

# PROGRAM

*Mid-South Academy of  
Children's Theatrics presents*



# PETER PAN JR.

*Directed by Daphne Cox  
Choreography by Lori  
Payne and Riley Payne*

*November 15-17, 2024  
Southaven High School Theater*

## MID-SOUTH ACADEMY FOR CHILDREN'S THEATRICS PRESENTS

**A Musical based on the Play by  
J.M. Barrie**

# PETER PAN JR.

**Lyrics by  
Carolyn Leigh**

**Additional Lyrics by  
Betty Camden & Adolph Green**

**Music by  
Morris (Moose) Charlap**

**Additional Music by  
Jule Styne**

**Directed By  
Daphne Cox**

**Choreography by  
Lori Payne & Riley Payne**

In 1929 Sir J.M. Barrie bequeathed Peter Pan to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London, which has benefited thousands of children since then. The producers are proud and happy that everyone who has bought a ticket for today's performance of Peter Pan JR. is helping toward making the hospital the incredible center of hope it is today.

Peter Pan JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, New York, NY | (212) 541-4684 | [mtishows.com](http://mtishows.com)

# THANK YOU!

*We extend our gratitude to the following  
people and organizations for making  
this production possible!*



## *West End* CHURCH

The Beeman Family

Dawn Clifton

Megan and Jeff Cox

Elizabeth Hudson

Lori Payne & LRP Studios

Michael & Lindsey Spencer

Patrick and Kim Swindoll

Chris Sykes

Mandy Winter

Southaven High School & Laura Jones

Parents who we could not do the show without.

# PETER PAN JR.

## ACT ONE

### *Overture*

*Never Never Land: Cast*

*Tender Shepherd:* Wendy, John, Michael, Mrs. Darling

### *I'm Flying:*

Peter Pan, Wendy, John, Michael, & Cast

*Pirate March:* Captain Hook & Pirates

*Hook's Tango:* Captain Hook & Pirates

*Brave Girl Dance:* Tiger Lily & Brave Girls

*Wendy:* Peter Pan, John, Michael, & Lost Boys

*Hook's Tarantella:* Captain Hook & Pirates

*I Won't Grow Up:* Peter Pan & Lost Boys

## ACT TWO

### *Ugg-a-Wugg:*

Peter Pan, Tiger Lily, Children, Lost Boys & Brave Girls

*Distant Melody:* Peter Pan

*Captain Hook's Waltz:* Captain Hook & Pirates

*I Gotta Crow:* Peter Pan / Company

*Reprise: Tender Shepherd:* Wendy, John, & Michael

*Finale: Never Never Land: CAST*

MSACT Presents

# PETER PAN JR.

## Cast List

<i>Peter Pan</i> .....Leland Cox	<i>Captain Hook</i> .....Addy Kate Pond
<i>Wendy</i> .....Ann Phillips Jordan	<i>Smee</i> .....Kory Hall
<i>John</i> .....Alyza Jane Hudson	<i>Cecco</i> .....Lydia Price
<i>Michael</i> .....Boyce Jordan	<i>Starkey</i> .....Raygan Davis
<i>Mrs. Darling</i> .....Sarah Page	<i>Jukes</i> .....Hadley Swindoll
<i>Mr. Darling</i> .....Brice Clifton	<i>Tiger Lily</i> .....Chloe Spencer
<i>Nana</i> .....Raygan Davis	<i>Sundance</i> .....Sarah Page
<i>Liza</i> .....Lydia Price	<i>Fire Heart</i> .....Victoria Dixon
<i>Crocodile/Pockets</i> .....Francie Smith	<i>Dark Moon</i> .....Alexandra Dixon
<i>Smudge</i> .....Eli Adair	<i>Itty Bitty</i> .....Ellie Barton Jordan
<i>Slim Jim</i> .....Thatcher Williams	<i>Sunflower</i> .....Annabeth Lane

<i>Slightly</i> .....Laney Dickerson
<i>Nibs</i> .....Ruthie Smith
<i>Curley</i> .....Maddie Russell
<i>Twin 1</i> .....Avery Swindoll
<i>Twin 2</i> .....Elizabeth Dixon
<i>Tootles</i> .....Izzy Winter

Mid-South Academy for Children's Theatrics | [msact.org](http://msact.org)

