

Directed by Mia McGlinn

Music by Bryce McGuire & Skye Campbell

Lyrics by William Shakespeare

Director's Note

When I first imagined A Midsummer Night's Dream in Appalachia, I was struck by how naturally the world of Shakespeare's play fit into the history and spirit of the region. Appalachia in the 1960s was a place of struggle, resilience and folklore. Appalachia in the 1960s was marked by poverty, industrial upheaval, and environmental destruction but also by resilience, music, and a deep sense of honor.

Honor culture is a way of life where reputation and family pride carry enormous weight. Worth is measured by loyalty and by how fiercely one defends their name, and disobedience or insult demands a response. Dignity culture, on the other hand, sees self-worth as something inherent, with conflicts more often resolved through law or compromise than retaliation. Shakespeare's Athens, like Appalachia in the 1960s, was steeped in honor culture, and the consequences of that system shape every corner of A Midsummer Night's Dream.

At its heart A Midsummer Night's Dream is about what happens when honor collides with love. Hermia, Lysander, Helena, and Demetrius are trapped between duty and desire, torn between the rules laid down by family and the freedom they long to claim.

In our telling, the fae are not delicate winged creatures but wild animalistic forces. We have brought to life various versions of Appalachian cryptids, who feed on human emotion, bending love and rage and longing to their will. For them, music is magic. Every note is a spell, every song a spark that pushes the lovers deeper into chaos. At the center of their world are Titania and Oberon, locked in their own quarrel of pride and possession. Their stubbornness and jealousy ripple outward, touching every life in the forest. Titania and Oberon remind us that our own pride can sometimes wound the very people we care about most, and that reconciliation requires humility as much as love.

In this production, the "rude mechanicals" are Appalachian miners, men whose daily work in the coal mines was dangerous, grueling, and often thankless. Theatre gives them another kind of work, one built on laughter, teamwork, and love. Their performance of Pyramus and Thisbe may be far from perfect, but their persistence makes it powerful. They remind us that storytelling belongs to everyone, not just kings or fae. Even in the face of missing actors, magical spells, and costume malfunctions, the mechanicals refuse to give up. Their humor, their mistakes, and their joy celebrate the resilience of working people who create art out of love.

In our Midsummer, Hippolyta represents the Appalachian tradition She is proud, resilient and community focused . Theseus represents the force of industry. Their uneasy match reflects Appalachia itself, caught between honoring its culture and facing the weight of change.

The forest of Shakespeare's Midsummer transforms everyone who enters it, softening wounds and carrying hearts toward wonder. For me, this play is a dream of honor and pride, of music that unsettles, of laughter that heals. That healing laughter feels a lot like Kitsap Forest Theatre itself. This theatre is a place where community, joy, and imagination keep growing year after year. So I invite you to come get lost in the woods with us tonight, to laugh, to dream, and to carry a little of that magic with you when you leave.

-Mia McGlinn

Dramaturgy Note

Originally, A Midsummer Night's Dream takes place partly in the city of Athens and partly in the forest that lies beyond the city's walls. The city of Athens is portrayed as a place of order, rules, and civilization, while the forest is wild, anarchic, and chaotic. Our production, set in 1960s Appalachia, follows these themes. Our "Athens" is depicted in an unspecified civilized part of rural West Virginia, and our forest is a magic-imbued wood nearby.

Due to increased mechanization and the rise of strip mining in the area, many people lost their jobs to large coal mining companies. This time led to high levels of unemployment, poverty, and social unrest in our setting. Miners and their families organized protests and strikes, calling for better wages, working conditions, and the fulfillment of union responsibilities. Within this economic unrest also emerged strong community and geographical camaraderie, resulting in rich cultural music, folktales, and traditions.

The play contrasts the rigid structures of Athenian society with the more fluid and transformative space of the fairy world, where gender roles are sometimes inverted or blurred. We explore themes of honor vs. dignity, gender and power, and the many forms of transformation. In our show, the humans and fae are part of the same ecosystem. When humans feel intense emotion, they create art. The fae feed on art, and thus are driven to tinker with our human characters to make them feel impassioned. Music is magic, and our fae are ready to feed.
-Marin Alexis

