



Front Row Center

KASSEBAUM THEATRE

Roald
Dahl's

James and the Giant Peach JR.





Our mission:

Front Row Center is San Diego's newest 501(c)3 non-profit performing arts company focused on providing equitable and accessible youth theatrical opportunities, through exceptional educational programming, theatrical productions, and workshops. Front Row Center strives to make these Theatre Arts experiences attainable to all young performers regardless of socio-economic, cultural, ethnic background, skill level, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation. Along with cultivating a lifelong admiration and passion for the performing arts, Front Row Center is committed to bringing high-quality youth theatre productions to San Diego. Our programming will supplement regional educational resources and school curriculums with accessible tuition fees.

For more information about our programming or to register for a class, workshop, or production, please visit

www.frontrowcenter.live



Executive Director: Michael Kirsch

Governing Board

President: Alex DeCosta

Vice President: Elisa Hilliard

Secretary: Polly Bild

Fundraising & Events: Heidi Lawrence

Treasurer: Nancy Peña





Proudly presents

Roald Dahl's **James and the Giant Peach JR.**

Based on the book, "James and the Giant Peach"
by **Roald Dahl**

Book by **Timothy Allen McDonald**

Music and Lyrics by **Ben j Pasek and Justin Paul**

Director and Choreographer
Michael Kirsch

Music Director
Willow Walters

Stage Manager
Teagan Lisama

Assistant
Stage Manager
Ashley Hilliard

Sets
Alex DeCosta

Costumes
**Heidi Lawrence
Erica Henson**

Props
Shannon Garcia

Lighting Designer
Russell Chow

Polly Bild

Sound Designer
Acid Woods

**A huge thank you to all our dedicated parent volunteers for
their unwavering support in nurturing young talent and
fostering creativity on and off the stage.**

**Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach 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**

In acknowledgment of San Diego's First Nations and as a mark of respect, we recognize that Front Row Center currently rents venues that occupy the land historically belonging to the Ipai-Tipai, also known as the Kumeyaay Nation, within the present-day San Diego region. We honor the tribe and its members - those of the past, those in the present, and those who will come in the future. We are mindful of the cycles of colonization that have inflicted historical and ongoing hardships upon these nations. Rooted in our core principles, we hold that comprehending the journey that led us to inhabit this land is paramount, and we pledge to consistently seek understanding of our role within this intricate narrative.

Musical Numbers

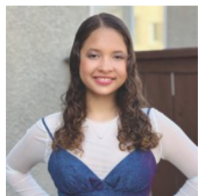
Act I

Right Before Your Eyes.	Ladahlord, James, Insects, Spiker, Sponge, Company
On Your Way Home.	James
Right Before Your Eyes (Reprise #1).	Ladahlord
Property of Spiker and Sponge.	Spiker, Sponge, Vagrants, James, Bobby Cops, Matron Nurse
Right Before Your Eyes (Reprise #2).	Ladahlord
Shake It Up.	Ladahlord, James, Garden Chorus, Insects
Shake It Up (Reprise).	Ladahlord, James, Garden Chorus
There's Money On That Tree.	Spiker, Sponge, Reporters, Garden Guild, Hollywood Agents
On Your Way Home (Reprise).	James
Our Adventure Begins!.	Ladahlord, James, Insects, Willy Wonka, Spiker, Sponge, Villagers

There will be one 20 minute intermission.

