



MUSICAL
THEATRE
ALLIANCE
OF ARIZONA

26 SHOWCASE
27 SEASON

MARY POPPINS



August 22, 2026, 7:00 PM
All Saints Lutheran Church

CAST

Mary Poppins.....	ALLY POWER
Bert.....	AUSTIN ALLISON
George Banks.....	ROB WATSON
Winifred Banks.....	KRISTIN MABB
Jane Banks.....	CHARLOTTE “CHACHA” GIFFEN
Michael Banks.....	CONNOR GERKIN
Miss Andrew.....	ASHLEY ZIOLKO
Bird Woman.....	ALLI LAMBERT
Mrs. Brill.....	GWEN CAPALBO
Robertson Ay.....	BJ SOSINSKI
Mrs. Corry.....	LANI VILLANUEVA
Admiral Boom.....	RICK WILLIAMS
Park Keeper.....	CHEYENNE MITCHELL
Bank Chairman.....	RICHARD GERKIN
Von Hussler.....	BRIAN REECE
John Northbrook.....	NICHOLAS APPELEGATE
Neleus.....	RILEY GERKIN
Miss Lark.....	KIMI CUNNINGHAM
Voice of Willoughby.....	CORA HANCOCK
Katie Nanna.....	WENDY THOMPSON
Policeman.....	KEVIN CHOI
Miss Smythe.....	KACEE AGUIRRE
Valentine.....	ALICIA LANGSTRAAT
Teddy Bear.....	JORDAN APPELEGATE
Doll.....	LIZZIE BAGGLEMEN
Solo Sweeps.....	COLIN REYNOLDS, IMRAN MALIK, CHRISTINA EPP, GRACIE SMITH
Annie.....	ABBY TELEPAK
Fannie.....	CARA RIZZI RICHMAN
Messenger.....	JOSH WEATHERSPOON
Doorman.....	CHARLES WICKENS
Queen Victoria.....	ROBIN KREUTZBERG

CHORUS

Robyn Pitman, *Vocal Director* | Jon Lang, *Rehearsal Pianist*

Soprano 1: Yoshi DeLisa, Christina Epp, Kathryn Ellefsen, Faith Forbis, Patti Graetz, Irena Horodyska, Alli Lambert, Kristin Mabb, Robyn Pitman, Mandy Ressler, Gracie Smith, Abby Telepak, Joanna Torla, Peggy Wensman; **Soprano 2:** Cami Anglemeyer, Vivian Bedah, Kerri Christie, Kate Creager, Tamra Duncan, Alexandra Fausett, Riley Gerkin, Cora Hancock, Kylie Hancock, Sharon Hansen, Sierra Hemming, Michelle King, Natalie Lang, Karen Lewis, Linda Peters, Cara Rizzi Richman, Lily Shelmire, Sam Shimel, Wendy Thompson, Suzanne Wachman, Jeanette Winzeler, Ashley Ziolk; **Alto:** Kacee Aguirre, Jordan Applegate, Lizzie Baggleman, Robyn Barker, Caryn Bickel, Natalie Blum, Natalie Booth, Gwen Capalbo, Edie Chudnow, Kimi Cunningham, Courtney Evans, Khalia Fagan, Hannah Famulare, Jay Friedman, Kali Kappes, Alicia Langstraat, Cheryl Mackechnie, Abby Post, Michelle Prom, Joanne Rizzi, Jan Schmidt, Lauran Stanis, Jenna Sweet, Kathy Travous, Lani Villanueva, Cal Williams, Kendall Williams, Regan Zachareas; **Tenor:** Nicholas Applegate, David Barker, Jake Forston, Rob Hahn-Lowry, Heather Hegedus, Erik Jansen, Robin Kreutzberg, Jon Lang, Daniel Lermayer-Ortiz, Imran Malik, Cheyenne Mitchell, Cris Mory Barron, BJ Sosinski, Lexy Voigt, Josh Weatherspoon, Zack Wells; **Bass:** John Amenhauser, Kevin Choi, Stephen Edwards, Richard Gerkin, Ron Gingerich, William Marsh, Zach Millwood, Brian Reece, Colin Reynolds, Davis Shelmire, Derek Taylor, Kyle Varble, Charles Wickens, Richard Williams

❖ This performance of *Mary Poppins* is generously sponsored by Dr. Sharon A. Hansen ❖