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....	Daphne Cox
Musical Director.....	Daphne Cox
Choreographer.....	Lori Payne & Riley Payne
Costumes.....	Daphne Cox
Set Design.....	Daphne Cox, Megan Cox, Jeff Cox, Dawn Clifton, Mandy Winter
Stage Manager.....	Susan Zeringue
Light Design.....	Renee Herron
Set Photography.....	Jamie Smith
Sound Design.....	Jordan Huie
Sound Operator.....	Jonah Williams
Tinkerbell Operator.....	Olivia Dunning

## Mid-South Academy for Children's Theatrics Board of Directors

Daphne Cox, Executive Director  
 Anna Beeman, Board President  
 Lindsay Spencer, Board Treasurer  
 Susan Zeringue, Board Secretary

# WHO'S WHO



**Eli Adair** *Smudge, A Lost Boy*

Eli is thrilled to be performing in his first ever on-stage production. He will be performing as a lost boy named Smudge in MSACT's "Peter Pan Jr". When not on stage, Eli enjoys reading and watching movies. He would like to thank Mrs. Daphne for giving him this opportunity and his parents for their consistent support. Eli is so grateful to share this opportunity with classmates and new stage friends.



**Brice Clifton** *Mr. Darling*

Brice is glad to be performing as Mr. Darling in this production of Peter Pan Jr. This is his fifth production with this creative team. Past credits include Father in Peter Pan 2023 and Newsboy in Sherlock Holmes. He is currently working on Egeus in Midsummer Night's Dream and Aslan in The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. He is especially grateful to Ms. Daphne, his director; and his mom, Dawn. When he's not on stage, he enjoys video games, drawing, and making videos. He'd also like to thank his friends and family for their support, and he's grateful to share this experience with them.



**Leland Cox** *Peter Pan*

Leland is excited about this opportunity to fly back to Neverland, albeit this time a little less concerned with the sound of a ticking clock. This is his first production with MSACT and is exceptionally thankful to Mrs. Daphne and all others at MSACT for this opportunity. Leland has played the villainous Captain Hook in a previous production of Peter Pan Jr. He has also sung about the "bear" necessities of life as Baloo in The Jungle Book Kids and danced along the London skyline as a chimney sweep in Mary Poppins, Jr. When Leland is not on stage, he enjoys playing football for Lewisburg Middle School and online gaming with friends.



**Raygan Davis** *Nana/Starkey*

Raygan Davis is thrilled to be performing as Nana/ Starkey in this production of Peter Pan. This is her 9th play with this creative team. Past credits include Smee in Peter Pan (straight play), Tweedle Dee in Alice In Wonderland, Chairman in an upcoming production of Mary Poppins Jr, Bread Vendor in Aladdin, and one of the Three Little Pigs in Shrek Jr. She is especially grateful to the following people that have helped her in her journey in theater: Mrs. Daphne and Mrs. Susan, her family, and her church family for all their help and support. When she is not on stage she enjoys reading, church activities, band, and traveling. She is really grateful for this opportunity to do Peter Pan with this cast and directors. Two of her favorite Bible verses that help her are Psalm 23 and Job 22:28. One of her favorite quotes is from Helen Keller: "We can do anything we want to if we stick to it long enough."

# WHO'S WHO



**Laney Dickerson**, *Slightly, A Lost Boy*

Laney has been acting under the brilliant direction of Daphne Cox since she was just four, bringing to life magical characters like Pooh in Winnie the Pooh Kids, Jojo in Seussical the Musical JR., Iago in Aladdin JR., Pua in Moana JR. and she stole hearts as the Queen of Hearts in Alice in Wonderland, JR. Laney has also taken the spotlight as Annie in Annie at Oak Grove Central Elementary and squawked her heart out as Zazu in The Lion King at Hernando Hills. This adventure with Midsouth Academy for Children's Theatrics is a dream come true, and Laney is especially excited to embrace her inner Lost Boy and never grow up! She's so grateful for her amazing castmates and all the new friends she's made along the way.



**Alexandra "Allie" Dixon**, *Dark Moon, a Brave Girl*

Allie is a second grade student at Hernando Hills Elementary School. Alexandra's favorite Broadway musical is "Hamilton." This is her first time acting in a show. Allie's hobbies include cheerleading, singing, and dancing.



**Elizabeth Dixon**, *Twin 2, a Lost Boy*

Elizabeth is a fourth grader at Oak Grove Central Elementary School. Elizabeth has participated in Moana, Jr. and The Little Mermaid Jr. school productions. This is her first main stage show. Elizabeth enjoys tumbling, painting, and reading in her spare time. One of Elizabeth's favorite traditions is watching "The Nutcracker" at the Orpheum every December.