Act II

Floatin' Along.	Grasshopper, Ladybug, Earthworm, Spider, James, Centipede
Floatin' Along (Reprise).	Grasshopper, Ladybug, Earthworm, Spider, James, Centipede
A Getaway for Spiker and Sponge.	Spiker, Sponge, Angry Crowd, Billy and Bobby Bobby-Cop
Everywhere That You Are.	Ladybug, Grasshopper, Spider, Earthworm
Right Before Your Eyes (Reprise #3).	Ladahlord
I Got You.	Spiker, Sponge, Cruise Ensemble
Plump and Juicy.	Earthworm, Spider, Centipede, Ladybug, Grasshopper, James, Seagulls
Right Before Your Eyes (Reprise #4).	Ladahlord
Empire State/The Attack.	Ladahlord, New Yorkers, Joe, Jake, Lucille Van Kooglestein, Bunny Mackenzie Spiker, Sponge
Welcome Home.	James, Grasshopper, Ladybug, Centipede, Earthworm, Spider, Lahadlord, Company
Curtain Call.	Company



Brielle Carter (Sponge): Brielle is ecstatic to partake in Front Row Center's VERY first Summer Intensive Production, James and the Giant Peach. Brielle has been doing theatre since she was 10, as it is her passion. Most recently, she has played Ariel in The Little Mermaid and Peter Pan in Peter Pan. When she's not performing, Brielle enjoys reading, writing, and sharing her opinions. She would like to thank her family for their endless support, and the creative team, as well as the parent volunteers for their unending efforts in helping the shows come to life! So, watch your wallets, or else it'll be property of Spiker and Sponge!



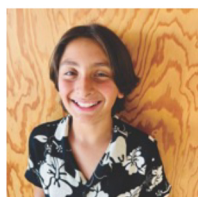
Dahlia De los Reyes (Spider): Dahlia is a seventh grader this year and is excited to be part of James and the Giant Peach Jr! This is her fifth performance, her previous productions being Elf Jr, Shrek Jr, Peter Pan Jr, and most recently, Little Mermaid Jr. Dahlia loves writing and acting in school video projects. She has written and acted in four videos that have won awards at the iVIE Film Festival, three of which won Grand Recognition for elementary school videos. Dahlia is a Cadet in Girl Scouts, a green belt in karate, and loves musical theater and the arts. She is so thankful for the support of her family and friends. Dahlia is excited to embark on this latest magical adventure with you all



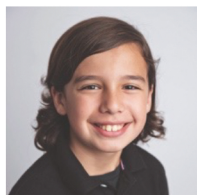
Sebastian De los Reyes (Bobby Bobby-Cop, Ensemble): Sebastian is a fifth grader who is excited to be a part of his fifth production. He has previously performed in Elf Jr, Shrek Jr, Peter Pan Jr, and most recently, Little Mermaid Jr. He loves writing and acting in school video projects. He has starred in three videos that have won awards at the iVIE Film Festival. His latest project, Let's Go the EV Dealership, won best elementary video in the We Love Electric Vehicles category. Sebastian is a baseball player, a karate blue belt, and loves art, gaming, and performing. He is grateful for the support of his family and friends.



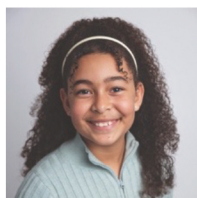
Evelyn Dobbertein (Mrs. Trotter): Evelyn is thrilled to be making her theatrical debut in James and the Giant Peach as Mrs. Trotter. Evelyn is 11 years old and is excited to bring her passion and energy to the stage. She is grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a magical production. When not performing, she enjoys playing the piano, playing with her cats, and hanging out with her friends. She would like to thank her mom for helping make this experience possible and looks forward to more adventures in theater.



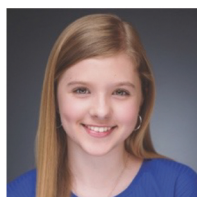
Julian Fericelli (Earthworm): Julian Fericelli is taking the stage by storm as Earthworm in James and the Giant Peach, his first production with Front Row Center. At just 11, he's already played Aladdin and had roles in The Lion King. Offstage, you can catch Julian at the San Diego Zoo, caring for his own reptiles or leading a home organization project! He thanks his mom and grandmother for pushing him to be his best, the cast and crew for being so welcoming, and the audience for coming to the show. Get ready for a performance that's "plump and juicy"!