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Chim Chim Cher-ee	Bert
Cherry Tree Lane (Part 1)	George, Winifred, Jane, Michael, Mrs. Brill, Robertson Ay
The Perfect Nanny	Jane, Michael
Cherry Tree Lane (Part 2)	George, Winifred, Jane and Michael, Mrs. Brill, Robertson Ay, Ensemble
Practically Perfect	Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael
Jolly Holiday	Bert, Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael, Nelcus, Statues (Ensemble)
Cherry Tree Lane (Reprise), Being Mrs. Banks, Jolly Holiday (Reprise)	George, Winifred, Jane, Michael
A Spoonful of Sugar	Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael, Robertson Ay, Winifred
Precision and Order	Bank Chairman, Bank Clerks (Ensemble)
A Man Has Dreams	George
Feed the Birds	Bird Woman, Mary Poppins
Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious	Mary Poppins, Mrs. Corry, Bert, Jane, Michael, Fannie, Annie, Customers (Ensemble)
Playing the Game	Mary Poppins, Valentine, Doll, Teddy Bear, Toys (Ensemble)
Chim Chim Cher-ee (Reprise)	Bert, Mary Poppins

ACT II

Cherry Tree Lane (Reprise)	Mrs. Brill, Michael, Jane, Winifred, Robertson Ay, George
Brimstone and Treacle (Part 1)	Miss Andrew
Let's Go Fly a Kite	Bert, Park Keeper, Jane, Michael
Cherry Tree Lane (Reprise), Being Mrs. Banks (Reprise)	George, Winifred
Brimstone and Treacle (Part 2)	Mary Poppins, Miss Andrew
Practically Perfect (Reprise)	Jane, Michael, Mary Poppins
Chim Chim Cher-ee (Reprise)	Bert
Step in Time	Bert, Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael, Sweeps (Ensemble)
A Man Has Dreams, A Spoonful of Sugar (Reprise)	George, Bert
Anything Can Happen	Jane, Michael, Mary Poppins, Ensemble
A Spoonful of Sugar (Reprise)	Mary Poppins
A Shooting Star	Orchestra

There will be one 15-minute intermission

ORCHESTRA

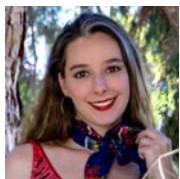
Dylan Suehiro, *Conductor*

Reed 1: Nancy Shortridge Sowers; **Reed 2:** Karen Bryson; **Reed 3:** Mandy Gifford; **Horn:** Brian Alan, Stacey Tschilar; **Trumpet:** Mandi Broderick, Jon Hembree; **Trombone:** Erik Ketcherside; **Trombone/Tuba:** Stephen Healy; **Percussion:** Claudio Castellanos, Sonja Branch; **Keyboard:** Austin Shaw, Allison Crenshaw; **Guitar:** Wes Crenshaw; **Cello:** Jan Dacoycoy; **Bass:** Jonathan Thwaites

CREW & STAFF

Staging Director	Kerri Christie
Audio Engineer	Andrea Gudeyon
Additional Percussion Equipment	All Saints Lutheran Church, ProMusica Arizona Orchestra
Volunteer Coordinator	John Jadwisiak
Showcase Volunteers	Jessica Bondy, Kyle Core, Leslie Cote, Sheri Dixon, Chris Elliott, Patti Graetz, Eileen Friedman, Mary Kelly, Tara Knight, Sean Masangcay, Margaret Miller, Sam Shimel, Thylma Stamaria, Angela Storey, Michael Torla

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

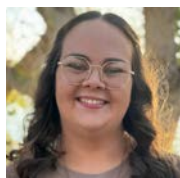


KACEE AGUIRRE (*Miss Smythe*) is a Phoenix-based actress who grew up in Southern Illinois in a family immersed in the performing arts. She began performing at a young age in musical theatre, singing, dance, and competitive cheerleading before expanding into film, television, and voice-over work. She is passionate about storytelling and the performing arts and is grateful for every opportunity to continue growing as an artist. @kacee.aguirre



AUSTIN ALLISON (*Bert*) is excited to help open the new MTAA season as Bert! Although he is primarily an illustrator by trade, he has taken to the musical theatre stage in recent years through "One Rehearsal Short" in Tucson and with MTAA!

Austin is especially overjoyed to share the stage in this show with his fellow "KeyFrames": his wife Lani and best man Cheyenne! He offers them his eternal thanks and love! @a_t_allison



JORDAN APPLGATE (*Teddy Bear*) has been performing with MTAA since *Big Fish* in 2024, and she is especially excited to be sharing the stage this time with her husband, Nick. She loves performing and is so grateful for every opportunity she's been

given over the last 2.5 years to perform and direct some truly beautiful productions. With two preschoolers at home, she is especially thankful for the opportunities MTAA has given her while she balances home life with doing what she loves. @jordanrenae451



NICHOLAS APPLGATE (*John Northbrook*) is an elementary orchestra teacher in the Higley Unified School District and a private piano and strings teacher. He plays cello and piano in the Gilbert Symphony Orchestra. Nick performed with the BYU

Singers for three years in college, and he loves musical theater and singing. He is excited to be a part of this production with his wife!



