats. Jess has been a part of the magical world of KFT since age 13 and feels so excited to be able to share this place with all of you.

John Lange is delighted to return to KFT for B&B. He has a Masters in Theatre Arts, has written, taught, directed & acted for the stage. KFT shows:*Wizard of Oz*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Newsies & Little Women*.

Leif Layman is thrilled to be playing Gaston. Though playing the role of villain with aplomb, in his day job, Leif is an epidemiologist at public health focusing on harm reduction for substance use, infectious disease prevention, & COVID-19 vaccination. Leif thanks his friends/family for always supporting him.

Olivia Markle is excited to be in her first KFT production. She loves musical theatre, singing, composing music, snuggling with her two dogs, and hanging out with her many tank friends. She was previously seen on stage as a cool cat in *Aristocats* & a cute puppy in *101 Dalmatians* at Seattle Children's Theatre.

Libby McDonald is happy to be back on stage in this beautiful setting! Previous shows at KFT: Amy March (*Little Women*), *Newsies*, *Tarzan*, *Peter Pan*, Winnie Foster (*Tuck Everlasting* – favorite role!). Other favorite roles: Sophie (*Mamma Mia!*), Junie B Jones (*June B Jones the Musical*), Jane Banks (*Mary Poppins*).

Laura McFarlane is excited to be involved in her 6th show at KFT! She started with *Shrek* in 2015 and has been involved ever since. Favorite roles include: Olive (*25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*), Helene (*Sweet Charity*) and Maggie (*A Chorus Line*).

Katie McKenna (she/her) is honored to be part of her first ever production here at KFT! Katie loves spending her time performing with Seattle's Princesses and cuddling with her cat and girlfriend.

Gillian Milstein is ecstatic for her first production with Kitsap Forest Theater! She's thankful for the support of her family and for the opportunity to perform in a space as beautiful as KFT.

Isabelle Person (she/her) has been involved with theater and the arts since she was young—but after a few years off of the stage she is thrilled to be in her very first show at the Kitsap Forest Theater. She is honored to be a part of this wonderful production for her return to theater!

Dee Smolar, longtime Mountaineer member and KFT fan, is excited to dance in the forest again. This is her 5th KFT show (*Mamma Mia*!, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Peter Pan*, *The Music Man*). Sending love to Dave. Please "Be Our Guest," and enjoy the show!

Carol Stanley (she/her) is so happy to be Human Again and performing on this magical stage once more. This is her 15th show at KFT. Favorite roles: Liza (*Peter Pan*), Mother (*Tarzan*), Queen Lillian/ Mad Hatter (*Shrek*), and Grace (*Honk!*).

Isaac Tian is breaking into his first theatre production. His previous performing experience includes competitive marching band (Drum Corps International) and UW chamber singers. Aside from music he plays and coaches competitive eSports and does research in computer vision.

Anna Vizzare (she/her) is thrilled to be in her 8th show at KFT. She was Amy March (*Little Women*) among other roles. Anna has especially loved getting to dance and be silly on stage with one of her best friends, Leif. Anna dedicates all she does to her Gram, who gives her the strength & guidance to do it all.

Spencer Weidman is excited to be back on stage after a 6 year hiatus. Last performances include Danny Zuko (*Grease*) & Gaston (*Beauty and the Beast*). He enjoys playing rugby, being with friends and looks forward to playing the role of Lumiere and as his guest, hopes to give you an afternoon to remember!

Orit Wernor (she/her) is thrilled to be a part of her first show with KFT. She is relatively new to the community theater scene and what an exciting adventure this has been. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Eric Wu is excited for his first show with the Mountaineers Players. He has always wanted to be in a Disney show and would like to thank his mother, Alan Menken, Theatre Puget Sound, Cindy Chen and God for all contributing to bring him this far.

Beauty & the Beast Production Staff Bios

Greg Brown has happily been doing sound for the Mountaineers Players since 1973.

Guy Caridi is choreographing his 26th show (!!!) at the Kitsap Forest Theater. Guy's been choreographing, performing & teaching dance since 1991. He's the Artistic Director of Savoy Swing Club (29 years). He believes KFT's community-based al fresco theater is one of the best age-defying experiences.

Mark Colbert is thrilled to return playing in a musical. In 2019 he played 115 performances. March 2020 was the last, playing *Rent*.

Jenny Dreessen has performed in many KFT shows. You may have seen her as Marmee last year in *Little Women*. Jenny also volunteers as Kitsap Kitchen Manager and Committee Chair. Thanks to the whole, wonderful production team and, as always, husband, Jerry, for helping whenever it's needed!

Barbara Klingberg has a BFA in Theater from Univ of Florida and worked as a costumer in New York a very long time ago. She has been designing for KFT since 2011 and is looking forward to the 100 year anniversary of this glorious venue in 2023! She is a retired architect.

Mark Kunz is pleased to be in his first performance for KFT. He's been doing musicals since his friend of over 55 years, Mark Press, invited him to perform with him in *The Music Man* 8 years ago. A multiple instrumentalist, he leads his Big Band, the Moonlight Swing Orchestra. It's been a fun ride!

Danette Lam has been part of the KFT family since 2011. Every year she is constantly blown away by the mouth dropping, tear jerking, hard working, incredibly talented group of people that bring the shows to life. It is a complete joy to be part of such a magical experience.

Gala Lindvall is ecstatic to be producing this postponed show from 2020 (her 31st show for KFT). She directs Kitsap Forest Adventure Camp and helps her husband, Brian, manage the property. She thanks Jenny for keeping her sane through the challenges of the last few years, and Craig for being our leader!

Clara Pettiross is pleased to be helping with sound for the first time after appearing on stage at KFT.

Kuran Pettiross (he/him) is excited to be back at KFT for his third time running sound. He was Slights in *Newsies* in 2019. He loves the amazing memories these productions create.

Guillermo A. Peguero holds a BA in violin performance from the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music and has been part of countless milestone events and performances with many different ensembles. He feels privileged to be part of this wonderful KFT production for the first time.

Mark & Nancy Press, after a beastly global pandemic induced hiatus over 2 years long, are beyond thrilled to feel human again at the musical helm of their first KFT show – a truly wondrous celebration of collaborative multigenerational theater. Once upon a time, in a (not so) faraway land, they founded Madrona Children's Theater. In 2010 they joined Driftwood Players in Edmonds where they've MD'ed 24 musicals! Other credits: SMT, Shorecrest, and SPU. They hope you enjoy this tale as old as time.

Craig Schieber (he/him) has been involved with theater over 30 years. He's fortunate to have directed at KFT over 20 years. There is magic working with multi-age casts and adding being outdoors makes the experience heavenly. Craig will direct *Elf: The Musical* at Edmonds Driftwood Players this fall.

Stewart Shusterman is so excited to be returning for his 10th season at this magical place that he is speechless. He thanks his loving wife who taught him everything he knows, and doesn't know, about props.