

**TWILIGHT
THEATRE**

A

**Midsummer
Night's Dream**



Creative Team

Director- Joe Soriano

Stage Manager- Raquel Allison

Assistant Stage Manager- Dean LaSalandra

Choreographer- Cait McNeal

Technical Director- Joe Soriano

Costume Designer- Michelle McNeal

Costume Assistant- Susie Graham Moore

Costume Assistant- Cait McNeal

Cast

Demetrius- Alex Funk

Flute- Angela Huff

Titania- Cait McNeal

Oberon- Dean LaSalandra

Theseus, Mustardseed- Jake Reid

Helena- Jane Plishka

Hermia- Josie Reynolds

Egeus, Quince- Michele McNeal

Snug- Morgan Deraway

Hippolyta, Peaseblossom- Raquel Allison

Puck- Rebekah Mallory

Snout- Srikar Bellana

Nick Bottom- Tyler Moliterno

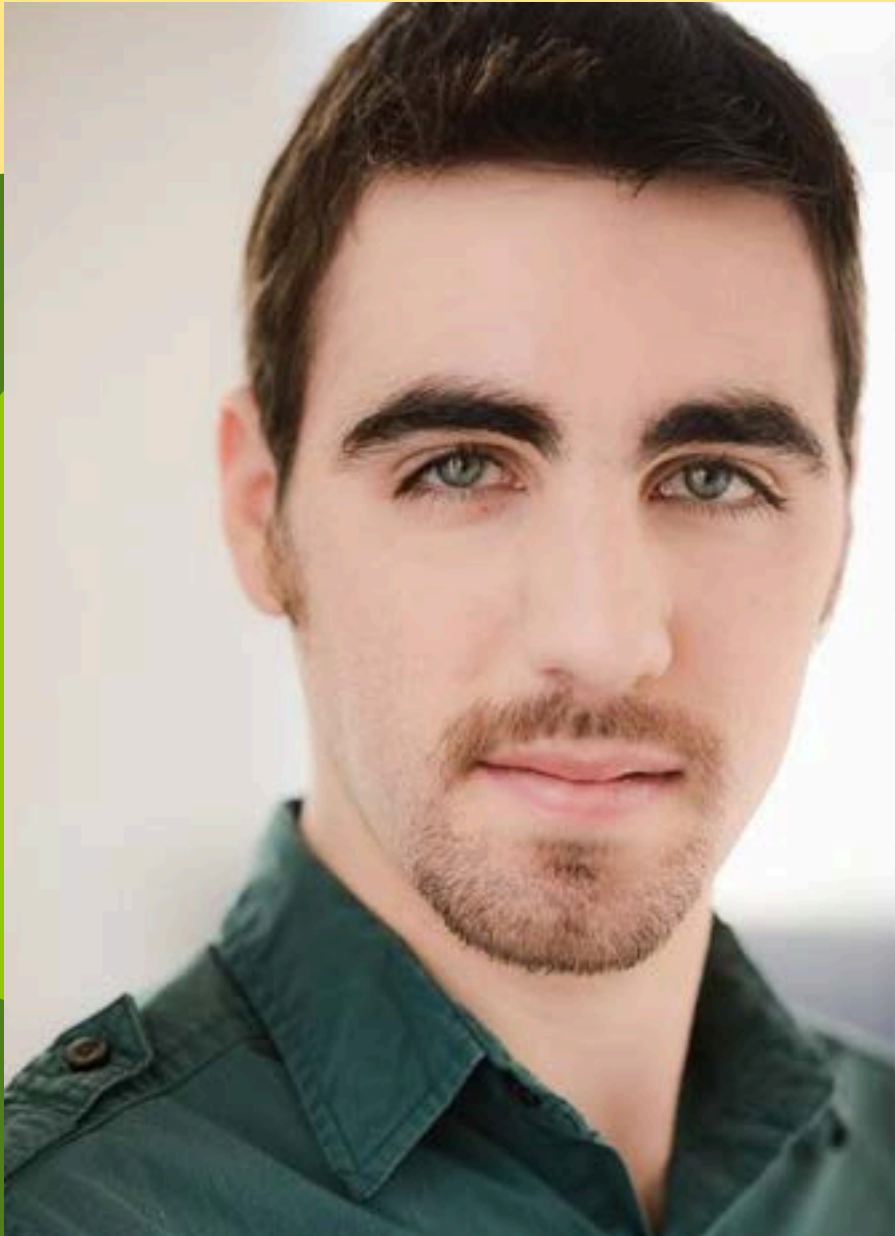
Lysander- Xaverie Baker

Moth (Puck Understudy)- Zoe Graham

SHOW INFORMATION

Four lovers fly to the woods one midsummer night where feuding and mischievous fairies reside. A few misplaced drops from a flower imbued with the power to make one fall madly in love with the next creature they see, a want-to-be acting troupe preparing for their big show before the king, and the king and queen of the fairies themselves make up the high jinks and misadventures of this hilarious classic!

