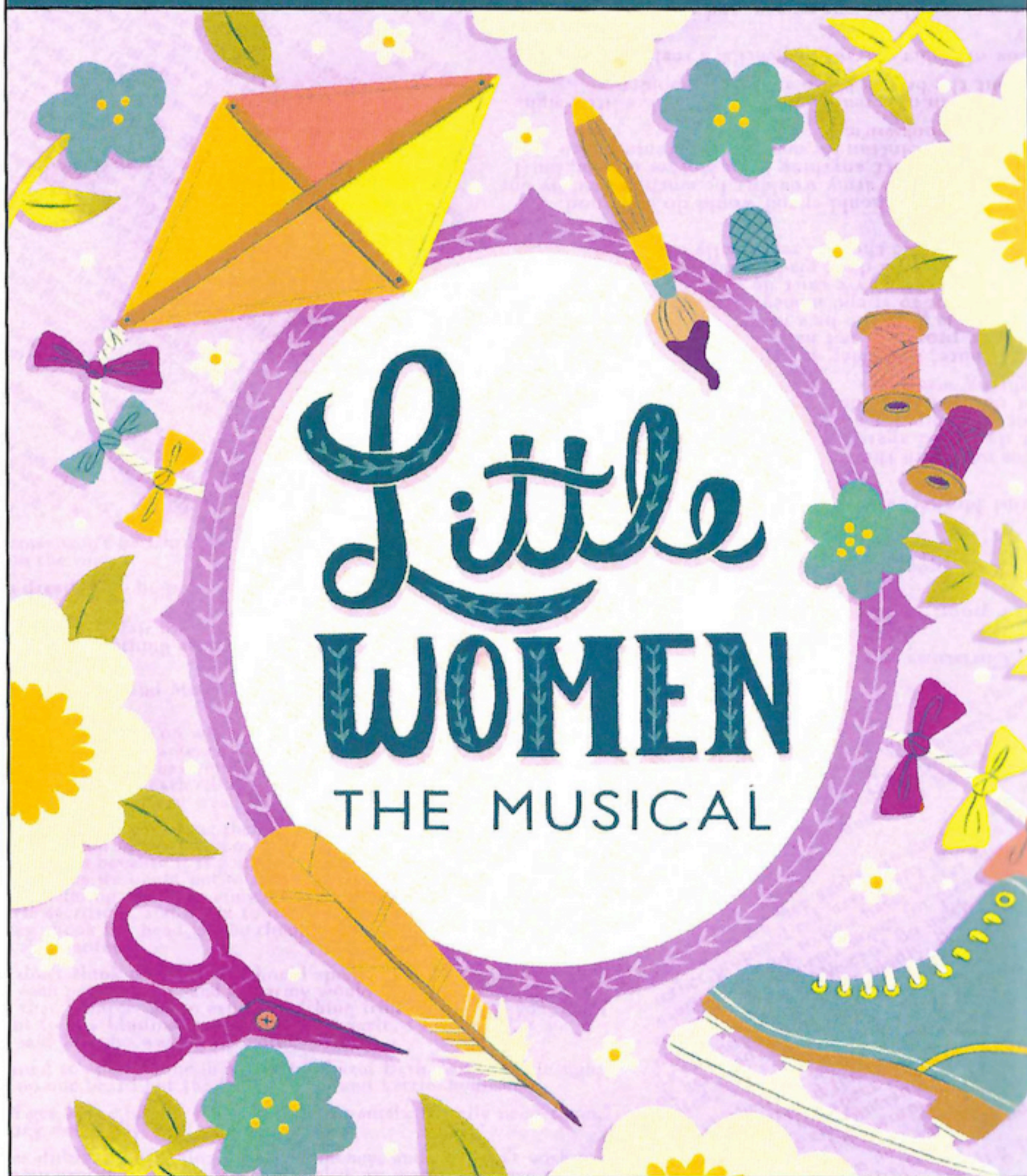


Possum Point Players

2025 SEASON



APRIL 4, 5, 6 *and*

APRIL 11, 12, 13

# Possum Point Players

presents

## *Little Women* The Broadway Musical

Music by **Jason Howland**      Book by **Allan Knee**      Lyrics by **Mindi Dickstein**