**Victoria Dixon**, *Fire Heart, a Brave Girl*

Victoria Grace Dixon is a sixth grader at Hernando Middle School. Victoria has participated in Lion King, Jr. and Annie Jr. productions at her schools and is thrilled to be making her main stage debut with MSACT. Victoria dances at Center Stage in Hernando, MS. Victoria's favorite Broadway show is "Chicago."



# WHO'S WHO



**Kory Hall, *Smee***

Kory is thrilled to be performing as Smee in the production of Peter Pan Jr. This is his third production with MsAct. Past production includes Seussical Jr as Cat in the Hat, and Alice in Wonderland as Doorknob , King of Hearts , and Friend 2. Kory is especially grateful for Daphne Cox for all of her time, dedication and patience. As well as his family who have supported and helped him along the way. When he is not on stage, Kory enjoys spending time with his family, his rescue dog he got from Southaven Animal Shelter and singing karaoke. He would like to thank the entire cast and crew, as well as his family for their support. He is grateful to share this experience with the audience.



**Alyza Jane Hudson, *John Darling***

Alyza Jane is thrilled to be performing as John in this production of Peter Pan. This is their first main stage production with MSACT. I have lost count how many shows over the years that she has done. Let's just say she started as Baby Elephant bird in Seussical and stole the show at 9 months old . She played Molly in Annie. She was the baby kangaroo in Seussical and many more amazing roles . We are grateful to Daphne Cox and Susan Zeringue for pouring her life into our girls. When they're not on stage, Alyza Jane enjoys tumbling, playing with her friends, and hanging out with her big sisters. They'd like to thank their Nonnie , Mom , and Dad for their support and are grateful to share this experience with everyone



**Ann Phillips Jordan, *Wendy Darling***

Ann Phillips, a 12 year old at Hernando Middle School, is beyond excited to star as Wendy in Peter Pan Jr. This marks her return to working with Mrs. Daphne Cox, who was AP's first theatre director at age 4 in Broadway Babies summer camp. One of her fondest memories with Mrs. Daphne was making her proud in the role of Annie in Annie Kids. Ann Phillips's favorite past roles include Molly in Annie Jr., Lavender in Matilda, Dory in Finding Nemo, and Ursula in The Little Mermaid Jr. She's thrilled to step into the role of Wendy again after falling in love with the show during her school's production two years ago. Ann Phillips is deeply grateful to Mrs. Daphne for always believing in her and empowering her to take on a leadership role in this production. AP can't wait to continue her community theatre journey with MidSouth Academy for Children's Theatrics, bringing her passion for performance to the stage with friends once again.

# WHO'S WHO



**Boyce Jordan, *Michael Darling***

Boyce is excited to make his debut with MidSouth Academy of Children's Theatrics in Peter Pan Jr. as Michael. An 8-year-old student at Hernando Hills Elementary, he is a proud member of the Timbre Tigers choir. Boyce previously starred as Flounder in his school's production of The Little Mermaid and is ready to take the stage next week as Hei Hei in Moana. He would like to thank Mrs. Daphne for entrusting him with this role and for supporting his ability to juggle rehearsals while playing soccer for Lobos. Growing up watching his big sister, Ann Phillips, perform, Boyce is eager to step into the community theatre spotlight himself and can't wait to share the magic of theater with the audience.



**Ellie Barton Jordan, *Itty Bitty & Happy***

Ellie Barton is a 6-year-old first grader at Hernando Elementary, and she is excited to make her main stage debut with MidSouth Academy for Children's Theatrics in Peter Pan Jr. as 'Itty Bitty,' the brave girl, and as part of the Lost Boy ensemble. Ellie Barton previously performed as the Elephant Bird in Seussical Kids and most recently had a blast as Penny in Mrs. Daphne's summer camp production of 101 Dalmatians Kids. She is especially proud to share the stage for the first time with both her big brother, Boyce, and her big sister, Ann Phillips. Ellie would like to thank Mrs. Daphne for helping make this special memory possible.



