

KIDS COOP THEATRE PRESENTS



MARCH 17 @ 7PM

MARCH 18 @ 7PM

MARCH 19 @ 1PM

DERRY OPERA HOUSE

BOOK BY JOHN WEIDMAN - MUSIC BY DAVID SHIRE - LYRICS BY RICHARD MALTBY, JR
BASED UPON THE MOTION PICTURE "BIG" WRITTEN BY GARY ROSS AND ANNE SPIELBERG
A TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM

DIRECTION BY ANGÈLICA FORCIER ROSENTHAL

MUSIC DIRECTION BY JESSE DRAKE

CHOREOGRAPHY BY BRI ARICO



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FAO SCHWARZ--FIFTH AVENUE

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Founded in 1997, Kids Coop Theatre, Inc (KCT) is a NH 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to providing high-quality theatre experiences for young people and their families. Our mission is to provide a venue for children to showcase their abilities as actors, with the knowledge that the only way a child can soar is by giving them the opportunity to spread their wings.

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A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Big: The Musical came out before movie musicals really took off. The music in itself is very complex for what most are used to in a movie musical in orchestration alone. Most people will be familiar with the movie from the '80s and the iconic performance Tom Hanks gave. In diving into the musical it was clear that they had pushed the show into the '90s due to the references made in the lyrics. What made this show such a joy was working with both kids and adults along side each other. We had a cast of people who were kids in the '90s and were able to connect and share things from their childhood to help the young actors of the cast understand what it was like before cell phones and house hold internet access.

With a mixed age cast, we the team were presented with a very special opportunity and having the chance to watch this show grow and transform through the process was truly a gift. Watching the young actors help and support the adults and the adults cheering on the young actors reminds my why I keep coming back to theatre. When I was a child my father was a director and I distinctly remember him always touring his shows to my kindergarten and finding the art of theatre so magical. As I got older, some of my best memories as an actor were working with adults as a kid. I learned so much from them show to show, how to hone the craft of acting, how kind they were to me when at times I was the only child in the cast and how much I looked forward to playing the roles they were playing when I grew up.

Well, now I am grown up and though I don't find acting to be as much of a passion of mine as directing is now, those are the reasons I do what I do as a director. If I can give that magic back to one kid in the audience, or one young actor then all the hours of work are worth it to me. As I write this note and reflect on what this show really means to me, one actor in particular sticks out in my mind. Colin who is playing Young Josh. This is the first show I've had the pleasure of working with this young actor and was truly surprised to find out after auditions that this is his first show ever. In getting to know him through the process he told me that he really wants to be an actor and that he saw this as his first step. Watching his confidence rise over the rehearsal process, his talent shine on stage and his willingness to try things he has never done before is the reason so many of us keep coming back to live theatre. Colin is not the only young actor making his stage debut with this musical, and there are also a few adults who are getting on stage for the first time.

I wish this cast nothing but the best. As they all know, this show is one of my guilty pleasures and having the opportunity to share my love for it with them over the past few months has been truly inspiring. Now they get to share it with you. I hope this show leaves the audience remembering to have fun, and never forget the joys of being a kid.

- Angèlica

DIRECTOR

Angèlica Forcier Rosenthal (Director) is so grateful to be back at Kids Coop Theatre. She graduated from Plymouth State University (Political Science and Theatre) and has since been performing, directing, and teaching in the NH and Boston area. Her recent directorial productions include Sweeney Todd (Actorsingers), Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Actorsingers), Twisted: The Untold Story of a Royal Vizier (Actors Cooperative Theatre), The Sound of Music (Kids Coop Theatre), Bring It On (Kids Coop Theatre), Cannibal: The Musical (Actorsingers), One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest (Winner of two NHCTA awards, Actorsingers), Matilda (Kids Coop Theatre), Mamma Mia (Actorsingers), 21 Chump Street (Winner of the NHCTAs and six other awards, Actorsingers), Reefer Madness (Actorsingers), Bye Bye Birdie (Windham Actors Guild), Spring Awakening (Winner of four awards including Directing, Actorsingers), and Jesus Christ Superstar (Actorsingers Winner of an NHTA). When not directing, she can be found onstage and has recently been in Cruel Intentions, (Actorsingers), Little Shop Of Horrors (Dive In Productions), Macbeth (Hatbox), and the original cast of God Hates Musicals. Angèlica has also worked as a music teacher for the past 9 years. Her main instruments are: Cello, Violin, Viola, Ukulele, Bass, Guitar, Trombone, Trumpet, Piano and Voice. She has an extensive background in Dance, Fight Direction, Tech, Sound Design, Stage Management and Set Design. Next, she is looking forward to Prouducers with Windham Actors Guild, and Cabaret with Actors Cooperative Theatre this summer.