*Based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott*

Directed by  
**Devon Spencer Lynch**

Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

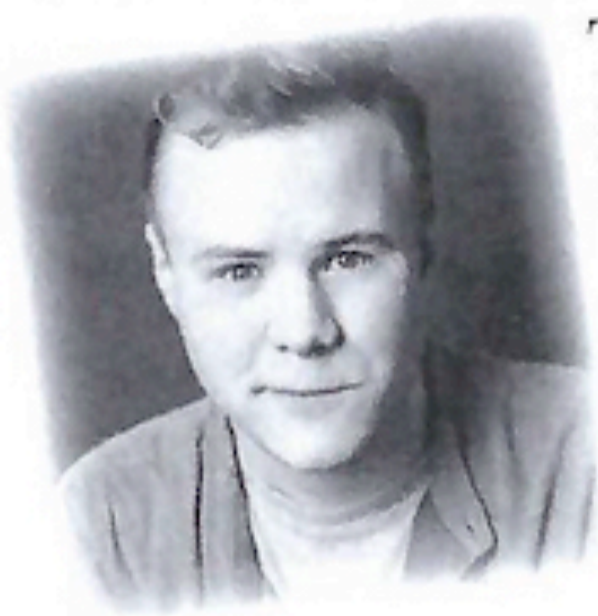
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

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# DIRECTOR'S NOTE



There is a pocket of years in your childhood, especially if you are close in age with your siblings, where you can laugh, yell, tickle, scream, tag, kick, pillow fight, dance around and make fools with one another — become so tethered to each other's souls that it feels like nothing will break the sacred bonds you share. As we move out of childhood and into the throes of young adulthood, it can be difficult to maintain those relationships . . .

that magic you shared when you believed anything was possible! You will always be connected by blood — but it never quite feels the same as when you built those expansive, whimsical, and dazzling kingdoms together: ruling them exactly how you dreamt you would.

In Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*, one of the most influential stories for the American woman to date, we track Jo March, on the brink of achieving greatness, set out to fulfill her lifelong dream: becoming a world-famous writer and giving her family everything they could ever want. Many believe that *Little Women* is a product of its time; this is a fascinating thought to me considering just how timely Jo March's plight is in this day-and-age. Jo has left such a lasting mark on the American literary lexicon because it is still true today that women have to work twice as hard to be taken seriously as successful creators and contributors to society. Jo finds that success, not by compromising and subscribing to trends, but by drawing from her own experiences and showcasing her unique perspective.

Tonight, you will see the culmination of our deepest passions and efforts. Though we were very much inspired by the various iterations of this classic tale, we really wanted to create a world inspired by the nostalgia of the mid-19th century — but period accuracy was never the goal! This team has taken every theatrical element we could mine from Louisa's beloved story to create a singular, handmade and conceptually-ambitious memory-play for our fearless heroine, Jo March . . . focusing on the exceptional characters we have come to know and love and their rich connections to each other. With the help of the Merry Band of March Sisters: The PickWick Players (the faux-publishing company of hoity-toity business executives that the March girls love playing-pretend as) lovingly present a lush, practical, whimsical, and astonishing patchwork production of *Little Women: The Musical!* We hope you enjoy . . .

*Devon Spencer Lynch*

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our newest endeavor, *Little Women*. I believe you will see a theatre production that will fill your spirits to the brim. Our mission is to be a cultural resource here in Sussex County, providing not just you but also our artists with top-notch, high-quality community theater. This is what we are about, and it is our driving force. We seek to perform works that speak to all of us and that reach deep within us and touch our hearts and minds. In fact, it's one of the reasons I submitted this show to be considered for the 2025 season.



Also, on behalf of our Board of Trustees, I want to take a moment to sincerely thank our devoted community of patrons and volunteers. Your steadfast support has been the bedrock of our organization, letting us live for over 50 years in Sussex County, Delaware. The enthusiasm and commitment that you display in attending our productions are what keeps our organization focused and pursuing what we are passionate about. Good theatre.