**Annabeth Lane, *Sunflower***

Annabeth, age 8, is thrilled to be in her first play with Mid-South Academy. Some of her recent credits are "Madagascar Jr. (Lemer) and "Matilda the Musical" (Amanda); both at DeSoto Christian Academy's theatre program. She also had a role in her first film this summer, "Mourning Lilies". When not onstage, Annabeth enjoys tumbling, singing, dancing, and playing with her friends. Annabeth would like to thank her family, friends, the cast and crew for their support and encouragement.



**Sarah Page, *Mrs. Darling & Sundance***

Sarah is thrilled to perform as Mrs. Darling and a Brave Girl in this production of Peter Pan! Some of Sarah's favorite roles so far have been Gertrude in Seussical and Cruella in 101 Dalmatians. When she's not on stage, Sarah enjoys playing competitive and school volleyball. She would like to thank her mom for her endless encouragement, as well as her friends Savannah, Oakley, Alex, Avie, and Eliana for their constant support and friendship. Special thanks go to Mrs. Daphne and Susan for their dedication to this production. Sarah is forever grateful for the hard work they've poured into her and her fellow castmates!

# WHO'S WHO



**Addy Kate Pond**, *Captain Hook*

Addy Kate is thrilled to be performing as Captain Hook in this production of Peter Pan. This is their first main stage production with MSACT. I have lost count how many shows over the years that she has been a part of. Let's just say she started doing shows at the age of 6. Some of the shows she has been in are Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Lion King, Annie, Mary Poppins, Seussical, and many more. We are grateful to Daphne Cox and Susan Zeringue for pouring her life into our girls on and off the stage. When she is not on stage, Addy Kate enjoys napping, hanging out with her sisters, and giving all of her love and care for every animal. She would like to thank her family for their support and is grateful to share this experience with her fellow cast members.



**Lydia Price**, *Cecco & Liza*

Lydia is thrilled to be performing as Cecco and Liza in this production of Peter Pan. This is her first production with MSACT. Past credits include The White Rabbit in Alice in Wonderland and Mrs Mayor in Seussical Jr. She is especially grateful to her family, Daphne Cox, and Lori Rasco Payne. When she's not on stage, Lydia enjoys art and singing. She'd like to thank all of her friends and family for their support and is grateful to share this experience with her family, friends, and community.



**Maddie Russell**, *Curley*

Maddie is making her main stage show debut performing as Curly, the Lost Boy in this production of Peter Pan. This is her sixth production with Ms. Daphne as her director. Her other shows include Aristocats (Amelia), Annie (Star-to-be), Frozen (Boulida), Moana (Narrator), and Shrek (Teen Fiona). Past shows also include The Lion King and Peter Pan (Tiger Lily). When she is not on stage, Maddie can be found mixing teas at Patriot Nutrition, holding a baby or making bracelets. Maddie would like to thank her parents for running the shuttle, her siblings for watching all of her practice dance sessions, and Ms. Daphne for reminding her that it's ok to be herself. Maddie is thrilled to have had this experience. She echos that Peter and Jesus have it right- all the world is made of faith and trust- and a little bit of pixie dust.

# WHO'S WHO



**Francie Smith**, *Crocodile, Pockets*

Tick Tock! Francie is thrilled to be the crocodile and chase after Captain Hook in this production of Peter Pan. She is also playing the role of Pockets the Lost Boy. She fell in love with the stage and performing during her week long summer camp experiences. Francie played Lucky this summer in 101 Dalmatians with MSACT and became hooked! When Francie is not on stage, she loves to draw, create artwork for others, play with friends and animals.



**Ruthie Smith**, *Nibs*

Ruthie is excited to be Nibs, a Lost Boy in MSACT's production of Peter Pan. This is her first main stage play with a theater company. She performed in Annie at Oak Grove Central Elementary and The Jungle Book & The Lion King at Hernando Hills Elementary School. She also enjoys doing theater camps in the summer and has performed in Frozen with Kudzu and The Little Mermaid, Jr. with Desoto Family Theater. When Ruthie is not on stage, she enjoys reading, playing piano, basketball and spending time with friends.



**Chloe Spencer**, *Tiger Lily*

Chloe is thrilled to be part of MSACT's production of Peter Pan Jr! She has previously delighted audiences as Moana in Moana Jr., young Anna in Frozen Jr., and Aladdin in Aladdin Jr. One of her favorite roles was Lavender in Matilda Jr. at Northpoint Christian School. With a passion for both singing and acting, Chloe loves bringing characters to life on stage. She also enjoys being a camp counselor and working with younger actors. Chloe's grateful for the support of her family and friends, and for the opportunity to play Tiger Lily.