Synopsis of Scenes

Act One

Scene 1 **Athens - The Palace of Theseus**

Rollin in My Sweet Baby's Arms .... Peter Quince , Ensemble

Night of Solemnity ..... Theseus, Hyppolita

Gumtree Canoe ..... Band, Ensemble

Scene 2 **Athens - The Woods**

How Now My Love ..... Lysander, Hermia

Helena's Lament ..... Helena

Scene 3 **Athens - Peter Quince's House**

Scene 4 **A Wood Near Athens**

Froggie Went A Courtin' ..... Bryce, Fae Ensemble

Do I Entice You? ..... Demetrius, Helena

Scene 5 **Another Part of the Wood**

Fae Lullaby ..... Peaseblossom, Fae Choir

Puck's Song ..... Puck

Scene 6 **The Wood**

Bottom's Song ..... Bottom

Titania's Song ..... Titania

Act Two

Scene 1 **Another Part of the Wood**

Oberon Song ..... Oberon

Up and Down ..... Puck, Young Lovers

Scene 2 **The Same**

Oberon Song

Oberon & Titania Duet ..... Oberon, Titania, Fae Ensemble

Scene 3 **Athens - Quince's House**

Scene 4 **Athens - The Palace of Theseus**

Prologue ..... Peter Quince, Mechanicals

Way Downtown ..... Band, Ensemble

Cast of Characters

Hermia ..... Emily Stephens Kasper
Lysander ..... David Ward
Helena ..... Charis Goolsby
Demetrius ..... Jesse Ellis

Theseus ..... Charles Smith
Hippolyta ..... Ariel Doyle
Egeus ..... Walt Foster
Philostrate ..... Kenadi Allen

Nick Bottom ..... Ila Faubion Dreessen
Peter Quince ..... Nina Polachek
Francis Flute ..... Josh Espinoza
Snug the Joiner ..... CC Brewder
Robin Starveling ..... Josh Raitt
Tom Snout ..... Frances Michener
Cain ..... Fynn Moore
Edna ..... Carrie Moore

Oberon ..... Miah Campbell
Titania ..... Harley Lampkin
Puck ..... Skye Campbell
Cobweb ..... Amanda Thornton
Mustardseed/Goatman ..... Nick Perry
Peaseblossom/Wampus cat ..... Kylie Cordero
Mothman ..... Amanda Fish
Not Deer ..... Evelyn Luippold
Bell Witch ..... Harper Rogers
Crow ..... Mila Ellis
Jackalope ..... Imalena Bradley

Meet the Young Lovers



Emily Stephens Kasper is thrilled to make her KFT debut among such a talented cast and crew. Most recently, she was in Jesus Christ Superstar (Bremerton Community Theatre). Love and thanks to Peter and Kiki!



David started on stage in January and caught the acting bug. He was most recently Louis de Rougemont in "Shipwrecked!" at Port Gamble Theater. He is honored to be on stage with so many talented folks, and wants to thank the production team for their fabulous direction.



Charis Ifland is thrilled to be making her first appearance at Kitsap Forest Theater, spending her summer in the woods bringing Shakespeare to life with this talented and creative cast. When she isn't acting, she teaches voice, cello, and piano lessons from her studio in Poulsbo. She extends heartfelt thanks to CJ for his endless support and encouragement, and hopes you enjoy the show!



Jesse is thrilled to be in his third show, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with KFT. An alumnus of CWU's men's choir, Jesse has also been in two plays with his daughter, Mila. He thanks his wife and daughter, Juno, for their support.

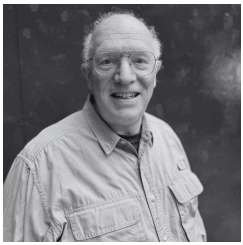
Meet the Athenians



After 20 years of acting in Austin, TX and a few shows on Bainbridge Island (As You Like It with BPA & Abigail's Party with LKP) since moving with his amazing family to the beautiful PNW in 2018, Charles is ecstatic to draw from his musical and Shakespearean backgrounds to play Theseus for his first show with KFT!



Ariel Doyle is absolutely delighted to be amongst the rhododendrons again. Past roles include King Alonso (*The Tempest,* Port Gamble Theatre) and Morticia (*The Addams Family Musical,* Jewel Box Theatre). Love to Will and Critters!



Walt Foster is delighted to be involved in a show with such a vast array of talent. A long-time veteran of the KFT stage, he has appeared in over 30 Mountaineer Players productions. Playing Egeus has been a challenge-though himself the father of a young woman, he has so far not had reason to call for her death.



Kenadi (she/her) - This is Kenadi's second show at KFT and her third time performing this show. She hopes you enjoy the show.