I also encourage you to get involved with our organization. You can experience the joy of making a show come to life. Even if you are not on stage or backstage there are so many areas of community involvement like set building, fund raising, ushering and much more where you will find new friends and can feel a part of our family spirit, too. I walked into a theatre over 15 years ago and never thought I would find friends and people I consider family now as well. Please see the box office or visit our website to find out how you can volunteer or become a member.

We here at PPP are excited about the upcoming year and the new opportunities that are happening right here. Things like the Motown Fundraiser coming in August of this year and the Possum Juniors show, a show directed by and acted by exclusively those in our Possum Juniors Program, leave me encouraged. And those are in addition to the three remaining main-stage productions coming this year.

As we set forth on this thrilling adventure together, I eagerly anticipate sitting in the audience with you to watch our friends, neighbors, and family members entertain and give refuge to themselves and us alike. Thank YOU for being here and being a crucial part of the Possum Point Players. We couldn't do this without you.

With gratitude,

*Steven Dow*



*Beth*

*Howlett*

It is really difficult to think of the word “music” and not think of our dear, recently departed, friend, Beth Howlett.

One of the founding members of Possum Point Players, 52 years ago, Beth was always ready to spread her love of music to all those around her. Whether as a performer, music director, director, or just a friend, she was always there to give would-be singers an encouraging word to guide them along their way. From her years as a middle school music teacher, to her helping to found and perform with the PPP, to her lending her talents to the Southern Delaware Chorale, Beth’s talents leave a legacy of the love of music to Sussex County.

For all that you did for Possum Point Players, Beth, we dedicate this performance to your memory.

We love and miss you!!

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# PRODUCTION STAFF & CREW

Director/Choreographer . . . . .	<i>Devon Spencer Lynch</i>
Associate Directors . . . . .	<i>Kerinne Walls, Tara Wisely</i>
Music Director . . . . .	<i>Stacey Hartman</i>
Stage Manager . . . . .	<i>Logan Hunter</i>
Assistant Stage Manager(s) . . . . .	<i>Kerinne Walls, Dena Transeau</i>
Sound Design . . . . .	<i>Chase Schirmer</i>
Lighting Design . . . . .	<i>Braeden Swain</i>
Costume Design . . . . .	<i>Matt Hatfield, Doug James</i>
Hair & Make-Up Design . . . . .	<i>Autumn Birney</i>
Hair & Make-Up Assistant . . . . .	<i>Mary Lampert</i>
Properties Mistress . . . . .	<i>Donna Flomp</i>
Properties Assistant . . . . .	<i>Gabe Marine</i>
Sound Board Operator . . . . .	<i>Colin Pyle</i>
Light Board Operator . . . . .	<i>Gage Nordberg</i>
Set Construction . . . . .	<i>Fred Dean</i>
Set Construction Crew . . . . .	<i>Jacqueline Block, Andrew Campbell, Shepard Cook</i> <i>George DeSantis, Margaret Egelin, Jayson Felker, Jim Hartzell, Carter Huffman</i> <i>Logan Hunter, Deana Lynch, Devon Spencer Lynch, Chuck Rafferty, Abbey Ruark</i>
Stage Crew. . . . .	<i>Eric Cespedes, Gavin Rineer, Melissa Brown</i>
Cover Art . . . . .	<i>Erin Schechtman</i>
Publicity . . . . .	<i>Rosanne Pack</i>
Website . . . . .	<i>John Zinzi</i>
Executive Administrator . . . . .	<i>Anne Baker</i>
Administrative Assistant . . . . .	<i>Michael Short</i>

## IMPORTANT INFO

- ~Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices prior to the start of the performance.
- ~Cameras (including cell phones) and other recording devices are strictly prohibited.
- ~Any recording of the production is a violation of United States copyright laws.
- ~Out of respect for our actors and your fellow theatregoers, please remain seated during the performance.
- ~Smoking is not permitted in our building.