Zachary Garcia (Billy Bobby-Cop, Male Spider, Ensemble): Zachary is excited to play the role of Billy Bobby-Cop and Male Spider, as well as various ensemble parts in Front Row Center's production of *James and the Giant Peach*. This is his 6th musical and 3rd production with Front Row Center! This past June, he played Jetsam the eel in FRC's *The Little Mermaid*. Zach likes to spend his free time doing anything creative! He loves to draw, write and illustrate his own stories, make movies with his Legos, listen to music, and play Minecraft and Roblox. He just started 5th grade, and this fall he will take Improv and Group Vocal classes with FRC. He would like to thank the creative team and his family for this opportunity. He has loved working on this show and hopes you enjoy it as much as he has!



Mariah Hale (Ladahlord): Mariah is thrilled to be in her third year of theater and loves her Front Row Center family. She's had many memorable roles in *The Little Mermaid* (Flounder), *Lion King Jr.* (Simba), *Peter Pan Jr.* (Tootles), *Shrek Jr.* (Gingy), *Elf Jr.*, and *Annie* (Judy). She also loves Improv class! Outside of theater, she enjoys beach volleyball, drawing, and crocheting. Thank you to Mr. Michael, Ms. Teagan, and Ms. Willow for helping her grow. Mariah also wants to thank her parents for making this possible and everyone here supporting her. Sit back and enjoy this fan-tas-ma-rific show!



Evelynn Henson (Ida Walters, Ensemble, Spiker Understudy): Evelyn is excited to be participating in Front Row Center's production of *James and the Giant Peach*. This is her 8th production, but her first with FRC. Some of her favorite roles have been Bossy Head May (Junie B. Jones) and Tess Tyler (Camp Rock). When not on stage, Evelyn enjoys dancing, crafting, and reading. She thanks the artistic team for this fun opportunity.



Jordan Hicks (Buzz/Ensemble, Centipede Understudy): Jordan is thrilled to be in his second production with Front Row Center. Having made his debut with the company this past spring in *The Little Mermaid Jr.* and the Improv class, Jordan has cherished the opportunity to meet new friends within the FRC family. He enjoys all things One Piece, Roblox, and Fortnite, but values his time reading and drawing. Jordan is grateful for the support and encouragement from his Mom, Dad, and Lela, who have been instrumental in his journey and getting him to rehearsals. He looks forward to continuing his growth as an actor with this vibrant community!



Lauren Hilliard (Doreen Driggles, Ensemble, James Understudy): Lauren has been performing for several years and is excited to be back on stage. *James and the Giant Peach* is her 7th show with Front Row Center! Most recently, she was various ensemble characters in *The Little Mermaid Jr.* When she's not performing, Lauren loves to dance and play the piano! She would like to thank her parents, the cast, and the creative team for making this experience extremely special.



Natalie Hilliard (Spiker): Natalie loves musical theater and is so excited to be on stage again with the cast of *James and the Giant Peach*. This is her 11th production and her 2nd with Front Row Center! Most recently, she played Liza and was part of the Brave Girl ensemble in *Peter Pan Jr.* When she's not performing, Natalie loves to create! She enjoys drawing, painting, knitting, digital art, and all things art! Natalie volunteered painting sets and was part of the tech team for FRC's production of *The Little Mermaid*. She would like to thank her parents, the cast, and the creative team for making this experience extremely special.



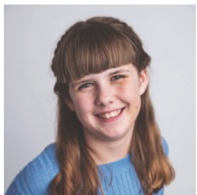
Pia Inzunza (Centipede): Pia is thrilled to be in Front Row Center's production of *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*, her sixth musical production. Pia has taken theatre classes since her toddler years but began performing in junior musical productions in 2022, as Santa's Helper & New York City Ensemble in *Elf the Musical Jr.*, and Pig #1 as a Fairytale Creature in *Shrek the Musical Jr. (MT-ISB)*. At Front Row Center, she has played Smee in *Peter Pan Jr.*, Charlie Brown in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and Chef Louis in *The Little Mermaid Jr.* When she's not rehearsing for theatre, Pia's singing or drawing. She'd like to thank her family and friends for all their support! Float along and enjoy the show!