LIZZIE BAGGLEMEN (*Doll*) is thrilled to be returning to the stage for the first time since 2019. While she has spent the past several years directing, choreographing, and teaching young performers throughout the Valley, performing has always

held a special place in her heart. She is grateful for the opportunity to be back on stage and would like to thank

her family and friends for their endless love and support. Enjoy the show! @lizziebaggleman



GWEN CAROLE CAPALBO (*Mrs. Brill*) This is Gwen's first MTAA Showcase, and she is stoked to be back in the world of musical theatre after many years of (mostly) on-camera work. You may have seen her in several handfuls of national commercials,

Welcome to Chippendales on Hulu, or recreating '80s and '90s nostalgia on social media. Gwen loves video games and teaching/coaching other actors. She also has a 2-year-old who loves flying and singing about kites! @gwendolynstagram



KEVIN CHOI (*Policeman*) is a Chicago transplant, physician, and assistant professor of medicine. Having first discovered his love of singing through school chorus and an a cappella group, he is excited to return for another MTAA Showcase—this time

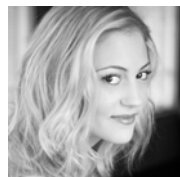
alongside his beloved husband, William Marsh. He has also performed with the Phoenix Gay Men's Chorus over the past year. Kevin enjoys exploring a wide range of musical styles, from musical theatre and opera to pop and punk rock. Past MTAA credits: *Fiddler on the Roof*. @kevischoi



KIMI CUNNINGHAM (*Miss Lark*)

After previously performing in MTAA's productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar* & *The Sound of Music*, Kimi is thrilled to be back as Miss Lark in *Mary Poppins*! Past credits include Lucy (YAGMCB), Maureen (RENT), & Cathy Hiatt

(*Last Five Years*). Kimi has taught dance and choreographed for high school & community theatre programs for 20+ years. She currently teaches at INSPIRE Entertainment, where she also directs the Music Theatre Academy program. Kimi thanks her friends & family for their continued support! @kimi.m.cunningham

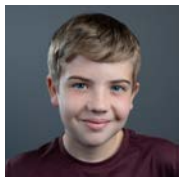


CHRISTINA NICOLE EPP

(*Solo Sweep*) is thrilled to be performing in her 8th Showcase with MTAA! She was recently seen in *Pirates of Penzance* (Kate), *Big Fish* (Josephine Bloom), *The Pajama Game* (Virginia), and *Brigadoon* (Kate). Other favorite

credits include: *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Josephine Corcoran), and *Seussical the Musical* (Bird Girl). Christina holds a BA in Theatre & Drama from Indiana University. Special thanks to my mom for her endless encouragement! @christinafindingcolor

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



CONNOR GERKIN (*Michael Banks*) (age 12) is proud to be making his return at MTAA. His past favorite roles include Young Harry/Tommy Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life* (Don Bluth Front Row Theater), Skipper in *Madagascar* (Greasepaint), and

Crutchie in *Newsies Jr.* (Art & Sol). He would like to give a big thanks to both his parents for always keeping him updated on theater news.



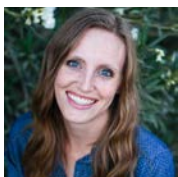
ROBIN KREUTZBERG (*Queen Victoria*) Robin's musical-theater career dates back to her debut as Mary in the kindergarten church pageant and as the alto in the family sextet when she was 8 and could carry her part. She continued with such high school

shows as *Once Upon a Mattress* and *The Wizard of Oz* and community productions including *Music Man* and *Sound of Music*. MTAA credits: Yente (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Spotlight Singer (*Spamalot*); Ensemble (*Pirates of Penzance*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*). Robin is delighted to have encountered MTAA and is thankful to have joined a group of accepting, inclusive, and talented people who love musical theater as much as she does.



ALLI LAMBERT (*Bird Woman*) is thrilled to perform in her eighth MTAA Showcase! She especially loved *Spamalot* (Mrs. Galahad), *Ragtime* (Kathleen) and *Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Credits include Perkins in *Annie* (Desert Foothills) and Enid in *Legally*

Blonde (Starlight). She has sung in Carnegie Hall twice, in Paris and in The Phoenix Symphony Chorus. Thanks and love to Zack, Stephen and all who support the arts. "It's a jolly holiday with you!"