# THE CAST

<i>Josephine "Jo" March</i> .....	<b>Abbey Ruark</b>
<i>Prof. Friedrich "Fritz" Bhaer</i> .....	<b>Jordan Kilgore</b>
<i>Margaret "Marmee" March</i> .....	<b>Ashlie Saylor</b>
<i>Theodore "Laurie" Laurence</i> .....	<b>Carter Huffman</b>
<i>Margaret "Meg" March</i> .....	<b>Elli Swain</b>
<i>Elizabeth "Beth" March</i> .....	<b>Skylar Paige Jamele</b>
<i>Amy Curtis March</i> .....	<b>Natalie Howard</b>
<i>Aunt Josephine March</i> .....	<b>Marge Egel</b>
<i>Mr. John Brooke</i> .....	<b>Braeden Swain</b>
<i>Mr. James Laurence</i> .....	<b>Andrew Campbell</b>

## Swings/Understudies

<i>Jo/Amy</i> .....	<b>Blair Williams</b>
<i>Beth/Meg</i> .....	<b>Alexandria Schmiedlin</b>
<i>Marmee/Aunt March</i> .....	<b>Melissa Brown</b>
<i>Bhaer/Brooke</i> .....	<b>Matt Hatfield</b>

# WHO'S WHO



Melissa Brown



Andrew Campbell



Marge Egel



Matt Hatfield



Natalie Howard



Carter Huffman



Skylar Paige Jamele



Jordan Kilgore



Abbey Ruark



Ashlie Saylor



Alexandria Schmiedlin



Braeden Swain



Elli Swain



Blair Williams

*Possum Point Players values diversity in casting, as well as all other areas of the organization.*

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# Little Women

## SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT ONE

**Scene I - January, 1868 - Mrs. Kirk's Boarding House | New York, NY**

“An Operatic Tragedy” ..... *Jo, Clarissa, Braxton, Rodrigo*

“Better” ..... *Jo*

**Scene II - Christmas Eve, 1861 - Jo's Attic - March Parlour - Concord, MA**

“Our Finest Dreams” ..... *Jo, Meg, Beth, Amy*

“Here Alone” ..... *Marmee*

**Scene III - January, 1862 - Aunt March's Lavish Estate - Concord, MA**

“Could You?” ..... *Aunt March, Jo*

**Scene IV - February 14, 1862 - March Parlour - Concord, MA**

“Delighted” ..... *Marmee, Meg, Jo, Beth*

**Scene V - Later That Evening - Annie Moffat's Valentine's Day Ball - Concord, MA**

“Take A Chance On Me” ..... *Laurie*

“Take A Chance On Me” (*Reprise*) ..... *Laurie*

**Scene VI - Even Later That Evening - March Parlour - Concord, MA**

“Better” (*Reprise*) ..... *Jo*

**Scene VII - February 15, 1862 - March Parlour - Concord, MA**

“Off to Massachusetts” ..... *Beth, Mr. Laurence*

“Five Forever” ..... *Jo, Laurie, Meg, Beth, Amy*

**Scene VIII - Spring 1865 - March Parlour - Concord, MA**

“More Than I Am” ..... *Jo, Laurie, Meg, Beth, Amy*

**Scene IX - May, 1865 - Jo's Attic - Concord, MA**

“Take A Chance On Me” (*Reprise II*) ..... *Laurie*

“Astonishing” ..... *Jo*

*There will be one 15 minute intermission.*

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# Little Women

SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT TWO

**Scene I - June 1868 - Mrs. Kirk's Boarding House - New York, NY**

"The Weekly Volcano Press" . . . . . *Jo & Full Company*

**Scene II - Summer 1868 - March Parlour - Concord, MA**

"Off to Massachusetts" (*Reprise*). . . *Beth, Mr. Laurence, Marmee, Meg, Brooke*

