

Kitsap Forest Theater – Matilda, the Musical
Cast Bios

Eileen Balet is beyond excited to be in her 4th KFT show! Some favorite past roles are LeFou (*Beauty and the Beast*), Prissy Andrews (*Bend in the Road, The Anne of Green Gables Musical*), and Annie (*Annie*). Eileen thanks her cast, family, friends, and everyone who made this show possible! (she/her)

Luciana Barrera is happy to be in her 11th show at KFT. She recently portrayed a Bird Girl (*Seussical*), a Silly Girl (*Beauty & the Beast*), and a "little woman" (Beth in *Little Women*) on this stage. But she's not a one-note actor. She also played a newsboy (*Newsies*) once!

CC Brewder has been acting since she was 5, and most recently was in Ovation's *Cinderella*. She would like to thank Elizabeth Allum and Stephanie Reese for their training and also her mom and dad.

Ila Mae Carr (10) loves to sing/dance and is thrilled to be performing in this beautiful, magical theater.

Guy Caridi is excited to appear in his third KFT show (*Mary Poppins*, *Wizard of Oz*). It didn't take much arm twisting to convince him to play a shy, humble dancer in this show. Love and thanks to Karin.

Meagan Castillo is happy to be back at KFT, and ready to get loud! Previous KFT roles include Mary Poppins (Disney's *Mary Poppins*), Princess Fiona (*Shrek*), Ado Annie (*Oklahoma!*), Marmee (*Little Women*) and Mrs. Potts (Disney's *Beauty and the Beast)*. Love, as always, to Bryan.

Cat Chiappa is thrilled to yell at people as Trunchbull in her 1st Seattle area production since moving here in 2019. This show is extra special as it is the first time she has acted with her daughter and she is so very proud of her. Cat was last seen as Rosie (*Mamma Mia*–Pacific Repertory Theatre, Carmel, CA).

Isla Chiappa,10, is in the 4th grade at Syre Elementary. She is excited to make her KFT debut with her Mama, who she does not think is a twit! ;-) She was last seen as Violet (*Willy Wonka*–Broadway Bound). She loves chickens, birds, sewing, art, swimming, acting, and anything to do with water.

Felix Coble is beyond excited to be in his first show at KFT! He is deeply grateful to have found such a welcoming community, and he hopes you enjoy the show and the forest! See him this summer as the Prince in *Cinderella*!

Cynthia Dario-Good thinks it's groovy to have been cast as the librarian in her 1st show with KFT. Previous roles: Mrs. Schroeder (Reboot Theatre–*Anyone Can Whistle),* Mother Abbess (Kirkland Performance Center –*Sound of Music)*. She'll be helping to make wishes come true as Marie, fairy godmother, in *Cinderella*.

Alison DeGregorio is thrilled to be in her second show at Kitsap Forest Theater with both of her daughters. She thanks her husband, Kevin, and son, Christian, for making this all possible with their support!

Caroline Donovan is thrilled to be back at Kitsap Forest Theater for her second show. Caroline loves singing, acting, playing violin, and drawing. She is excited to share the stage with her mother and sister.

Lily Donovan loves all things theater and performing. She is thrilled to be on the Kitsap stage a second year in a row with her mother and sister. Outside the theater, Lily loves guitar, art, and soccer.

Erin Fall is taking her 3rd turn with the Mountaineers Players with this production of *Matilda*. Having previously appeared in *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Sound of Music*, she is very excited to return to KFT.

Valerie Foster is thrilled to be in her 20th show with the Kitsap Forest Theater after starting when she was 6 years old. She is enjoying getting to act how young she feels, instead of how old she is.

Mila Gonzales is thrilled to be making her KFT debut as maggot Tommy at the Trunchbull's school. She loves her revolting cast and crew, especially her "brother" Nigel. She thanks her family for all the support.

Casandra Gramstad is thrilled for her 1st show on the KFT stage. Previous roles: Edith (*Pirates of Penzance* –Lakewood Playhouse). She'd like to thank her partner and closest friends for their endless support! (she/her)

Tod Harrick – Live theater? Waste of time and money! Just a bunch of people prancing around pretending. And what's with all these trees and kids everywhere. I'm off to the pub.