ALICIA LANGSTRAAT (*Valentine*) has loved vocal music since childhood. She has a bachelor's degree in choral music education and has been active as a singer, director, and accompanist. Alicia currently sings with Millennial Choirs and Orchestras. In recent

years, she has performed spotlight and ensemble roles with MTAA (*Annie Get Your Gun*, *The Pajama Game*, and other productions) and QCPAC (*Guys and Dolls*, *The Music Man*). Alicia's most cherished roles are those of Christian, wife, and mother to 6 fantastic children. @alicialangstraat



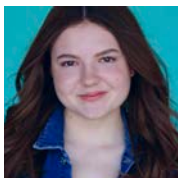
KRISTIN MABB (*Winifred Banks*) is thrilled to be part of this experience with MTAA! She was recently seen as Paulette in *Legally Blonde* at QCPAC. Other credits include Grace Farrell in *Annie*, Dead Mum in *Billy Elliot*, and Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof*

with MET. Kristin holds a degree in Vocal Performance from Southern Utah University, previously performing with the Utah Shakespeare Festival. She teaches piano and voice in her home studio and is grateful for the support of friends and family. At home, she's happily outnumbered by seven children and her patient husband, Scott. Her favorite role will always be Mom. @kristinmabb



RICK GERKIN (*Bank Chairman*) is a husband, theater-dad, and scientist making his MTAA debut. Past credits include community theater productions of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and *Once on This Island*, many years ago! Looking forward

to singing with family and friends! @rickg1776



RILEY GERKIN (*Neleus*) is thrilled to be back at MTAA, where she was previously Jessie Oakley in *Annie Get Your Gun*. She's a rising junior at Sunnyslope HS, where she's active in choir, FBLA, & NHS. Favorite past roles include

Winnie Foster, Anna in *Frozen*, & Timon in *The Lion King*. She is also a proud Broadway Artist Alliance alumna! She thanks her parents and brother for sharing the stage with her! @rileygerkintheatre



CHARLOTTE "CHACHA" GIFFEN (*Jane Banks*) is thrilled to be playing Jane in *Mary Poppins*! Prior credits include Annie in *Annie* and Mary in *The Secret Garden* at Fountain Hills Theater, Little Girl in Arizona MusicFest's *Ragtime* at the Herberger, Gretl

in Arizona Opera's production of *The Sound of Music*, Junie in *Junie B. Jones* at Fuse Performing Arts Center, & Baby Mouse in *The Nutcracker* with Ballet Etudes. Next up is *Annie* round two at Hale Center Theatre! Besides singing and dancing, she loves Taylor Swift, her squishmallows, and animals.



CORA HANCOCK (*Voice of Willoughby*) is a 7th grader at Inspiration Mountain School. She is excited to participate in her second Showcase with MTAA. She has done many shows around the valley; some of her favorite roles include Brigitta

in *The Sound of Music* with MTAA, Nemo at Spotlight Youth Theater, and Junie B. Jones at Actors Playground. When she is not on stage or in rehearsals she loves to paint and play Minecraft with her brother.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



IMRAN MALIK (*Solo Sweep*) is excited to make his MTAA debut in *Mary Poppins*! He grew up performing in school, community, and college theatre, sang with a collegiate a cappella group, and spent time in Hollywood as a background actor. He has also been an active performer with the Phoenix Gay Men's Chorus. Outside of performing, Imran is a competitive rower and coach at the national level. @ohheyimran



CHEYENNE MITCHELL (*Park Keeper*) A lover of cartoons, anime, and video games, Cheyenne has a lot of fun energy to bring to the stage! Although a good chunk of it is spent drawing and learning how to animate, Cheyenne is also a talented singer and actor who has lent his talents to MTAA on many occasions since 2023. Now, he's happy to return to the stage once again with excitement and gratitude, kicking off the 2026-2027 season with the support of his KeyFrames Austin and Lani! @djdonsatsu



ALLY POWER (*Mary Poppins*) is SUPER excited to join the cast of *Mary Poppins*! This is her second time performing with MTAA (her first Showcase) and she cannot be more thrilled. She was most recently seen in *Legally Blonde the Musical* at QCPAC.