MUSIC DIRECTOR

Jesse Drake has been involved in the New Hampshire community theatre scene since 2009. He pursued a degree in Music with a vocal concentration at Plymouth State University, Class of 2016. He musically directed his first major production back in 2017 with the greatly successful teen production of "Jesus Christ Superstar" with the Actorsingers, receiving 12 NHTA nominations and many personal acclamations from audiences. He is currently a Resident Director and Music Director at Kids Coop Theatre, having most recently directed "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," "Disney's The Little Mermaid," "Bring It On," and "Grease." He will also be Music Directing ACT's next production of "Cabaret" and looks forward to working with the incredible creative team... Get involved!



CHOREOGRAPHER

Brianna Arico is excited to join KCT and ACT again as the choreographer of BIG! This is Brianna's second show as a choreographer, having recently worked on Sweeney Todd with Actorsingers. Brianna trained in jazz and ballet at Bedford Dance Center for 14 years. She also recently performed as a featured dancer with Actorsingers (Joseph & The Amazing Dreamcoat, Cannibal!, & Mamma Mia!) and Actors Coop Theater (Twisted). Brianna's favorite roles have been a featured dancer in Mamma Mia!, and a wide variety of ensemble characters in Twisted, including a Monkey puppet. She is also excited to perform as Ulla in April in Windham Actors Guild's The Producers. Brianna both embraced and enjoyed the complexity of the music in Sweeney Todd when adding choreography. She thanks Angelica and Jesse for being a great team and working together to bring this show to life. Brianna would also like to thank Stage Manager Sandra for all her efforts to create a fantastic show. Most importantly, Brianna could not have done this without the unwavering support of her fiancé, John.



STAGE MANAGER

Sandra Avellani is excited to work with KCT's production of Big as the Stage Manager. Her previous productions include RGC Theatre's Seminar (Stage Manager) and Ride The Cyclone (Projections Operator). Sandra is looking forward to being on stage in WAG's upcoming April production of The Producers. When not in the theatre, Sandra is an elementary school teacher who can be found working in the film industry and training at her local boxing, yoga, and gymnastics gyms in her free time.



CREW

PRODUCERS.....Erin Lautieri, Nicole Lepine, Danielle Melendez

DIRECTORAngèlica Forcier Rosenthal

MUSIC DIRECTOR.....Jesse Drake

CHOREOGRAPHER.....Briana Arico

STAGE MANAGER.....Sandra Avellani

TECH DIRECTOR.....Tom Lott

HOUSE MANAGER.....Michelle Cain

SOUND.....Mark Beland

LIGHTS.....Tom Lott

SETS.....Tom Lott, Rich & Kellie Welch

COSTUMES.....Laurel Forcier, Erin Lautieri

PROPS.....Sara Landry

SPONSORSHIPS.....Jessica Pappathan

PLAYBILL.....Danielle Melendez

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CAST

JOSH BASKINRyan Quinlan
SUSAN LAWRENCESara Landry
MRS. BASKINAlanna Griffin-Bales
MR. BASKIN	.....Tom Lott
BILLY KOPECKI	.....Deontae Lepine
YOUNG JOSH BASKIN	.....Colin Kurczewski
GEORGE MACMILLIAN	.....Paul Battaglia
PAUL SEYMOUR	.....Garrett Meyer
MISS WATSON	.....Colleen Deitrich
DEREK	.....Parker Danzey
CYNTHIA BENSON	.....Eloise Ellis
ZOLTAR	.....Mark Kelly
YOUTH ENSEMBLE	.....Parker Danzey, Amelia DeTore, .....Ashtyn Eichelberger, Eloise Ellis, Quinn Giarrusso, .....Morgan Haverty, Aliyah Howard, Colin Kurczewski
ADULT ENSEMBLE	.....Sam Campanella*, Colleen Deitrich*, .....Erika Ellis, Ben Fernekees*, Mark Kelly*, Nicole Lepine, .....Tom Lott*, Garrett Meyer*, Ilana Peet*, Julia Vigeant

**Featured Dancers*

BREAK A LEG!

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Prologue

Opening

Saying Good Morning to Mom

You're a Big Boy Now

I Want to Go Home

Time of Your Life

Fun

Welcome to MacMillan Toys

My Secretary's in Love

Macmillan Toys - Part II

Let's Not Move Too Fast

Do You Wanna Play Games?