“There is such powerful magic in storytelling, whether stories are spoken, written, or signed. Stories bring people together.” This year we are proud to present one of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies! Last year we brought to life a beautiful and heartbreaking LGBTQ+ version of Romeo & Juliet. This year we continue to interpret Shakespeare's work through a LGBTQ+ lens (this time with a much happier ending). We are also very excited to highlight representation for the deaf/signing community.”



Alex Funk-Demetrius

Alex is an actor, teacher and director in Northeast Ohio. He holds an M.F.A. in Acting at Kent State University and a B.A. in Theatre Arts from The University of Akron. Alex was the theatre instructor and director at Miller South School VPA from 2015-2022. He has also worked for Weathervane Playhouse, Ohio Shakespeare Festival, The Greater Cleveland Aquarium, Cleveland Shakespeare Festival and Rubber City Theatre. Memorable acting credits include The Great God Brown (Billy Brown), The Bacchae 2012 (Dionysus), As You Like It (Rosalind, Celia), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Demetrius, Oberon/Theseus), Much Ado About Nothing (Benedick), Macbeth (Hecate/Malcolm), Hamlet (Hamlet), Romeo and Juliet (Mercutio/Prince), Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure (Sherlock Holmes), Love's Labour's Lost (Berowne), Passage (H), and Everybody (Usher/God/Understanding).

Angela Huff-Flute

Angela is very excited to do her first show with Twilight Theater, which is also her first play. She performed as ensemble in Sweeney Todd last October with Millennial Theater Project. She enjoys listening to music and hanging out with her cat almost as much as her job as a nail technician and esthetician.



Cait McNeal-Titania

Cait has frequently been found in a theater since the age of three when she first started performing. Previous acting credits include: Romeo and Juliet (Romeo) with Twilight Theatre; Puffs (Sally) at Broadview Heights Spotlights; Equivocation (Judith), Hamlet (Ophelia), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Helena), Macbeth (Lady Macbeth), Richard III (Lady Anne), Tis Pity She's A Whore (Anabella), and many others with Rubber City Theater; Sweeney Todd (Mrs. Lovett) and The Rocky Horror Show (Magenta) with The Millennial Theatre Project. She recently also added the role of Director to her repertoire with her directorial debut of Roving Rogue Productions' A Midsummer Night's Dream in 2022, followed by The Millennial Theatre Project's Pride and Prejudice in 2023. When not performing on the stage, she is an avid reader, writer, and enjoys storytelling of all kinds. She is forever grateful for the love and support of friends, family, Joe, and her cats. caitmneal.com @xcrazy_caitx





Dean LaSalandra-Oberon

Dean is delighted to perform for Twilight Theatre again this year after giving Mercutio a drag twist last year. While he has not performed much in terms of Shakespeare, Dean has a vast amount of experience with Opera Western Reserve in Youngstown both as a performer and assistant stage manager. His most noted role with them was "Goro" in Madama Butterfly. Dean also performs with the a capella choir Illuminare and has performed in local music theater productions. He would like to thank his partner Arthur for supporting him, particularly as he walked around mumbling lines under breath to memorize them.

Jake Reid-Theseus, Mustardseed

Jake has been a high school English teacher for the past nine years with his tenure taking him to rural Alaska, inner city Cleveland, and finally the suburbs of Austintown. Not content to hear the droning of his students reciting Shakespeare, Jake decided it was time for a new chapter of his life, left the teaching profession, and is currently exploring careers in content writing and digital marketing. He wants to thank his good friend Joe and his fellow cast members for this wonderful opportunity to perform again.



Jane Plishka-Helena

Jane Plishka is delighted to be joining this wonderful cast for her first production with Twilight Theatre! Jane loves baking treats to share with friends as well as cooking and playing board games in her spare time. Some of her past roles include Alice (Alice in Wonderland), Lydia (Pride and Prejudice) and Katherine/Jaquenetta (Love's Labours Lost). A Midsummer Night's Dream holds a special place in her heart as one of the first Shakespearean performances she saw as a child, so she is especially excited to help present this whimsical tale!