**Scene III - Mrs. Kirk's Boarding House - New York, NY**

"How I Am" . . . . . *Bhaer*

**Scene IV - August, 1868 - Cape Cod**

"Some Things Are Meant To Be" . . . . . *Beth, Jo*

**Scene V - Winter 1868 - March Parlour - Concord, MA**

"The Most Amazing Thing" . . . . . *Amy, Laurie*

**Scene VI - Later That Evening - Jo's Attic - Concord, MA**

"Days of Plenty" . . . . . *Marmee*

"The Fire Within Me" . . . . . *Jo*

**Scene VII - Spring 1865 - Outside the March House - Concord, MA**

"A Small Umbrella In The Rain" . . . . . *Bhaer, Jo*

"The Weekly Volcano Press" . . . . . *Jo*

### *Special Thanks*

Anne Baker  
Claudius Bowden  
Dawn Conaway  
Gary Conaway  
Ray Crew  
Fred Dean  
Steven Dow  
Jim Hartzell  
Louise Hartzell  
Mary Lampert  
Deana Lynch  
Rosanne Pack  
Marsha Shull  
Dena Transeau

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# MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

**Devon Spencer Lynch** (*Director / Choreographer*) is a multi-hyphenate performer, creator, and educator. He holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from The University of the Arts where he received the Ira Brind Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance Award ('20). Since graduating in 2021, Devon has been working regularly as an Audition & Performance Coach from his home in Salisbury, MD. He is always looking to wear new creative "hats," having worked as a director, choreographer, intimacy coordinator, scenic painter, and costume consultant. Devon is thrilled to be making his mainstage directorial debut at the place that ignited his passion for theatre over 15 years ago! He'd like to thank his mom, his brothers, Peyton and Logan, and his family unit, Jordan and Saga (woof!), for their love and support.

**Stacey Hartman** (*Music Director*) is thrilled to be back at Possum Theatre! Previous Possum Music Directing credits include *Broadway Springs Back*, *Godspell*, and *Into the Woods*. Some of her favorite memories of PPP is working with the Possum Jr's on their summer productions. She is thrilled to be working with many of those same young adults in this production! Stacey is the Director of Performing Arts at Woodbridge Middle School, Bridgeville, where she leads the band, choir, and drama programs. When not working with her students, you can usually find her performing in pit orchestras for local theaters and schools. Additionally, she has been an active member of the Delaware Winds, a semi-professional wind ensemble, since its formation in 2018.

**Kerrine Walls** (*Associate Director*) received her BFA in Acting from Towson University. She served as Theatre Education Director at the Milton Theatre from '21-'23 and will begin teaching the middle school Shakespeare Summer Intensive at the Lewes Public Library in August. Some of her favorite on stage appearances include *Hamlet* (Hamlet) and *Carmilla* (Captain Martin), both of which won her the Kennedy Center ACTF award for Classical Acting. When not on stage or behind the scenes, she's working as a paraprofessional in a special-needs classroom at Georgetown Elementary.

**Tara Wisely** (*Associate Director*) is an accountant by day, performing artist by night. Her guiding philosophy is that theatre is a team sport. Her background in theatre production means that as a performer, she has a deep appreciation of the production team, and is always seeking how best to support her fellow cast and crew members with positivity and flexibility. She has performed on stages across Sussex County since 2012, her favorite role at Possum Point Players being Sonia in *Vanya, Sonia, Masha and Spike* in 2021. She hopes to always remain a student of the theatre, and in addition to exploring new roles on productions, attends as many performances and workshops, (both professional and local) as she possibly can.

**We love sharing the  
inside scoop with you!!**

Season Updates  
Videos and Pictures

**You Tube**



Visit us on  
Facebook

**Join us online!**

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

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# MEET THE ARTISTS

**Melissa Brown** (*Marmee/Aunt March Understudy, Swing*) is a versatile performer who has had the opportunity to perform in a first-time swing role. With a deep commitment to versatility and adaptability, she thrives in the challenge of covering multiple roles and ensuring a seamless performance in any given situation. She has been involved in local community theater for the past six years, where her last credits included Topper in *A Christmas Carol* and Alma Hix in *The Music Man*. Outside of her theatrical pursuits, Melissa enjoys music festivals and game nights with friends. She is a dedicated Philadelphia Phillies and Miami Dolphins fan. She is also co-worship leader at her church, where she has attended for over ten years. She is grateful for the opportunity to be involved with this production and has had a lot of fun getting to know her fellow actors and production team.