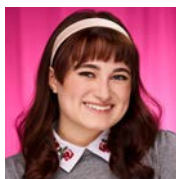
Some past favorites include Baker's Wife (*Into the Woods*), Hermia (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), and Mary Poppins (*Mary Poppins*). She has a wonderful husband, John, and two amazing kids, Eleanora and Harrison. I love you guys! @ally_powerz



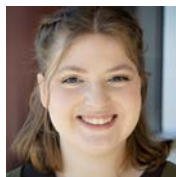
BRIAN REECE (*Von Hussler*) is Associate Dean of Students at ASU and a lifelong musician. After earning a vocal performance minor at the University of Delaware, he's performed with choirs nationwide, including the Phoenix Gay Men's Chorus and in MTAA productions. With nearly 20 years in higher ed, he blends student affairs leadership with a passion for building inclusive communities. @reececup



COLIN REYNOLDS (*Solo Sweep*) is a history teacher at Phoenix Country Day School, originally from Huntington, West Virginia. He learned about MTAA from a former student, and he has enjoyed singing in several MTAA Showcases. He also sings with the Orpheus Male Chorus of Phoenix.



CARA RIZZI RICHMAN (*Fannie*) is an award-winning performer/creator & an honors graduate from AMDA with a BFA in Performing Arts. Most recently, she was working as a performer aboard the Disney Adventure in Singapore. Other notable roles: Pomni in *The Amazing Digital Musical* (Twisted Minds Productions) & Ermengarde in *Hello, Dolly!* (Arizona Broadway Theatre). She is also the playwright/composer of several original musicals & an accomplished cosplayer! She thanks her friends & family for their support. @cara.rizzi www.cararizzirichman.com



GRACIE SMITH (*Solo Sweep*) is a recent graduate of Phoenix Country Day School. She is headed to Lawrence University in the fall to study Vocal Performance in the Conservatory of Music. Recent roles: Anna (Frozen: *The Broadway Musical*), SpongeBob (*The SpongeBob Musical*), Cinderella (*Into the Woods*), and the Wicked Witch of the West (*Wizard of Oz*). Previous MTAA Showcase appearances: *Sweeney Todd*, *Titanic*, and *The Sound of Music*. @graciesmith342



BJ SOSINSKI (*Robertson Ay*) is thrilled to return to MTAA, where he has rekindled his passion for performing and collaborative storytelling. His MTAA credits include *Annie Get Your Gun* (Cowboy Trio), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Feydka), and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Simon). He now joins *Mary Poppins* as Robertson Ay, embracing the show's humor and heart. Outside the theatre, BJ enjoys antique hunting and spending time with his partner and their three dogs. He is grateful for MTAA's inspiring and welcoming community. @b_the_wicked

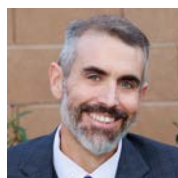


WENDY THOMPSON (*Katie Nanna*) is a proud native of Gilbert, AZ, where she and her husband Brandon live with their five children. She holds a bachelor's degree from NAU in Elementary Education. Her idea of a perfect day would be spent eating lunch at Arby's, and working on a sewing project, while watching *Murder, She Wrote*. She would like to thank her family and most of all God, for their love and support. @wendytrue7

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



LANI VILLANUEVA (*Mrs. Corry*) has been a multi-instrumentalist and performer for over 25 years. Originally from Japan, Lani now resides in Tucson, where she serves as Managing Director for "One Rehearsal Short". She is a K-8 music educator and a member of The KeyFrames alongside Austin and Cheyenne. Mahalo and arigatou to all friends and ohana for your love and support! Aloha and Yoroshiku onegaishimasu! @lanissimo88



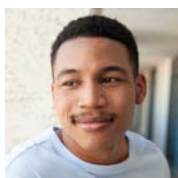
RICK WILLIAMS (*Admiral Boom*) is thrilled to return to the MTAA stage in *Mary Poppins*, one of his top five favorite musicals. In addition to performing throughout the Valley with various choirs and theater productions, he most recently appeared with MTAA as Lazar Wolf in *Fiddler on the Roof* and is especially excited to once again perform alongside his wife. For the past 12 years, Rick has sung with the Phoenix Symphony Chorus. He also serves as a section leader at Christ Church Anglican, where he can be heard singing each Sunday.