Meet the Mechanicals



Ila Dreessen is happy to return for her 11th KFT show in a role that is so removed from her usual typecast, you probably won't recognize her! You may have recently seen her at KFT is some more on-type roles as Sandra (Big Fish), Maria (Sound of Music), Elizabeth Proctor (The Crucible), Belle (Beauty & the Beast), or Jo March (Little Women). She cherishes performing with some of her favorite people in one of her favorite places!



Nina is thrilled to join her first production with KFT since moving to Kitsap last Fall. Recent credits include Phoebe (A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder) and Maria (West Side Story). Nina is the owner of Bainbridge Vocal Studio and would like to thank her mentors, students, and colleagues.



Josh Espinoza is thrilled to call this KFT production of Midsummer his first professional stage role ever! He would like to thank Taylor Allen, the Boise Gay Men's Chorus, all his friends, and the entire KFT cast and crew!



Frances Michener (They,Them) is thrilled to be a part of a KFT show for the first time and back in the theatre space after taking a 5 year hiatus. Frances spent most every summer, and winter break of their coming of age and childhood inside The Theatre on the Square in Tacoma, instilling a deep connection to the arts and the community that surrounds it.

Meet the Mechanicals



Josh is excited to make his theatrical debut with KFT. He would like to thank the entire cast and crew for this chance to explore the worlds of Shakespeare and Appalachia.



Cc Brewder is thrilled to be apart of this wonderful cast, she studies dance at Bainbridge Dance Center, acting at BPA's theater school, Voice with Stephanie Reese, and piano with Matt Kniffin. She would like to thank her mom. Enjoy the show!?



Fynn Moore (He/Him) This is Fynn's second appearance at KFT this summer and he is ecstatic to be in the mechanical ensemble. He would like to thank his cats for being there.



Carrie Moore- (she/her) This is Carrie's first show on stage at KFT. Earlier in the summer she played the role of backstage mom to her two sons during Big Fish. She dedicates this performance to her Uncle Bill who first introduced her to bluegrass music and taught her how to play he spoons.

Meet the Fae



Miah Campbell (they/she) is excited to be part of their first KFT show with this incredible creative team. They were originally inspired to act by watching a Shakespeare play as a child and are thrilled to get back to their roots.



Harley Lampkin is making her KFT debut! She recently appeared as Mary Magdalene in BTC's Jesus Christ Superstar and can be seen performing around Puget Sound with Emily (Hermia) in their band, Peony Princess. She sends love to her mom, dad, and especially Gaby for their endless support.



Skye Campbell (they/them) is excited to return to KFT after playing Abigail in 2024's The Crucible! Previous roles include Mary Poppins, Jo March (Little Women), and Magenta (Rocky Horror). Special thanks to their parents, especially their dad, Mike--you would have loved this music, Dad, even with all of the Shakespeare.



Amanda Thornton and Nick Perry started their circus journey in 2013. Nick was studying dance and choreography while Amanda was across campus earning her degree in acting and playwriting. Aerial arts and partner acrobatics was a way that these two soon to be sweethearts were able to combine their disciplines, learn, and grow together. With a devotion to storytelling and character work they now fly through the sky together performing at festivals and local events and shows around the northwest. Recent credits include a show run with the Washington and Oregon Renaissance Faire, Rusty Scuppers Pirate Daze, and The International Mermaid Festival. Vertical Axis is thrilled to be working with Kitsap Forest Theater, and believes strongly in the work that this community produces. Love to Misty and Opal and all our puppy sitters. ww.verticalaxisarts.com



Kylie Cordero is excited to be back on the KFT stage. Her previous roles include Cheryl in Miss Nelson is Missing! the Musical (Admiral Theatre), Sharon in Curtain up! (Jewel Box Theatre), and Tituba in The Crucible (KFT). She would like to thank Mia as well as the entire creative team for this opportunity to collaborate. You can see her next in a staged reading of The Thanksgiving Play (Island Theatre) and The Hunchback of Notre Dame (BPA).

Meet the Fae



Amanda is thrilled to be performing at Kitsap Forest Theatre for the first time! She is a voice teacher and performer turned navy spouse and mom. Her most recent credit is A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder with Port Gamble Theatre. She would like to thank her husband for wrangling their toddler at home!



Evelyn Luippold is thrilled to make her KFT debut! Most recently you might have seen her as a featured dancer in Stadium Theater's production of Chicago. She would like to thank her parents for footing half the gas bill for her long drives out to Bremerton from Tacoma for rehearsal.



Harper is a 13-year-old 8th grader from Bainbridge Island. After appearing in Annie and Big Fish, she is excited to make her Shakespeare debut at KFT's outdoor theater, reimagined with original Appalachian-inspired music. She thanks Mia and the entire production team for this amazing opportunity.