Josephine Reynolds - Hermia

Josephine is thrilled to be working with Twilight Theatre for the very first time! As a teacher and a theatre artist in Northeast Ohio, she has had the pleasure of working with many companies across the region such as Ohio City Theatre Project, Talespinner Children's Theatre, Cleveland Public Theatre, Wandering Aesthetics, and Rubber City Theatre. She has also been a part of the Borderlight Fringe Festival, Pandemonium, and Station Hope. Notable acting credits include; The Girl Who Swallowed a Cactus (Sheila), The Crucible (Abigail Williams), Macbeth (Lady Macbeth), Little Women (Marmee), The Firebugs (Chorus/Ph.D), Into the Woods (Narrator), Steel Magnolias (Truvy), Mamma Mia (Donna Sheridan), Mr. Marmalade (Lucy), and She Kills Monsters (Farrah the Faerie). Special thanks to her amazing family and furry friends for always supporting her in her endeavors!

Michele McNeal - Egeus, Quince, Costumer

Michele is so excited to participate in Twilight Theatre's Midsummer. She has appeared with various theaters around Northeast Ohio. Some of her favorite previous roles include the Nurse (Romeo and Juliet), Sonia (Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike), Lear (Lear), Judge Wargrave (And Then There Were None), Miss Prism (The Importance of Being Earnest), Eulalie Shinn (Music Man) and, at different times, both Mrs. Bennet and Lady Catherine in Pride & Prejudice. Michele is a retired librarian who now also teaches, narrates audiobooks, and designs and constructs costumes. michelemcneal.com



Morgan Deraway - Snug

Morgan Deraway is a high school student who acts in her free time. She played Gregory in Romeo and Juliet at Twilight Theatre and has participated in school plays. When she is not acting, she is probably baking, sleeping, or painting. She is happy to have the opportunity to play Snug and portray the role as her own.



Raquel Allison - Hippolyta, Peaseblossom, Stage Manager

Raquel is so excited to be a part of this wonderful show and theatre. This is her first time as stage manager, and it has been so exciting! She has been acting since she was seven-years-old, and it has become a full passion. Raquel's favorite performances she has been a part of include Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief at Liberty High School (Mr. D and Gabe), Romeo and Juliet at Twilight Theater (the Prince), and Cinderella at The Youngstown Playhouse (Ensemble). Raquel would like to thank the director, Joe Soriano, for this wonderful learning experience!

Rebekah Mallory - Puck

Rebekah is super excited and grateful for the opportunity to play Puck in her first production with Twilight Theatre! Rebekah holds a B.F.A in Performing Arts from the Savannah College of Art and Design and is currently shortlisted for the M.F.A Musical Theatre program at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. Recent past credits include The Girl on the Train (Megan Hipwell) at The Stow Players, Leap of Faith and American Psycho (Courtney) at Blank Canvas Theatre, and Everything Feels Like the End of the World (Devon) with The Access Theatre Project. You can catch her next taking on the titular role of Medea at Western Reserve Playhouse. She wants to thank her friends for always being supportive of her endeavors, and her family for allowing her the space and tools to do what she loves most.



Srikar Bellana - Tom Snout

Srikar is a Rising Senior Theatre Studies Major with a concentration in Performance at Kent State University. Srikar Bellana was most recently onstage as Cousin, Stuff, and Beauty (Everybody, Dir. Paul Hurley), Nurse 2 and Archibald (A Grimm Beginning), Man 2 (Perspective), D and Kurogo (Passage), Alexander (Somewhere), Ty (Corktown), Understudy and Tobias (Much Ado About Nothing), and an ensemble member (365 Days / 365 Plays). He also appeared in some short films, as Kayde Ollie (KAYO!), Employee (Samsara), Dad (One Moment), The Red Devil (The Red Devil), Jordan (I'm Not Hungry), Sam (CollegeTown), Dylan (Crossroads), Greg (Hypnotic), and Ralph (The Unknown). He would like to thank Twilight Theatre and his fellow cast for their hard work on the show to make it the best it can be. He would also like to thank his friends and family for their support.





Tyler Moliterno - Nick Bottom

A graduate of Boardman High School, Tyler studied Film & Theatre at Cleveland State University where he performed as Sebastian in *The Tempest*, Nick Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and was nominated for the Irene Ryan Award for his role as Lenny in José Rivera's *Marisol*. Tyler's most recent roles include William Barfée in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Barry Wheeler in *Tony N' Tina's Wedding*, Eddie in *The Rocky Horror Show*, Perch Perkins in *Spongebob Squarepants: The Musical*, and as the Blind Hermit in *Young Frankenstein*. He is also the current director and advisor for the Canfield Players High School Theatre program.