**Andrew Campbell** (*Mr. James Laurence*) makes his second appearance as a Possum Point Player after a 40+ year hiatus from theater, while he followed his profession as a trial attorney in Tennessee. Upon his retirement from the practice of law, he and Mary (his wife of 34 years) relocated to Dagsboro with their Labradoodle named Archie, and shortly thereafter found the Possums' website. Last December, Andrew portrayed Charles Dickens in the Possum Point production of *A Christmas Carol* (adapted by John Jakes) and considers himself privileged to be a part of *Little Women*, with its exceptionally talented and hardworking cast. Andrew holds a Bachelor's Degree in English Literature from Trinity College, and a Juris Doctor from Vanderbilt University. Andrew and his wife, Mary, have two adult children, and currently are expecting the birth of their first grandchild. Next role: "Grandpa"!

**Margaret Egelin** (*Aunt March*) is excited to once again be performing on the Possum stage so many years later. A current Milton local, she performs folksy covers and original tunes in the slower, lower scene. Most frequently you can hear her singing whimsical ditties to whiskey barrels over at Dogfish Head. Previous credits: *The Rocky Horror Show '23* (Magenta/Usherette) and '22 (Phantom), *Godspell* (Learn Your Lessons Well), and various local cabarets.

**Matt Hatfield** (*Costume Designer, Brooke/Prof. Bhaer Understudy, Swing*) is so happy to be making his design debut with Possum Point Players! He would like to thank Devon for trusting him with such a gorgeous show! He has been seen on stage around the area in multiple productions, and he is very happy to be on the other side of the production team this time! Special thanks to the cast and crew for making *Little Women* such a wonderful experience!

**Natalie Howard** (*Amy Curtis March*) is a sophomore at Sussex Academy of Arts & Sciences and has been performing since 2017. Some of her favorite Possum Point Players credits include *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel), *Ragtime* (Ensemble), and *White Christmas* (Susan Waverly). Other favorites include *Our Town*, *Godspell*, *Shrek*, *Anne of Green Gables*, and *The Sound of Music*. Natalie has been a shameless entertainer since she can remember, and all her love goes to her own sister and best friend, Bella.

**Carter Huffman** (*Theodore Laurence "Laurie" III*) is a junior at Sussex Academy High School and is excited to be returning to the Possums' Stage. Some of his past Possum Point Players credits include *Seussical* (Horton the Elephant), *Ragtime* (Edgar), and *Something Rotten* (Francis Flute). Other local credits include *The Sound of Music*, *Legally Blonde Jr.*, *White Christmas*, and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. He would like to thank all his family for their support and hopes you all enjoy the show.

**Skylar Paige Jamele** (*Elizabeth "Beth" March*) is a 16 year-old regional and community theatre performer with a strong passion for her work. She has been performing since she was six years old and never stopped! She is very active in the theatre community, especially in Delaware. This summer she is heading to New York City to attend an intensive called "Broadway Evolved!" where she'll attend masterclasses and workshops with Broadway actors to enhance her performance skills. Some of her favorite roles include Little Red (*Into The Woods*), Tessie (*Annie*), Kitty (*Pride and Prejudice*) and more! She is so honored to be in *Little Women* and would like to dedicate these performances to her Grammy who, she knows, would be here if she could.

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# MEET THE ARTISTS

**Jordan Kilgore** (*Prof. Friedrich "Fritz" Bhaer*) is a professionally working actor, voiceover artist, and audiobook narrator. His last project at PPP was directing *Wait Until Dark* in January 2023, and was last seen on the stage as Lawrence in *Calendar Girls* and Justin in *On The Edge's Heroes of the Fourth Turning*. Other local credits include *Jersey Boys*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Cabaret*. Some of his other favorites include Prospero (*The Tempest*) Dracula (*Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really*). Much love to the cast and crew for volunteering their time and effort to this show, and of course, to Devon for making it all happen.