Tessa Keough is excited for her first show with KFT! NYU Gallatin 2018. Recent credits: Magenta (*Rocky Horror Picture Show*–Admiral Theater), Lady Macduff/Hecate (*Macbeth*), Viola (*Twelfth Night*), Don Pedro/Conrade (*Much Ado About Nothing*–NETC). Thanks to family and friends for their support.

Olivia Markle is excited to be in her 5th KFT show! Previous KFT roles: JoJo (*Seussical*), Brigitta (*Sound of Music*), Minnie Mae (*Bend in the Road*), Chip (*Beauty & the Beast*). She loves musical theatre, singing, composing music, playing piano, spending time in nature at KFT, snuggling with her 3 Italian Greyhounds!

Cooper Priest is a 7th grader and excited to be playing this incredibly rockin role! He played Pugsley (*The Addams Family* –The Jewel Box Theatre). He also enjoys playing drums, guitar and bass, and filmmaking.

Harper Rogers is honored to be a part of this talented cast bringing *Matilda* to life in such a celebrated and magical venue. She thanks her friends/family for unwavering support and hopes you enjoy this delightful show!

Madeleine Rose (10) is a passionate actor, musician and songwriter who was recently featured as Young Fiona in *Shrek the Musical* at San Juan Community Theater and on screen for KCTS. She enjoys horseback riding, dancing, busking with her ukulele, and goofing off with her new friends at KFT.

Willow Schmidt is excited to be in her 7th theater production and her first KFT show! Willow loves singing, piano, dance, musical theater, and improv. She is thrilled to join KFT in this fun and clever show.

Rachael Scott is excited to return for her second season in the woods! You may have seen, but probably not recognized her under a nun's habit during last year's production of *The Sound of Music*.

Carol Stanley is proud to be in her 19th term/show dancing and singing in her happy place. Favorite roles include: Liza (*Peter Pan*), Frau Schmidt (*Sound of Music*), Mother (*Tarzan*) and Grace (*Honk!*).

Michael Sterling is excited to be making his KFT and camping debut. Favorite roles: Captain Von Trapp (*Sound of Music*), Gaston (*Beauty & the Beast*), Leaf Coneybear (*Spelling Bee*). Love/thanks to Lily & Zoe.

Sophia Sterling is thrilled to be making her first appearance on the KFT stage. Previous roles include Gretl (*Sound of Music*) and Woodland Creature (*Puss in Boots*). She thanks her mama, Lily, and sister Zoe.

Ashlyn Templin is so excited to return to her favorite place for her 4th Kitsap Foreat Theater show. She loves painting and all genres of music. She'd like to thank her family for all their support.

Melanie Waldman has been enthralled watching Kitsap Forest Theater plays with her family since she was a wee lass. Now in her 1st KFT production, Melanie hopes you enjoy her performance as a wee lad.

Lilah Wakefield, an 8th grader, is super excited to be in Matilda! She loves musical theater and is overjoyed for her 1st KFT show. Favorite part is Martha in *High School Musical* (she got to sing while standing on a table).

Beaven Walters is delighted to be back at KFT as Miss Honey, a role close to her heart as a veteran teacher, current parent coach, and mom of 4 precocious kids. Favorite KFT roles: Rosie (*Mamma Mia*), Mae Tuck (*Tuck Everlasting*), Marian (*Music Man*). She's thrilled to perform with 2 of her kids and her dear husband, Mark.

Maisy Walters is thrilled to play one of her dream roles in her 2nd KFT show. She previously was Marta in *The Sound of Music*. Other favorite roles: Small Alison (*Fun Home*–Ballyhoo Theatre), Mr. Bucket (*Willie Wonka*–Broadway Bound). Maisy would like to thank her family and friends for all their support.

Mark Walters is overjoyed to return to KFT with his daughters and wife! Previous KFT shows were *Annie* and *The Sound of Music.* Time spent in this beautiful setting with family is truly one of the most important things. Thanks to the best mom and & wife ever, Beaven, for making all this possible!

Reeve Walters is excited to return to KFT for her 2nd show after debuing as Gretl in *The Sound of Music* last spring. Recently, Reeve played John (*Fun Home*–Ballyhoo Theatre) and a school girl/candy kid (*Willie Wonka*–Broadway Bound). She dreams of becoming a children's book illustrator when she grows up.