ROB WATSON (*George Banks*) is proud to debut with MTAA. Previous regional credits include *Dear Evan Hansen* (Larry), *A Chorus Line* (Zach), and *Into The Woods* (Steward) at The Phoenix Theatre Company; *Beauty and the Beast* (Cogsworth), *Rock of Ages* (Dennis), *Elf* (Santa/Greenway) at Arizona Broadway Theatre; *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Frollo) and *Mary Poppins* (Flight Crew) at TheaterWorks. He works full time at ABT as the Operations Manager and has three cats: Statler, Waldorf, and Tripp. "My favorite time of day is 5:37!" @nostawbr23



ASHLEY ZIOLKO (*Miss Andrew*) is thrilled to be back with MTAA! Other MTAA credits include: *A Little Night Music* (Charlotte Malcolm), *The Pajama Game* (Babe), *Pirates of Penzance* (Edith). Other recent credits include: *Seussical* (Sour Kangaroo), *Titanic* (Kate Murphy), *Oliver!* (Mrs. Sowerberry), *The Wizard of Oz* (Glinda), *Guys & Dolls* (Adelaide). When Ashley is not performing, you can find her running a mental health practice with her husband (@reclaimcounselingaz) and being an unpaid taxi driver to her 2 children. Enjoy the show! @anziolko



JOSH WEATHERSPOON (*Messenger*) began acting in high school while also competing in track and field. After graduating, he initially pursued a business degree, but soon realized that a career in business wasn't where his heart was. He joined John Casablanca's Model and Talent Agency and began pursuing performance more seriously. He also started taking singing lessons with the goal of expanding his opportunities as a musical theatre performer. @weatherspoon_josh



DYLAN SUEHIRO (*Conductor*) has been part of MTAA since 2023, when he joined the orchestra for *Titanic*. Since then, he has contributed to MTAA as an instrumentalist, conductor, board member, and organizational leader. As Artistic & Music Director, Dylan leads MTAA's Artistic Leadership Team and helps guide the organization's artistic direction.



CHARLES WICKENS (*Doorman*) is passionate about helping organizations grow and thrive while fostering innovation and long-term success. He also has a deep appreciation for the arts and humanities, believing they inspire creativity, critical thinking, and meaningful connections. He enjoys bringing people together, sharing food and a lifelong curiosity to create positive impact in both professional and community settings. @sustainer3

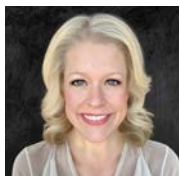
Dylan has conducted *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *The Pajama Game*, *The Sound of Music*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Spamalot*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and has performed in the orchestra for *Titanic*, *A Little Night Music*, *Big Fish*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. He remains active as a freelance musician and multi-instrumentalist, performing with community ensembles, churches, and arts organizations throughout the Valley.

Born and raised in Hilo, Hawai'i, Dylan holds degrees in music education and conducting from Indiana University and Arizona State University. Since moving to Arizona in 2013, he has taught in the Paradise Valley Unified School District and continues to serve as a clinician and adjudicator for school music programs throughout the region.

Outside of his professional work, Dylan enthusiastically participates in the local baking community, and he also

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

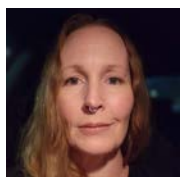
volunteers at the Desert Botanical Garden. He lives in Phoenix with his husband, Kyle.



ROBYN PITMAN (Vocal Director) first joined MTAA for its inaugural audience production, *Sweeney Todd*, and has been involved in nearly every production since. Over the years, she has become a familiar presence both onstage and behind the scenes, contributing as a performer, music leader, collaborator, and advocate for the organization's mission. Among her MTAA performance credits are *Titanic* (Alice Beane), *Brigadoon* (Fiona), and *A Little Night Music* (Mrs. Anderssen), along with leadership roles including Chorus Director for *Spamalot*, Assistant Chorus Director for *The Sound of Music*, and Staging Director for *Fiddler on the Roof*.

An Arizona-born performer, music director, and educator, Robyn has worked in theatres across the country, including national tours of *Brigadoon*, *The Music Man*, and *Legally Blonde*. Regional credits include *Carnival*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Titanic*, *Into the Woods*, *1776*, *Lucky Stiff*, *Cinderella*, *A Little Night Music*, and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. Her music directing credits include *Les Misérables*, *Brigadoon*, *The Sound of Music*, *Legally Blonde*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Lucky Stiff*, and *Honk!*

As an educator, Robyn taught high school choir for 14 years, leading multiple nationally recognized show and jazz choir programs. She holds a BIS in Music and Education from Arizona State University and an MBA from University of Southern Indiana. In addition to her artistic work, she currently works as a Human Resources Business Partner and Arizona Realtor.

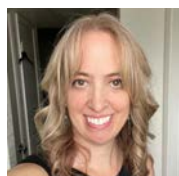


KERRI CHRISTIE (Staging Director) has been part of MTAA since the organization's very first meeting and has contributed to its growth as a performer, director, committee member, and enthusiastic advocate ever since. She has participated in nearly every Showcase, appearing onstage in *Spamalot*, *The Sound of Music*, and *The Pajama Game*, while also serving as Staging Director for *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Spamalot*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. She is also an active member of MTAA's Education and Community Engagement Committee.