**Avery Swindoll**, *Twin 1*

Avery is thrilled to be performing as Twin 1 in this production of Peter Pan Jr. Her past credits include Rafiki 3 in Lion King Jr. and a pirate in Peter Pan Jr. Avery is grateful to Mrs. Weiss for being the first to introduce her to theater and Mrs. Cox for helping her continue her passion. Avery would like to thank Mrs. Lori and Miss Riley for sharing their time and talent and Mrs. Daphne for putting together such an amazing cast! She and her castmates feel so honored to be a part of your first Mainstage production. Avery is very thankful for her parents and family who always support her.

# WHO'S WHO



## **Hadley Swindoll, *Jukes***

Hadley is thrilled to be performing as Jukes in this production of Peter Pan Jr. This is her first production with MSACT and is honored to be in their first MainStage production. When she is not on stage, Hadley enjoys dancing at Center Stage Dance & building Lego sets. Hadley is so thankful for Mrs. Daphne for her role in this production and Mrs. Lori & Miss Riley for their amazing choreography. Hadley would like to thank her parents and the rest of her family for always supporting her.



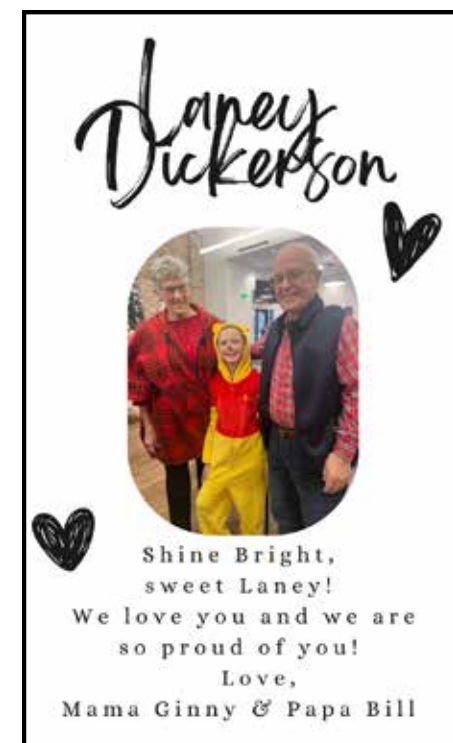
## **Thatcher Williams, *Slim Jim***

Thatcher is excited to join MSACT for his debut performance as one of the Lost Boys in Peter Pan. When he's not on stage, you can find him playing baseball or hitting the slopes on his snowboard. Thatcher extends his heartfelt thanks to his family for their support and to all his directors, past and present, for inspiring his passion for theatre.



## **Izzy Winter, *Tootles***

Izzy is overjoyed to be performing as Tootles in this production of Peter Pan Jr. This is her first ever main stage production and she has been welcomed by MSACT. She is especially grateful to her family and friends who encouraged her to push herself beyond what she thought was possible. When she is not on stage, Izzy enjoys listening to music while swinging on her playset on the farm. She would like to thank MSACT for choosing her to be in Peter Pan Jr. and she is grateful to share this experience with her family and friends.





# A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

"All children, except one, grow up," states J. M. Barrie in the opening line of Peter and Wendy, the novel on which Peter Pan the Musical is based. Everyone knows the story of the boy who refused to grow up and of the young girl, Wendy, who had no choice, but to.

Peter Pan has always been one of my favorite stories and I have directed it many times, so it only made sense that it was to be the inaugural show for the first mainstage production of Mid-South Academy for Children's Theatrics.

After many tedious rehearsals with a cast of 25 kids, I began to see them blossom before my eyes. I have been directing children for 35 years. It is my passion. I do this because I love to see that spark in their eye when it all comes together, when it all makes sense. Many of these children have never been on stage. Couple those with some outstanding "veterans" and you have the making of a fabulous production.

Of course, I do none of this without the help of a group of quite talented young actors and an amazing production team, some of which I must personally thank. First I would like to say thank you to this cast of children for their hard work. I am so very proud of each and every one of you. You are all important to this production and to this organization.

Parents, thank you for sitting in the parking lot waiting on your kid to get out of rehearsal. Thank you for listening to "I Won't Grow Up 4,734 times. Thank you for supporting and encouraging your child. Most of all thank you for sharing your children with me!