Mila is so so so excited for her eighth play! She was in a lot of other plays before like Annie and Frozen Jr. and Peter Pan Jr.. She loves her mom and her dad and especially her baby sister, Juno. She hopes you like the show!



Imalena Bradley is extremely excited to be apart of KFT. This is her first time ever participating in a play. She has always loved to dance and sing. Imalena is greatful for the opportunity she was given to perform on stage doing what she loves. She wants to Thank her mom, Grandma, Nana and papa, Aunt Sara, Big brother tae, and everyone else who has helped her out!

Music & Dance Staff

Choreographer ..... Kylie Cordero
Composer/Music Director/Conductor ..... Bryce McGuire
Composer/Music Director ..... Skye Campbell
Keyboard ..... Bryce McGuire
Guitar ..... Bryce McGuire, Kristen Ferguson, Terry Enyeart
Banjo ..... AJ Dreesen
Mandolin ..... Kristen Ferguson, Terry Enyeart, Kyle Addy
Bass ..... Max Dawes
Slide Guitar
Banjitar ..... Charles Smith

Fight Choreographer ..... Mia McGlinn
Intimacy Coordinator ..... Annika Nordleaf-Nelson

Production Staff

Producer ..... Ila Faubion Dreessen
Director ..... Mia McGlinn
Stage Manager ..... Cait Stewart
Asst. Producer ..... Sydney Renee
Asst. Director ..... Marin Alexis
Asst. Stage Manager ..... Leslie Allen & Sara McGuire
Costume Design & Construction ..... Amy Fancher & Tyler Dawson-Arroyo
Set Construction/Painting ..... John & Mia McGlinn
Prop Manager ..... Sara McGuire
Technical Director/Sound Design/Sound Technical ..... Kevin Matthews
Trail Decorations ..... Cait Stewart, Kylie Cordero, Mia McGlinn
Publicity Manager ..... Kylie Cordero
Seabeck Highway Sign ..... Maizy Goerlitz
Graphic Design, Stickers ..... Cait Stewart
Program ..... Kylie Cordero

Special Thanks to

Tom Vogl, CEO of The Mountaineers, **Mark Kerr,** VP of Properties, and **Mountaineers Staff** for their unwavering support of The Mountaineers Players.

Vertical Axis ..... **Amanda Thornton & Nick Perry**

Northwest Native Trail Signs ..... Richard Cromer, Leadership Kitsap 2025
Jim Johnson, Gala Lindvall, Ink & Era (Jordan & Aleya Veach)

Shuttle Driver ..... **Les Bagley**

Meet the Band



AJ is excited to be living in this liminal space between the stage and the band with some of his favorite spooks. You might have seen AJ on stage last year at KFT as Rev Hale in The Crucible or playing with his band, Sidde Folk, around the peninsula.



For Kyle, this show marks a return to performing music after a decade focused on stage acting. After studying piano and theory under the late Kenneth L. Moses, who Kyle was far too young to appreciate, he spent his teens playing stringed instruments. In addition to musical theater, he sang in jazz choir and played alongside the jazz band for some concerts, using his beloved Gretsch guitar, Shirley. He first performed bluegrass in his high school's productions of Smoke on the Mountain and its sequel Sander's Family Christmas, playing guitar and banjo. While he has had an interest in the mandolin for years, owning and playing one live is very new to him, and he appreciates any grace given by the ghost of Bill Monroe. Kyle can usually be found acting or volunteering at the historic Port Gamble Theater.



Kristen Ferguson is a professional musician from North Kitsap. Coming from a long line of players and raised by professional musician parents, she is adept in multiple styles and instruments. Kristen performs in Ferguson & Co (bluegrass duo), Bannister & Maine (americana duo) and The Everblues (roots/country trio). www.kristenferguson.com



Terry Enyeart, Kitsap resident of 40 years. Original member of Rural Delivery Bluegrass Band since 1978. Now heading his own band, Steelhead BGB. Still writing music and recording in his Summit Studio D.P. recording system. Now enjoying his retirement from his day job, "life is Great".



Maxwell Dawes is a composer and multi-instrumentalist from Suquamish, Washington, now residing in the city of Bellingham after graduating with a BA in Music from Cornish College of the Arts. He is motivated by a voracious appetite for music and art, with expertise in musics ranging from classical to hardcore. He performs as a bassist for the punk band Basement Tuesdays, and otherwise spends his time writing music, stories, and poetry.