Xaverie Baker - Lysander

Xaverie Baker is excited to make their *Twilight Theater* debut. Some favorite roles of the past include Mary Warren (*The Crucible*), Cecily (*The Importance of Being Earnest*) and Cheryl (*Evil Dead: The Musical*). She wants to thank Joe for his encouragement, her castmates for making her laugh and bringing this show to life, and her cats for being present through hours of line repetition.



Zoe Graham - Moth (Puck Understudy)

Zoe is delighted to be on stage again after many years away. She is a student at University of Akron. Zoe enjoys horseback riding, family trips to Hocking Hills, and cosplaying. She would like to thank her director Joe Soriano and *Twilight Theatre* for this amazing opportunity.



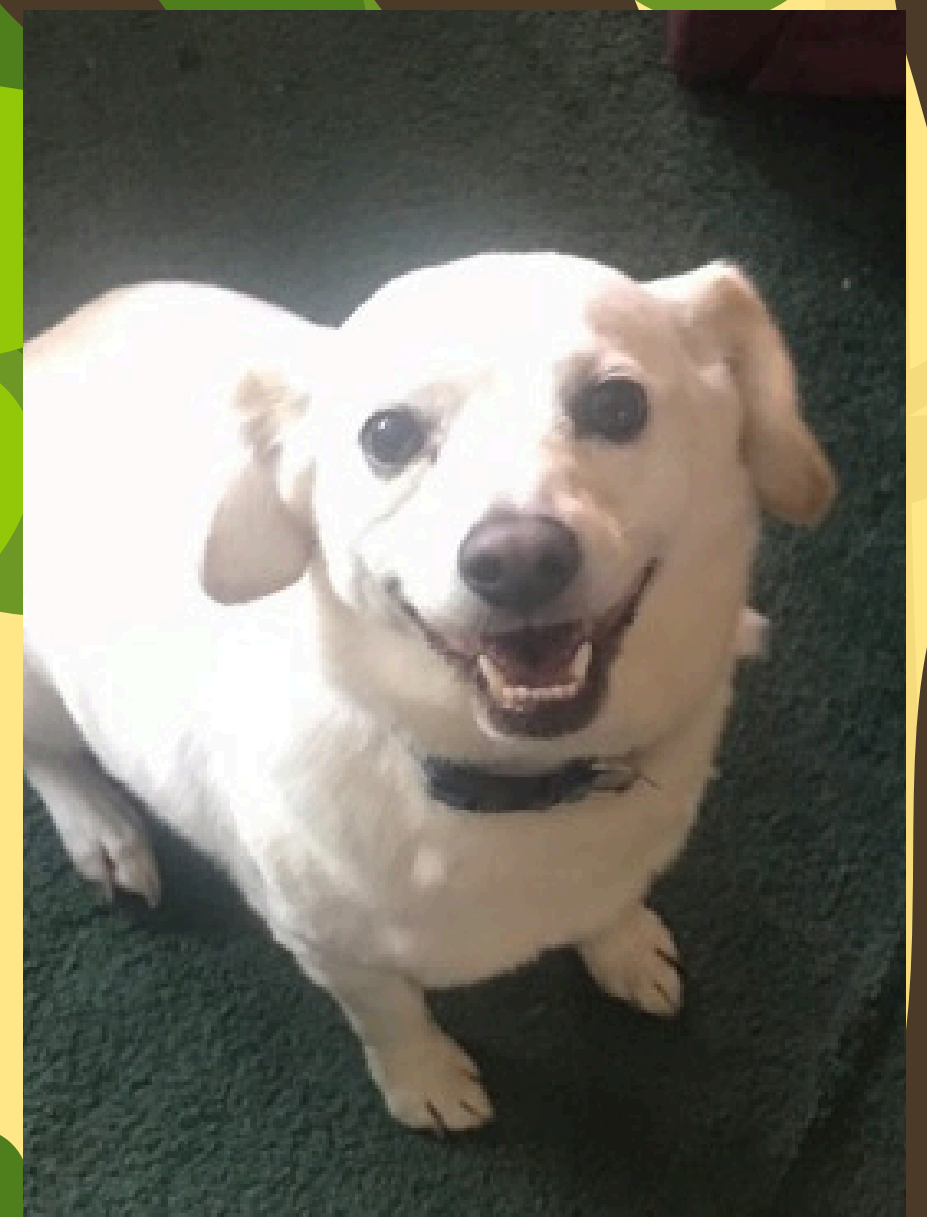


Joe Soriano - Director

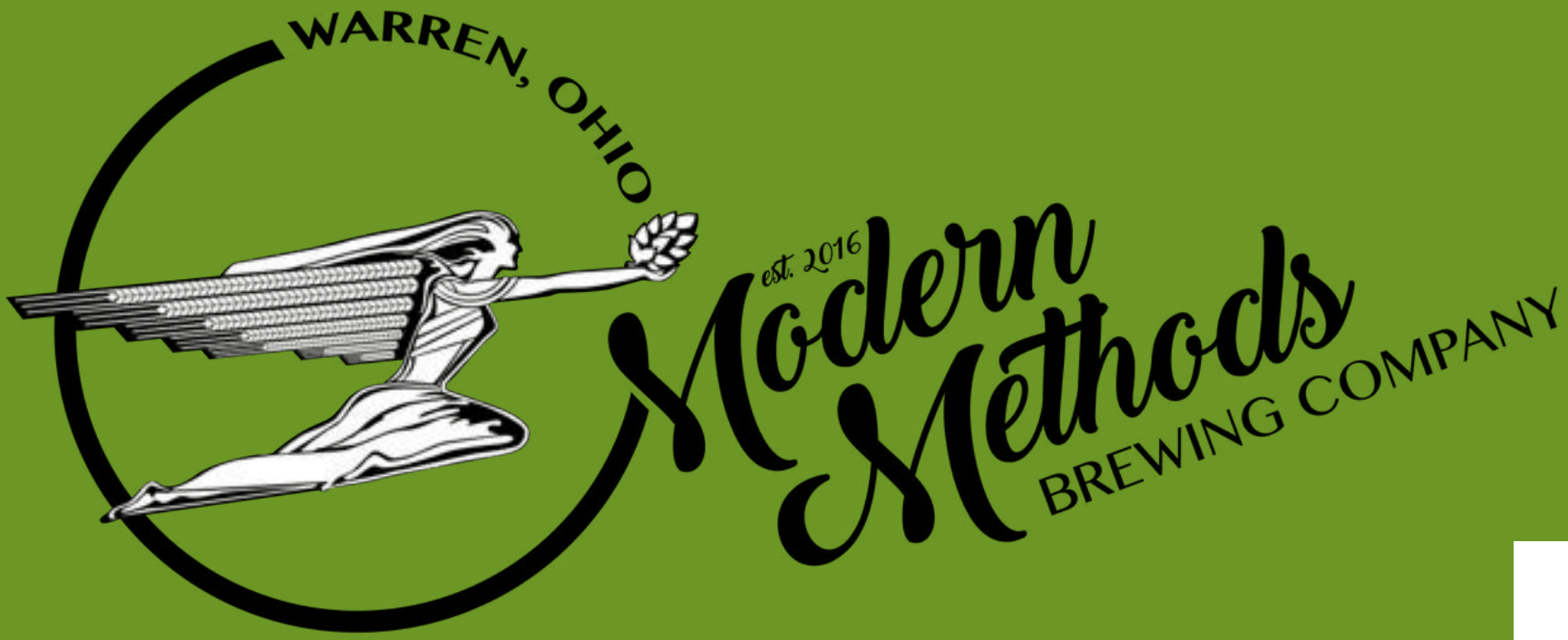
Joe Soriano has had the honor of working as a director, actor, combat chirographer, and stage manager throughout Northeast Ohio. He's been involved with countless productions across the Cleveland, Akron, Youngstown, and Canton areas. He graduated from Kent State University where he studied theatre and hospitality management. Some of Joe's previous directorial credits include a LGBTQ+ version of Romeo & Juliet at Twilight Theatre, Baron of Brown Street and Christmas Carol at Rubber City Theatre, And Then There Were None, and The Crucible at Avenue Arts.

Parker Bone - Doggie

Parker bone is a classically trained canine and graduated the top of his class from the school for good boys. His previous acting credits include Witch #4 in MacBark, The Bear in Winters Tail, and Pawtruchio in The Taming Of The Shih Tzu. He would like to thank Heidi for giving him lots of treats and believing in his dreams (especially the ones where he chases cars). He hopes everyone enjoys Twilight Theatre's production of A Midsummer Night's Dream as much as he enjoys belly rubs.



SPECIAL THANKS



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