Stars

Little Susan Lawrence

Cross the Line

ACT II

New Ent'racte

It's Time

Stop, Time

The Nightmare

Dancing All the Time

I Want to Know

Coffee, Black

The Real Thing

Josh's Big Ballet

We're Gonna Be Fine

CURTAIN CALL



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The Cain Family	TYPE Productions
Doug Danzey	The Vinson Family

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The Battaglia Family	Amanda Morgan
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Maria Di Nola	Ted & Angie Shonts
The Dugan Family	Joshua Solloway
The Havertys	The Sprague Family
Deb Johnson & Family	The Sweet Family

Director (\$25-\$99)

Sabrina Beavens	Amanda Donahue	Rosemarie Kelly	Monica Serrano
Mark Berglund	Jesse Drake	Derek & Erin Lautieri	Mike Shaw
Alison Bulmer	The Falzarano Family	Michelle Leriche	Kaity Stanton
The Brunette Family	Michael Gendron	Cathy Lynch	Patty Thomas
Bernie Choiniere	Nicole Gould	Sara Martin	Kerran Vigroux
Cindy Cima	Bridget Gray	Kerry Matheson	Lee Vinson
Gail Crouch	Marybeth Riley-Gilbert	The Michaud Family	Patricia Wege
Annie Donahue		Darlene Samson	Ken Young

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Kids Coop T

Cast of Big, t



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Saturday, March 18
Sunday, March 19

heatre 2023

the Musical!



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Paul Battaglia A Greater Boston native, Paul has been active on and off in the Community Theater Circle since 1986. Some favorite roles include Allan Felix in "Play it Again Sam", Manolo Costazuela in "The Odd Couple (Female Version)" and Fester in "The Addams Family" He thanks his wife and daughter for their support and lovingkindness.

Sam Campanella is making his grand KCT return after bullying a poor ugly dude in "Twisted." Now, in a sudden character shift, he will be bullying children in "Big: The Musical!" When he is not on stage falling out of chairs or making people sweep for him, he can often be found in local Walmarts advocating for world peace by making cars illegal, as cars are the leading cause of car crashes. Sam would like to thank Lionel Messi, Fran Drescher, and Billy Blanks for blessing him with such supportive friends and family! He would also like to thank Brendan Fraser for being a G.



This is **Parker Danzey's** 4th show with KCT and plays the role of Derek aka the coolest kid in town Parker is very excited to be performing in this show with his fellow cast mates and friends he hopes you enjoy the show! (finger guns)

Colleen Deitrich is excited to be in the cast for KCT's Big: The Musical! She was previously seen in the ensemble for Actorsingers' Sweeney Todd, as well as Stoner Chick in Cue Zero's Heathers in 2021. Thanks to Russell for being my rock in the midst of it all, and for always being my biggest fan in the audience!





Hi! I am **Amelia DeTore** and I am a Freshman at Pinkerton Academy. This is my 3rd show with KCT and the other shows that I have done with them in the past were Oklahoma! and Grease. Other shows that I have been in include Dear Edwina Jr playing the part of Kelli , All Shook Up , Beauty And The Beast and Seussical. I am very excited to be a part of Big the Musical and perform with my fellow castmates. I hope you enjoy the show!

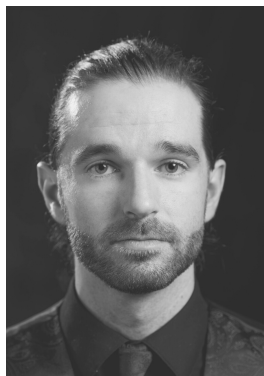
This is **Ashtyn Eichelberger**'s first experience with theater and she is loving it! Ashtyn is in 6th grade at the Hampstead Middle School and plays softball year round. Ashtyn loves all animals and has 2 dogs of her own.



Eloise Ellis is excited to be back at the Derry Opera House to be in Big the Musical. Eloise has been doing theater since first grade and her favorite roles she has played are Laurey in Oklahoma, Katherine in Newsies Jr., Frenchie in Grease, Mother Abbess in Sound of Music, and Ariel in The Little Mermaid. She would like to thank her friends and family for the love and support through the years. :)

Erika Ellis is excited to be on stage for her first ACT/KCT show. She wants to thank the whole cast and creative team for all their dedication to creating such a fun show to preform and hopes everyone enjoys it!





Ben Fernekees is very happy being back in theater, his first show back being Sweeney Todd. Big is a much lighter show and he is very proud of how far the cast has come. He'd like to thank everyone who has supported him during all of the process.

Hi! I'm **Quinn Giarrusso**. I'm 12 years old and love acting. This is my 3rd show with KCT. You may have seen me in Frozen Jr or The Little Mermaid. I play soccer (I'm a goalie), and also play the trumpet and baritone in my school's Jazz Band. Sit back, relax and enjoy Big The Musical!



Alanna Griffin-Bales is excited to bring Mrs. Baskin to life! She previously worked with Actorsingers, Springfield Community Players, Keene Lions Club, and Beale Street Theater. Alanna is a teacher and wants to thank her students, friends, and family for their love and support.