Matilda, The Musical Production Staff Bios

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

Guy Caridi is choreographing his 28th show (!!!) at the Kitsap Forest Theater. Guy's been choreographing, performing & teaching dance since 1991. He's the Artistic Director of Savoy Swing Club (31 years). He believes KFT's community-based al fresco theater is one of the best age-defying experiences.

Ila Faubion Dreessen is so happy to be involved with her 10th KFT show! *Matilda* is her first foray into the directorial side of theater. Previous KFT shows: Maria (*Sound of Music)*, Belle (*Beauty & Beast*), Jo (*Little Women*). She's proud of the hard work the cast/crew has put into this magical, revolting, miraculous show!

Katie Dreessen has been performing at the Kitsap Forest Theater since she was 9 years old and is thrilled to be back on the production side after earning her BA in Theatre Performance at WWU. Favorite KFT roles include Gertrude (*Seussical*) & Katherine (*Newsies*). Love you, mom and dad!

Jenny Dreessen has been increasing her knowledge base about all the work that goes on behind the scenes to make a successful production. She was last seen as Marmee in *Little Women*. Previous KFT roles: Witch in *Into The Woods*, Witch in *Narnia*, Donna in *Mamma Mia!* She hopes to return to the stage soon!

Amy Fancher runs with scissors and uses her affinity for sharp objects to create enchanting costumes. She is thoroughly happy to be spending another spring and summer with the Kitsap Forest Theater.

Jim Johnson has been building since he was 6; this is his third production with KFT. He enjoys bringing concept sketches to life as part of the magical experience that is the Kitsap Forest Theater.

Mark Kunz is pleased to be in his 3rd performance for KFT (*Beauty & the Beast* & *Seussical)*. He's been doing musicals since his friend of over 55 years, Mark Press, invited him to perform with him 10 years ago. A multi instrumentalist, he leads his Big Band (Moonlight Swing Orchestra). It's still a fun ride!

Danette Lam has been part of the KFT family since 2011. She's always blown away by the hard working, incredibly talented group that brings the shows to life. It is such joy to be part of such a magical experience.

Gala Lindvall is happy to be producing at this incredible theater (35th show for KFT). The beauty of this place and the incredible actors and production staff keep her coming back year after year. Thanks, Jenny!

Leanne Markle, an independent artist and illustrator, is excited to be a part of her 5th show at KFT! She's happy to spend this spring at this magical theatre outdoors with her family and loves being a part of bringing these wonderful shows to life, painting sets, making new friends, and supporting her daughter's passion.

Kevin Matthew would like to thank the production team of *Matilda* for the opportunity to help such a talented cast sound wonderful in this glorious venue. Last seen onstage at BCT as George Banks.

Clara Pettiross is thrilled to be back at Kitsap for another amazing show. She would like to thank the cast and crew for all of their hard work and hopes you enjoy the show.

Kuran Pettiross is excited to be back at KFT for his 8th show, ready to once again weave his passion into his time in his favorite community. He loves the amazing memories these productions create. (he/him)

George Pledger loves the magic of Kitsap Forest Theater, has been part of various productions since 2014.

Mark & Nancy Press are thrilled to be back for their 3rd show at KFT. Previous: *Beauty & the Beast* & *Seussical*. They've music directed for many theaters around the NW including 25 shows at Edmonds Driftwood. They just finished their 2nd show at Shorewood HS–*Drowsy Chaperone*, and their Madrona Children's Theater returned triumphantly in March with *Shrek, the Musical* JR. We are thrilled to share our interpretation of this wondrous tale–and request that you support the arts in schools in every way possible.

Jay Rauchenstein is pleased to be the pit pianist after playing for *Bend in the Road* and *The Sound of Music*. Last summer he played Horton the Elephant in *Seussical*.

Craig Schieber has been directing/acting at KFT for 30+ years. It feels exquisite to be working with this vibrant community of talented actors, dancers, musicians, designers, dreamers, set builders, costumers, volunteers, motivators, producers, & family supporters. The beauty of the forest & community come together here at KFT.

Angela Templin is excited to participate in KFT again as Prop Manager. She's excited to continue to use her creativity and mechanical skills to help the cast and crew bring this story to life and delight the audience!