**Abbey Ruark** (*Josephine "Jo" March*) is absolutely ecstatic to be performing in this production of *Little Women*. She has taken a six-year break from acting, and is glad to be back in such a big way! While she was off the stage, she attended Elon University and received her Bachelor's Degree. She was able to quench her thirst for the stage there by performing in her a cappella group "Vital Signs" where she was a featured soloist in many songs (available to listen to on all music platforms). Previously, she has been seen on the Possums' stage as Little Red Ridinghood in *Into the Woods*, and Alice Beineke in *The Addams Family*. Other selected credits: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Wizard of Oz*, Roger and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, and *Heathers*. Love you Mom, Dad, Chase and Jhony!

**Ashlie Saylor** (*Margaret "Marmee" March*) is newly married to her husband Keith & lives in Seaford with their three-year-old son Kellan. Ashlie is not new to the Possums stage. You may have seen her most recently as Kathy in *Company*. Other Possum Point Players credits include *Baby*, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Godspell*, *Silent Sky*. She is so excited to bring Marmee to life. Portraying a mother while being a new mother brings a whole new layer of understanding to her role. This cast's rendition of this coming of age timeless classic will bring tears to your eyes, fire in your hearts, and dreams that are NOT impossible.

**Alexandria Schmiedlin** (*Beth/Meg Understudy*) is honored to participate in such a beautiful creative process. Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* is one of her favorite novels, and she has cherished this experience with love and gratitude. Alexandria intends to study Fashion Design and open a bridal boutique of her very own someday. In her free time, she studies opera and ballet and cares for her rabbits. She is also a three-time published poet with the *Local Gems Press*. Thank you endlessly to those who have supported her throughout her many artistic endeavors. She wishes you a heartfelt experience with the show and hopes it will be as meaningful to you as it has been to her. This version of *Little Women* is in every way as radiant as a dream and as enchanting as a memory.

**Braeden Swain** (*John Brooke*) is a Delaware native who has been involved in the local theatre scene as a Director, Performer, and Designer since 2012. Braeden began his education at the Savannah College of Art and Design and is continuing his education through The University of Delaware. He is currently the Assistant Advisor to the Possum Juniors and has been working for the Possum Point Players' Summer Theater Academy for the last seven years and is now the Assistant Director. Braeden is a Paraprofessional at Howard T. Ennis in Georgetown and is the Theatre Director for Indian River High School. PPP credits include *The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus* (Will Knook), *Hello, Dolly!* (Barnaby Tucker), *Lend Me A Tenor* (The Bellhop), and *Bye, Bye, Birdie!* (Harvey Johnson). Other local credits include *The Mousetrap*, *Our Town*, *The Graduate*, *The Addams Family*. Braeden is looking forward to making his Possum Point Players mainstage directorial debut with *The 39 Steps* this coming June!

**Elli Swain** (*Margaret "Meg" March*) is DELIGHTED to return to this beloved show and eldest sister after first falling in love with the show back in high school! Her other recent credits include Disney's *The Little Mermaid* (Director), *The Prom!* (Angie), *The Mousetrap* (Molly), *Young Frankenstein* (Inga), and *Our Town* (Emily). Elli married the love of her life, Braeden Swain (several cast and creative members were also a part of their celebration), began her new job teaching at Milford High and took over their drama department, all in the span of three months! She has loved every minute teaching and learning from her insanely talented kids. Elli has been itching to finally work creatively with brilliant Devon Spencer Lynch, and cannot be more thrilled that it ended up being this show! All her love to the family and friends that have made all this possible!

**Blair E. Williams** (*Jo/Amy Understudy*) is a Delaware-based actor. She got her start joining her high school theatre club and then moved into the local Delaware community theatre scene working at venues such as Possum Point Players, Second Street Players and Clear Space Theatre Company. She has been in several local productions, both onstage and working behind the scenes as a Stage Manager and as the lead makeup/hair stylist. She's excited to be back at Possum Point Players and she cannot wait for you to see this beautiful show.