

The Last of the Dragons

FULL PROGRAM



ICARUS BATTAGLIA (Hair/Makeup Design): Icarus is a BFA Theatre Technical Design major, they have worked on several shows in the past years, but this is their first time designing the hair and makeup for a show. He is excited to help in the production of this amazing show and couldn't imagine working on it without the amazing people involved.

PETER BILETH (Swing/Puppeteer): Peter Bileth is in his third year of pursuing Theatre at CMU. He has previously appeared onstage in productions such as Hamlet, Kinky Boots, Everybody, and Cabaret. Peter has been passionate about theatre since he was little, from preschool on he always found a way to be involved. In highschool he participated in childrens theatre aswell. Telling stories to an audience has always been magical and he wishes to continue to spread the magic. Have a lovely day.



RANDI BUMSTEAD (Swing/Puppeteer): Randi Bumstead is a freshman at CMU majoring in Music Theatre. She has been acting at her hometown's Soo Theatre since she was 5, and in her last few productions she played Sister Amnesia in "Nunsense", Snoopy in "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," and Princess Winnifred in "Once Upon a Mattress." Randi has taken voice lessons for around 8 years, and has participated in Vocal Opera Workshops, as well as the EUP Festival of Music for voice. She also directed the jr. production "Rainbow Fish" at the Soo Theatre.



KAELEIGH CASAVANT (Director): Kaeleigh is a senior BFA Acting/Directing Majors. She has performed at CMU in shows such as *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Lysistrata*, *The Great Gatsby*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *Cabaret*, and the upcoming *Tartuffe*. She made her directing debut last year with the production *Stuck*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and Chloe Price for their constant support, as well as the whole company of *The Last of the Dragons* for making her wildest dreams come true.

ALEIGHA CHENG (Costume Design): Aleigha Cheng is a senior at CMU majoring in design and technical theatre. She is elated to serve as the costume designer for this production of *The Last of the Dragons*. Throughout her time as a student, Aleigha has worked on numerous mainstage and studio productions; her favorites being *The Revolutionists* (Wardrobe Head), *Kinky Boots* (Hair & Makeup Designer), *Cabaret* (Hair & Makeup Head), and *The Last Daughter* (Costume Designer). *The Last of the Dragons* is a particularly important project to Aleigha because she is a strong believer in the magic of children's theatre. She hopes that her work and the work of her team can not only entertain the audience but also leave a positive lasting impact on the lives of the many children that will see this show.



AVA FITZGERALD (Stage Manager): Ava Fitzgerald is a junior Theatre Tech/Design BFA student with a focus in costuming. This season she has worked as a wardrobe head for *The Birds* and was a part of the hair and make-up crew for *Cabaret*. In addition to costuming, in the past season Ava has worked as an assistant stage manager for *Indecent*. She has loved getting to work on this show and broaden her experience!

MADELINE GIBB (Storyteller): Madeline Gibb is a sophomore Music Theatre major at CMU. She has been in theatre performances since elementary school, and you may have seen her in shows here such as *Indecent* and *Cabaret*. She'd like to thank her family and friends for being so supportive, and she hopes they all enjoy the expert puppeting skills she's acquired while doing this show!





MILIYANA GRUJIC (Hair/Makeup/Costume Crew): Miliyana is a Sophomore Music Theatre Major here at CMU. She has recently been in the mainstage, Cabaret. This is her first time a part of tech crew and is excited for this opportunity!

SEAN HAASETH (Prince): Sean is a Freshman Acting/Directing major. He has previously appeared as Herr Schultz in CMU's Fall production of "Cabaret". The Last of the Dragons has been an awesome learning experience, helping Sean grow as an actor. He'd like to thank Kaeleigh and the rest of the cast for their continued support in his endeavors. Hope you enjoy the show!



MAC HAMSTRA (Light Design): As a light designer, it's my job to help tell the story using light in different colors, positions, and brightness. My goal for The Last of the Dragons is to use lights to make the play feel whimsical and bright. This production is so important to remind kids that it's ok to just be you, not what everyone else expects of you. And, by being you, you will find a group that accepts and loves you. My favorite fairytale is "The Snow Queen" by Hans Christian Andersen.

MATTHEW HOELDTKE (King): Matthew Hoeldtke is an Acting/Directing major in his sophomore year here at CMU. He has been in two previous productions on campus and will participate in two more upcoming mainstage productions. Matthew aspires to work on-screen in film in the future after completing his degree.





EMMA HURLEY (Sound Design): Emma is a senior technical theater major. Her job in this show was to make all of the sounds that you hear. Emma has only done this for one show before this one. It was a fun new experience that she is happy to share with you!

SHAYLEE MOOMEY (Light Board Op): Shaylee Moomey is a freshman at Central Michigan University majoring in Design and Technical Theatre. She is from Zeeland, Michigan and graduated from Zeeland West High School. Her career in the theatre world began after she was employed her sophomore year onto the auditorium crew. She worked diligently on the crew and enjoyed opportunities to be involved in shows such as Shrek and Back to the 80s. Shaylee has dipped her toes in at Central Michigan University Theatre as the set designer for Punch Up, directed by Mac Hamstra, and is incredibly excited to further spread her wings as light board operator for The Last of the Dragons.