Meet the Production Staff



Mia McGlinn is a filmmaker and actress whose recent stage credits include Catherine in Proof (InD Theatre), Lucy in Dracula (Tacoma Arts Live), and Carmilla in Shattered Glass Project. She is a part of the Emerging Filmmaker Program, an initiative by Emergence Films that supports women filmmakers in the early stages of their careers. Mia, alongside Sydney Renee and Ila Dreessen has founded Cosmic Coyote Media, a production company dedicated to telling stories centered on queer and Indigenous characters, with a focus on joy, resilience, and identity beyond trauma or violence. Mia extends heartfelt thanks to Ila and Gala for the opportunity to direct this production, to Skye and Bryce whose talent and commitment elevated this project beyond what she imagined, and extraordinary cast of actors and musicians whose contributions made the show possible. She is honored to share this journey with them.
IG: mia_mcglinn Cosmiccoyotemedia



Cait has refocused her degree in acting towards the design and tech field. Born and raised in the Appalachian mountains, this show is incredibly close to her heart. She feels like she has truly found her dream creative community here in Washington. She was the stage manager for last year's The Crucible.



Marin Alexis (she/her) is a performance artist making her Kitsap Forest Theatre creative debut as Assistant Director and Dramaturg. Recent acting credits include Laura Wingfield in The Glass Menagerie (Camelot Theatre) and, regionally, Woman 2 in A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Oregon Cabaret Theatre). She would like to congratulate the cast and creative team for their consistently stellar work, and hopes you enjoy the show! IG: marinalexiis



Sydney Renee is excited to be involved in her second KFT production. She was last seen as Marry Warren in the Crucible. Sydney has been involved in theatre and film around the PNW and is co-founder of Cosmic Coyote Media. Enjoy this magical show!

Meet the Production Staff



Annika's background ranges from stage management to intimacy coordination, from set construction to dramaturgy. This may be their first KFT production, but it certainly won't be their last. They're grateful for being invited to work with such a passionate and considerate group of individuals, both on and off stage.



Bryce McGuire is happy to be back for this second production at the Kitsap Forest Theater. After writing the music you may have heard during last year's production of The Crucible, he was excited for the challenge of turning this classic show into a spooky and whimsical bluegrass musical. He was grateful for the wonderful collaboration from friends and production members that made this project possible and is especially grateful to his wife, Sara, for supporting him during this process and for writing this wonderful bio for him.



Sara McGuire is thrilled to be working on her second show with the Kitsap Forest Theater and this fantastic production team. She had entirely too much fun helping create the magic and the humor of this show and hopes you all enjoy this production as much as she enjoyed contributing to the chaos.



Leslie Allen (She/Her) has been in and around theatre for the majority of her life, starting in middle school. She most recently stage managed for Ghost Writer at the Jewel Box theatre. She was most recently seen on stage in A Plot, Like Gravy, Thickens at the Jewel Box theatre and in the new directors showcase at the BCT black box in; Just Like Old Times. Leslie grew up seeing shows at the Kitsap Forest Theatre and is so thrilled to have the opportunity to help run this unique and beautifully adapted version of her favorite Shakespeare play! Please enjoy!

Thanks to our many Volunteers!

Putting on shows at KFT takes an army of volunteers who sell tell tickets, house manage/usher, head park/park, sell concessions, help backstage with sets and painting and cook for cast and crew. **Thank you to all of you who are the backbone of our organization, helping to staff these positions for our shows.** **If you'd like to volunteer** to help in any of these areas, please call (206) 542-7815 or email players@foresttheater.com to sign up. And see the show for free!

The Mountaineers Players History 1923-2025

The rich history of The Mountaineers Players began on a spring day in 1909 when a 'local walk' by a group of 66 hikers to view the wild blooming rhododendrons around Wildcat Lake went astray. They wandered into hidden Valley Ranch, and met Edward Paschall and family, starting a fast friendship that began one of the Mountaineers most enduring traditions. Skits around campfires grew into a production of *Robin of Sherwood* on June 17, 1923, performed in the woods going from glade to glade with the audience following along. Realizing the need for a permanent theater, Bill Darling and volunteers built the outdoor amphitheater in 1925-1926. This marked the birth of The Players who went on to produce the annual spring show every year except 4 years during World War II and 2020. A summer show was added in 2007 and a fall show in 2024. The Mountaineers players are one of the oldest, continuously operating community theater groups in the country, performing in one of the oldest outdoor theaters in North America. Read about our history and our early shows on our website.