Kerri studied acting in Seattle at Northwest Actors Studio, Studio East, and with Dr. Tawnya Pettiford-Wates before continuing her training at the California Institute of the Arts School of Theater. Since moving to Arizona in 2011, she has served as Artistic Director of Arizona Homeschool Theatre Group (AZHT), where she has directed productions including *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*,

Charlotte's Web, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Annie JR*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Seussical JR*, and many others.

When she is not directing or performing, Kerri enjoys supporting her two young actors and serving families throughout the Valley as a board-certified lactation consultant.



ANDREA GUDEYON (Audio Engineer) has been an integral part of every production since MTAA's inception in 2022, overseeing the critical technical elements of balancing the ensemble and managing precise sound cues. She also brings her

skills to Detour Theatre as a sound designer and engineer and works as an AV engineer for Encore Event Services. Andrea holds a degree in Audio Production from Phoenix College. MTAA credits: *Titanic*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Parade*, *Brigadoon*, *Ragtime*, *The Sound of Music*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Spamalot*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.



P.L. TRAVERS (Author of the *Mary Poppins* stories) was born in 1899 in Australia in a residence above the bank where her father was branch manager. She began to write while a member of a touring stage company. In 1924, able to support herself as a journalist, she left Australia for England. She wrote a number of other books in addition to the *Mary Poppins* stories. She was fascinated by myth and fairy tales and traveled widely, living for a time with the Navajo. She was made "writer in residence" at both Smith and Radcliffe colleges in Massachusetts and also received an honorary doctorate from Chatham College, Pittsburgh. She died in London in 1996.



CAMERON MACKINTOSH (Co-Creator) is one of the world's most celebrated theatrical producers, whose productions have been seen by hundreds of millions of people worldwide. His credits include *Les Misérables*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Cats*, *Miss Saigon*, *Oliver!*, and *Mary Poppins*.

Mackintosh co-produced *Mary Poppins* with Disney Theatrical Productions. The production premiered in London in 2004 before opening on Broadway in 2006 and has since been produced around the world.

Mackintosh was knighted in 1996 for his services to British theatre.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



RICHARD M. SHERMAN & ROBERT B. SHERMAN (*Original Music and Lyrics*) composed together for more than five decades and are responsible for more motion picture song scores than any other songwriting team in film history.

The brothers earned nine Oscar nominations during their long career and garnered Academy Awards for Song ("Chim Chim Cher-ee") and Original Score for Walt Disney's *Mary Poppins* in 1964.

Throughout the 1960s and early '70s, the Sherman brothers contributed popular songs and scores to numerous classic Disney films, including *The Monkey's Uncle* (1965), *That Darn Cat!* (1965), *Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree* (1966), *The Jungle Book* (1967), *The Aristocats* (1970) and *Bedknobs and Broomsticks* (1971). In addition to their work for Walt Disney, the Sherman brothers provided an array of music for many memorable family films from other studios, including *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (1968), *Charlotte's Web* (1973), *Tom Sawyer* (1973) and *The Slipper and the Rose – The Story of Cinderella* (1976).



JULIAN FELLOWES (*Book*) is creator, sole writer and executive producer of the worldwide television series *Downton Abbey*, which has received 69 Emmy Award nominations, winning 15, including writing and Outstanding Miniseries or Movie

for Fellowes. His theatre writing credits are: *School of Rock – The Musical* (Broadway/Tony Award nominee, Best Book), *Mary Poppins* (West End, Broadway/Drama Desk nominee, Best Book), *Half a Sixpence* (Chichester Festival Theatre/West End) and *The Wind in the Willows* (The London Palladium).

His film writing credits are: *Gosford Park* (Academy Award winner, Original Screenplay), *Vanity Fair*, *Piccadilly Jim*, *Separate Lies* (National Board of Review Directorial Debut Award), *From Time to Time* (directed, Best Picture – Chicago Children's Film Festival and Fiuggi Family Festival in Rome, Youth Jury Award – Seattle International Film Festival, Young Jury Award – Cinemagic in Belfast), *The Young Victoria*, *The Tourist*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Chaperone*, the *Downton Abbey* movie, *Downton Abbey: A New Era* and the upcoming *Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale*. His television writing credits include *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, *The Prince and the Pauper*, *Titanic* (miniseries), *Doctor Thorne* (miniseries) and most recently, *The Gilded Age*.

He has authored the international bestselling novels *Snobs*, *Past Imperfect* and most recently, *Belgravia*; the children's book *The Curious Adventures of the Abandoned Toys* and *Downton Abbey* scripts. Fellowes is also a screen

and stage actor. He and his wife, Emma, live in London and Dorset, England. They have a son, Peregrine.