CHLOE PRICE (Dragon): Chloe Price is a senior at CMU. She has been in multiple productions at CMU, including Summer Theatre. She is super excited to introduce everyone to her new dragon friend, and she hopes they love her just as much as she does. She is excited to be doing a new type of show with so many friends

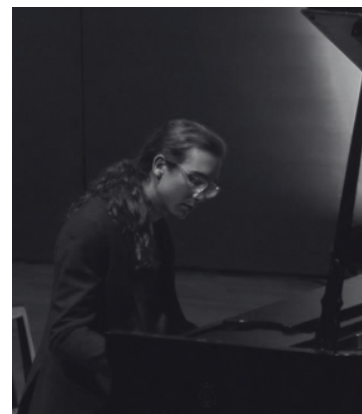
TRINITY SAPP (Princess): Trinity Sapp is a junior BFA musical theatre major with a dance minor. She has previously been seen in the CMU Mainstage productions of That's Entertainment a Musical Revue and Cabaret. Trinity is grateful to be part of such a wonderful cast. She would like to thank Kaeleigh for helping her grow as an actor, the cast and crew as well as those who have deepened her love of theatre.





ELICIA SHADRAKE (Nurse): Elicia Shadrake is a sophomore at Central Michigan University pursuing a BFA in Music Theatre! At CMU she has previously played Pat in Kinky Boots, Halina U/S in Indecent, Fraulein Kost in Cabaret, and is currently involved in Tartuffe as Dorine. She is so happy to have been a part of the journey with this amazing and dedicated company, it's been an unforgettable and highly cherished experience!

BRUNO VOIGT (Music Composition): Bruno Voigt is a CMU alum who is working on his master's degree in music composition at Brooklyn College Conservatory in New York. He has studied composition with Jay Batzner, Scott Robert Harding, Rob Smith, Douglas Cohen, and Jason Eckardt. He is currently working as a composer in residence for Brooklyn College's conTEMPO ensemble, which is under the direction of Ursula Oppens. Bruno loves the theatrical elements of music, and he cherishes the elements of story that he believes are intrinsic to music composition. He and Kaeleigh are longtime collaborators. Break legs, everyone! :) :) :)



NOAH WALTHER (VALET): Noah Walther is a senior pursuing his BFA in Musical Theatre Performance. Recently, Noah has appeared on stage as Clifford Bradshaw in CMU's Mainstage production of "Cabaret". The Last of the Dragons is a PERFECT opportunity to share the beauty and joy of theatre with young audiences, while also sharing a meaningful message that resonates with our entire company. This show encourages and embraces individuality on its most basic level, and makes us not afraid to love who we truly are.



CARLA ZAWADZKI (Choreography): Carla Zawadzki is a 5th year student at CMU. She is studying dance and elementary education with focuses in integrated science and language arts. Carla has been involved in many different productions at CMU, including the University Theatre and Dance Concert in 2021 and 2022, and the University Summer Theatre Company in 2022. This past year, she also traveled with the CMU Dance Department to perform at Oakland Dance Festival. She is currently teaches dance at Mount Pleasant School of Dance, and is an Assistant Coach for the CMU Dance Team.

PERCY ZIOLKOWSKI (Props design): Percy is a Theatre Design/Tech Major at Central Michigan University. He has acted in many shows such as Punch Up, Stuck, Down Came The Rain and Lysistrata. They have also ran tech for many shows like Cabaret and Indecent and focus on costume/props design.



***The Last of the Dragons* was in part produced with help by the Kappa Theta Chapter of Alpha Psi Omega. They provided essential support and funding that made the show you are seeing today possible.**

While our studio productions are free, if you would like to help support APO's goal of assisting studio shows in the future, consider sending a small donation to the fraternity.

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The story of *The Last of the Dragons* starts in January of 2023, in midnight scribbles that I made at the University of Michigan Flint at KCACTF Region 3.

But really, it started a million places before that.

It started when I discovered that Theatre for Young Audiences used to be a consistent part of our theatrical seasons at CMU, a tradition lost to time. It started when I was in high school, performing TYA shows and loving everything about the experience. It started when I was a child, watching *Alice in Wonderland* at Cedar Springs High School and it made me decide to start performing.

I spent a lot of my youth looking to find my place in the world. I felt like I needed to figure out exactly where I fit. I was lost and lonely, and I found my comfort, my place, in the theatre. *The Last of the Dragons* tells a story about defying expectations, about feeling crushed by the future everyone wants you to have while dreaming about the future that you want. *The Last of the Dragons* is about being yourself, no matter who other people tell you to be. It is the type of story that would have meant so much to me as a child, and it is the type of story that still resonates with me now at 22.

The stories we tell, especially to children, matter. In the words of the late Stephen Sondheim, "Children will listen." *The Last of the Dragons* encourages self-discovery in a fun and hilarious way that I hope you all find a way to resonate with.

This show would not be possible without the help of the following people:

The company of *The Last of the Dragons*. You make my dreams come true. I love you all.

My family, for their never-ending support. Specifically, my mother Rebecca Casavant for the amazing Dragon puppet. Thank you. I love you.

Chloe. For everything.

The faculty at CMU and my faculty advisor Keeley Stanley-Bohn, for teaching me so much while I've been here and allowing me to pursue this project.

My high school theatre director, Justin Harnden, for always pushing me and truly kickstarting me down the path that led me to where I am now.

And to Alice. This show is for you and the belief you always had in me.