Lori, my choreographer and friend, I am so grateful that we see things the same way. Thank you for never expecting any less just because they are kids. Your choreography is always original and the kids have so much fun performing it.

Susan, Anna, and Lindsay: Thank you for coming along on this crazy journey with me! Your support and encouragement means to world to me! You are always open with an ear, you play devil's advocate, and you always ask "What can I do?" Thank you!

To the audience: "So, come with me where dreams are born and time is never planned." I really do think you will enjoy this trip to Neverland. Remember it's "Second to the right, and straight on til morning!"

*Daphne*





BREAKING  
NEWS

## Daily Quote

SPECIAL  
EDITION

# LANEY DICKERSON

## KEEP BELIEVING IN YOURSELF



Laney, we are so incredibly proud of you! Your hard work and dedication to theater are truly inspiring. Your passion lights up every stage you step onto, and we know how much you give to every performance. Keep shining and doing what you love—you're amazing!

Love, Mom, Dad and Will

YOU GOT THIS! ✖ YOU GOT THIS! ✖ YOU GOT THIS!



"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:  
The Lord make his face shine upon thee,  
and be gracious unto thee"

Victoria, Elizabeth, & Alexandra,

We are so proud of you. Keep shining!

Love,

Mom, Dad, and Mikey

Alexandra

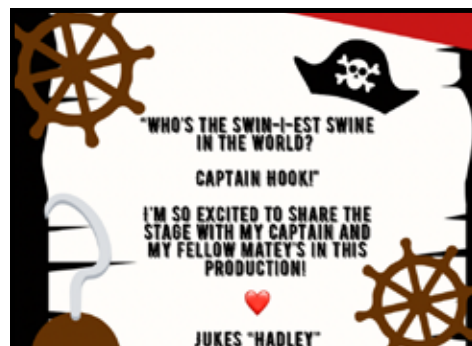
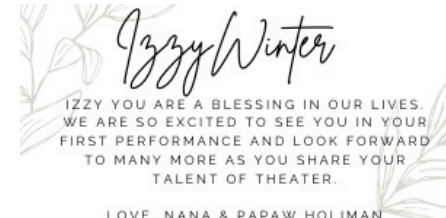
Victoria

Elizabeth

Dixon











Congratulations to our Juke!  
Hadley we are proud of your  
accomplishments! We have loved  
watching your excitement build as it  
gets closer to opening night. From  
dance recitals to stage productions  
your smile always lights up the room.  
We are so excited both of your  
passions will be seen together on one  
stage!  
We love you,  
Dad, Mom and Avery

## HADLEY & AVERY SWINDOLL



IT'S ANOTHER  
DOUBLE DREAM COME  
TRUE TO SEE OUR  
GIRLS SHARE THE  
STAGE TONIGHT! IT  
SHOULD BE MUCH  
EASIER THAN  
SHARING A ROOM!!  
HAHA



SERIOUSLY THOUGH  
WE ARE SO PROUD OF  
YOU BOTH. AND WE  
HOPE THIS IS JUST  
THE BEGINNING FOR  
YOU TWO!

LOVE YOUR BIGGEST  
FANS,  
MOM & DAD



\*\*\*



We are so very proud of you !  
Break a leg !  
We love you !  
Hud, Momma, Nonnie,  
and Anna Grace







So proud of  
you!  
Can hardly  
wait to see  
the play!  
We love you!  
Paps,  
DeeDee abd  
Uncle Chase

Hadley Swindoll

Hadley &  
Avery Swindoll



Way to go Hadley & Avery!

Best of luck to our very  
own "Jukes" and "Twin 1."

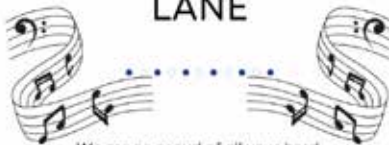


Laney as Slightly, a lost boy!  
We love our wonderful actress!

Love,  
Grammy & Gramps



ANNABETH  
LANE



We are so proud of all your hard  
work every time you are cast in a show!  
We cannot wait to see you on stage again.  
Love you so much Betty Girl!