I'm **Morgan Haverty** and I'm 9yrs old and I love being on stage! I've been a part of Lion King Jr and Oklahoma with KCT and I can't wait to be a part of more musicals in the future!





Hello! I'm **Aliyah Howard**, part of the youth ensemble in this production. I love rehearsing and performing with new and old friends! Hope you enjoy the show.

Mark Kelly is ecstatic to be performing in "Big: The Musical."



Colin Kurczewski is a 11 year old boy who likes to draw and play soccer and this is his first time performing he is really glad you all came to see the show and hopes you enjoy

Great job Colin!
All your hard work paid off.
Love Declan, Bryce and Patch



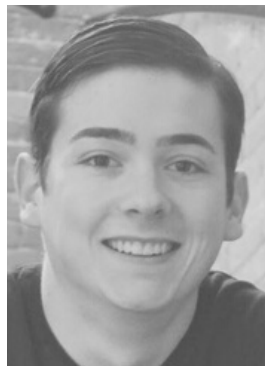
Sara Landry is delighted to be in another production with this organization, and the first KCT/ACT show. Other favorite past roles include Maureen in RENT, Princess in Twisted: The Untold Story of a Royal Vizier, and Annette in Cruel Intentions: the 90's musical. Be sure to see her in The Producers with Windham Actors Guild this April.

Deontae Lepine is 14 years old and a hard working 8th grader at GHHMS. He has been in KCT since 2019, his first show with them was Frozen Jr where he played Sven. And his latest show with them was Oklahoma where he played Will Parker. He loves performing with all of his friends and looks forward to more shows in the future!!



Nicole Lepine is a mom of two who loves her family and and friends! Her son has been a part of KCT for many years and loves & supports him so much she offered to be in the production of Big. A few words she lives by - LOVE IS LOVE, BE HUMBLE, BE KIND!

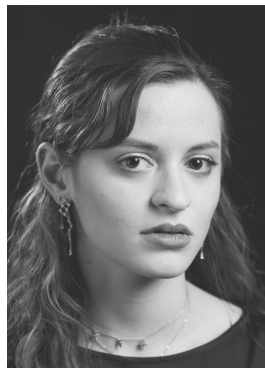
Tom Lott is excited to take the stage with KCT, having previously being involved in ACT's production of Twisted. Favorite past roles include Demetrius in A Midsummer Night's Dream, Malcom in Macbeth, and Vic in NuSpace for which he received a NHTA Best Actor nomination. When not in the theatre, Tom can be found skiing or running obstacle course races, or most importantly, spending time with his amazing girlfriend, Sydney.





Garrett Meyer is thrilled to return to the stage in Big: The Musical. A long-standing member of the stage, this Manchester, NH resident was last seen performing in "Sweeney Todd" (Beadle Bamford) and "A Christmas Carol: The Musical Ghost Story" (Young Ebenezer). Garrett would like to thank the cast, crew, and creative team for their hard work and support throughout this process.

Ilana Peet (Receptionist, Diane) is so excited to be doing Big as her first show with Kids Coop Theatre! Her previous roles include Luanne (Best Christmas Pageant Ever), Miss Watson (Big) and various ensemble roles. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Ryan Quinlan is incredibly excited for his first production with KCT! He has been preparing for this role his whole life by actively choosing not to grow up (much to his parents' and coworkers' chagrin) Some of his favorite past roles include Harry in Mamma Mia!, Lord Farquaad in Shrek! The Musical, and Rapunzel's Prince in Into the Woods. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Julia Vigeant is very excited to be performing in KCT's performance of Big: The Musical as a member of the adult ensemble. She has previously worked with Actorsingers and Windham Actors Guild. Julia would like to thank her family, friends, cast mates, and her fiancé for all of their love and support.





APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE! APPLAUSE!



Deontae you are a star! We love you so much, keep being just who you are because you AMAZING! Good luck bud, Love Mom, Naliah, Mimi and Fam.

Quinn Giarrusso - Keep on shining. Spread your glitter everywhere.
Love Mimi

Quinn Giarrusso, you're a "Big" star! Congratulations and good luck!

Amelia we are SO proud of you!! Love your biggest fans! Mom, Dad, & Abby

Aliyah, A BIG round of applause to our BIG Star!
With BIG love: Mom, Dad, and Micah

Morgan, keep shining our little star! Love Mom and Dad

Morgan Haverty - Break a leg Peanut!
I'm so proud of you and love you! Grandma

Colin, we are so proud of all your hard work and dedication!
Love your #1 fans, Mom & Dad

Colin, You were fantastic!
You did an awesome job and we are so proud of you. Love Mimi & Pops

To the **Cast & Crew** - Break a leg! ♥ Danielle & Erin

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