GEORGE STILES & ANTHONY DREWE (*New Songs and Additional Music & Lyrics*) are a multi award-winning musical theatre writing partnership whose shows have been performed all over the world and translated into many languages.

They met studying at Exeter University and have been collaborators for over 40 years.

Their work together includes the international smash-hit Cameron Mackintosh/Disney production of *Mary Poppins*, the Olivier Award-winning *Honk!*—seen by more than 7 million people across over 9,000 productions worldwide—and the West End productions of *Half a Sixpence*, *The Wind in the Willows* and *Betty Blue Eyes*. Their other shows include *Identical*, *Becoming Nancy*, *Soho Cinders*, *Travels With My Aunt*, *Peter Pan – A Musical Adventure*, *Just So* and *Tutankhamun*.

George and Anthony have also completed a trilogy of 50-minute musicals for younger audiences: *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* and the Olivier-nominated *The Three Little Pigs*.

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Special Thanks

All Saints Lutheran Church Staff for facilitating venue arrangements, providing equipment storage, and being an integral part of MTAA's story. Thank you to Courtney Krueger, Jerry Gunderson, Duncan Moore, and Susan Corbin.

Sharon Hansen for graciously hosting an additional off-site rehearsal for our leads and featured players.

Natalie Booth, Edie Chudnow, Kerri Christie, and Kathy Travous for holding MTAA Office Hours for Showcase participants.

Deric Miller for documenting this production with his keen eye. dericmillerphoto.com

Faith Forbis, CPA for ensuring our financial compliance.

Wes Crenshaw for creating graphics and marketing materials throughout the season.

Jessica Bondy for managing communications, social media, and graphic design.

Dylan Suchiro for designing the programs.

Kyle Varble for leading logistics behind the scenes and assisting with communications.

Stephen Schermitzler for his passionate leadership in the inception and development of MTAA.

About MTAA

The Musical Theatre Alliance of Arizona brings together singers, instrumentalists, and theatre-makers from across the state to create ambitious work in a uniquely collaborative environment. Each Showcase draws performers from different backgrounds, experience levels, and corners of the performing arts community. With a live orchestra and concentrated rehearsal process at its core, MTAA creates opportunities to experience musical theatre on a scale that is both expansive and deeply personal.

MTAA is built on the belief that community is everything, and that excellence is built through community. We hold ourselves to high artistic standards while creating space for genuine collaboration and participation at every level. Our reach extends throughout Arizona and beyond, connecting people who might otherwise never share a stage, a pit, or a rehearsal room. We are proud to stand at the crossroads of Arizona's musical theatre community, connecting performers, musicians, and audiences from across the state and beyond.

Friends of MTAA

It is our privilege to recognize the following donors whose lifetime giving has helped make MTAA's work possible. Every donor is a valued partner in our achievements onstage, throughout our community, and in the future of musical theatre in Arizona.

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BOOK BY

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NEW SONGS, ADDITIONAL
MUSIC & LYRICS BY

**George Stiles &
Anthony Drewe**

CO-CREATED BY

Cameron Mackintosh

A Musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney film

Mary Poppins is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

A WORLD OF POSSIBILITY

Long before *Mary Poppins* arrived on screen, she was already a beloved literary character. P. L. Travers introduced the mysterious nanny in 1934, creating a world where the ordinary and extraordinary exist side by side. The 1964 Disney film transformed that world into one of cinema's most enduring musical fantasies, and the stage adaptation later brought together elements from both the books and the film.

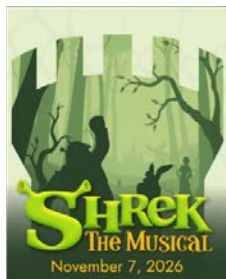
Yet beneath the spectacle, *Mary Poppins* is a story about a family in need of change. The Banks household is orderly and respectable but increasingly disconnected. George Banks measures success in responsibility and routine, while his children are searching for attention, imagination, and connection. Mary Poppins enters not to take over the family, but to help them rediscover what they have overlooked.

That is part of what makes *Mary Poppins* such an enduring figure. She does not fit neatly into the role of teacher, nanny, or fairy godmother. She brings structure without taking away freedom, expects good behavior without losing her sense of fun, and treats wonder as something that belongs in everyday life.

At its heart, *Mary Poppins* asks us to reconsider what we call ordinary. A walk in the park, a child's imagination, gingerbread stars—these seemingly small things can become extraordinary when we are willing to pay attention.



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