Love, Daddy, Mama, and Brother



Laney  
Dickerson

Just like Tinker Bell lights  
up Neverland, you light  
up our life and the stage.  
We love you!  
Love,  
Meemaw & Peepaw

Bravo Leland



YOUR HARD WORK AND TALENT HAS BROUGHT PETER PAN  
TO LIFE! WE ARE BEYOND PROUD OF YOU AND CAN'T WAIT  
TO SEE YOU SOAR. NEVERLAND IS LUCKY TO HAVE YOU.  
-LOVE MOM, DAD & MAWMAW



## History of Mid-South Academy for Children's Theatrics

"WE AREN'T IN THE BUSINESS OF MAKING STARS. WE WANT CHILDREN TO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN WHO THEY ARE."

Our founder and executive director, Daphne Cox, has been doing this for a long time. She directed her first youth production at only 18 years old, and for the past 33 years, she has continued to use her immense experience to share her passion for performing with children wherever she can reach them. She has directed main stage youth productions in West Memphis, AR, Memphis, TN, Hernando, MS, and more across the Mid-South; directed two- to three-week intensive summer camps several years in a row; led after-school theatre classes for the past ten years; and even brought up her own, now adult, children in the wonderful world of theatre.

But of course, she couldn't stop there. Daphne — with the help of long-time friend, collaborator, and fellow Mid-South theatre veteran Susan Zeringue — set out to start her own business from scratch, a weekly after-school and homeschool program for varying levels of experience known as the Dramatic Repertory Association for Music and Arts (DRAMA), to not only continue connecting with new generations of performers, but make great strides toward accomplishing her lifelong dream: establishing a children's theater.

"We aren't in the business of making stars," Daphne often said to describe the goal of DRAMA. To Daphne, teaching children's theatre has never been about whether her students went on to win awards or perform on Broadway — though some certainly have, and she couldn't be prouder — it has always been about one thing: "We want children to have confidence in who they are."

We believe that everyone needs a safe place to learn what they love and discover who they are meant to be. They need a place to learn how to collaborate, how to solve problems, how to find confidence. We believe theatre should be a nurturing and accessible environment for individuals from all walks of life, and we want to provide an invaluable experience that our students may otherwise not have access to. We currently teach children ages 3-18 years skills such as teamwork, self-discipline, overcoming mistakes, public speaking, and much more all through the performing arts.

On May 17th, 2024, just over one year after DRAMA was born, the Mid-South Academy for Children's Theatrics officially launched, the next huge step in making her dream come true. With the endless support and efforts of those who now comprise our Board of Directors — many of whom are parents of students who have grown up under Daphne's direction — we embarked on the arduous but rewarding journey of establishing ourselves as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which gives us access to many invaluable resources and opportunities to achieve our goals.

While we are incredibly excited for MSACT, we are still taking baby steps in this period of growth and transition. We currently offer DRAMA after-school programs and SummerACT intensive workshops, as well as occasionally partner with community organizations for individual workshops, and embarked on our first main-stage youth production tonight with Peter Pan Jr. In the future, we hope to find a performance center to call our permanent home base and hold after-school classes for low-income and disadvantaged students in the Mid-South.



Chloe  
Spencer

Chloe,  
We are so proud of  
you and can't wait  
to watch you as  
Tiger Lily! Break a  
leg!

Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Christian,  
Grandma &  
Grandad



# Join us this Spring!

## BRAVO!

- Ages 4 and up (Beginner)
- Class in Hernando, MS
- \$50/month beginning January 9, 2025 plus \$30 registration

## ENCORE!

- Ages 8 and up (Intermediate)
- Classes in Hernando, MS
- \$50/month beginning January 9, 2025 plus \$30 registration

## MASK

- All readers grades K-12
- Class in Hernando, MS
- \$50/month beginning January 9, 2025 plus \$30 registration

## OFF BOOK

- Homeschoolers grades K-9
- Eligible for academic credit
- Class in Southaven, MS
- \$150 beginning January 10, 2025 plus \$30 registration

## OFF BOOK

- Homeschoolers grades 7-12
- Eligible for academic credit
- Class in Southaven, MS
- \$175 beginning January 8, 2025 plus \$30 registration

[msact.org](http://msact.org)

# SPOTLIGHT SPONSOR

NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE



## HEINDL CENTER *for the* PERFORMING ARTS

**VIENNA BOYS CHOIR**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17  
7:00 PM



NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

★  
HEINDL CENTER *for the*  
PERFORMING ARTS

[heindlcenter.org](http://heindlcenter.org)  
(662) 562-3478

**CELTIC WOMAN:  
WHITE  
CHRISTMAS  
SYMPHONY  
TOUR**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10  
7:30 PM



NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

★  
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