Evaliz Kyriopoulos (Matron Nurse, Ensemble, Lahdalord Understudy): Evaliz Kyriopoulos has always felt being on stage is where she belongs. This is her 1st musical production with Front Row Center. She is thrilled to be part of this production. Evaliz is in drama class at her middle school. Evaliz loves to sing, draw, and watch musicals. She would like to thank her cousins Emma, Allie, and Kyra for helping her prepare for this production. Take a seat and get ready to go on a fruitful journey!



Kaelyn Lawrence (Violet Funkschmeller, Ensemble, Grasshopper Understudy): Kaelyn loves being on stage! This is her 10th musical and her fourth production with Front Row Center. Kaelyn has been seen as Pinocchio in *Shrek Jr.*, Sally in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* - her favorite role yet - and most recently Scuttle in *The Little Mermaid Jr.* When she's not performing, Kaelyn loves to swim, hang out with her friends, and go to Disneyland. She would like to thank her parents for their love and support, and the cast and creative team for making this an awesome show. Enjoy your trip on the peach!



Aly Luongo (Karl Kreater, Ensemble) Aly is an avid reader and fan of Roald Dahl, so she is incredibly excited to bring *James and the Giant Peach* to life! Having been involved in musical theatre since 2022, this will be her 6th musical and 3rd production with Front Row Center. When she is not at rehearsal, she enjoys reading, playing with her baby brother, and hanging with her Girl Scout friends. She wants to thank her mom and dad for their tireless support, Mrs. Ruthie for her guidance, and the creative team for the opportunity to enjoy this incredible experience!



Giuliana Marin (Ridgley Rapsallion, Ensemble): Giuliana Marin is an 11-year-old thrilled to make her debut with Front Row Center! She previously brought energy and excitement to her role as a Hyena in *Lion King Jr.* When she's not performing, Giuliana loves getting creative with arts and crafts and exploring her entrepreneurial spirit. She's excited to bring the magic of *James and the Giant Peach* to life on stage and embark on this new theatrical adventure!



Liliana Ojeda (Ladybug): Lily is thrilled to be working with Front Row Center again, having played the role of Sally Brown in their first advanced production, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, as well as Gingy in *Shrek*. She has also appeared in her school's production of *Matilda*. Outside of theatre, Lily loves to dance and is learning to play the piano. She would like to thank her family for their support and the entire cast for making this such a fun and memorable experience! She would also like to acknowledge Mr. Michael and the rest of the creative team for their guidance and dedication! Enjoy the show!



Briella Olaes (Lucille Van Kooglestein, Commander of the USAF, Ensemble) Briella adores performing! Whether it's ballet, hip hop, or musical productions, she enjoys being on the stage. This is her first production with Front Row Center, but she has performed as Dr. Barbie/Mattel CEO in *Barbie* and Erica in *Matilda* in smaller plays through CV Rec. When she's not performing, Briella loves to ride her skateboard, build Legos, and play with her brothers. She would like to thank her parents, her family and friends who came to support her, her teachers, the cast, and the creative team for making this experience extremely special. Salute to the fabulous fruit!



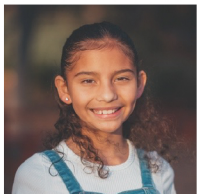
Ava Osorio (Bunny McKenzie the 3rd, Ensemble): Ava has been talking about being on stage for over a year and her dream is finally coming true! This is her first production. Ava has been attending Front Row Center since October of 2023 and she has enjoyed every class and all her new friends. In addition to theater, she has also taken dance and choir classes. Ava is working towards being on stage full time. She would like to thank her mom because she has always believed in her and her dad for his continuous support.



Elissa Oxina (Bitsy Bontana, Ensemble, Ladybug Understudy): Elissa is thrilled to be on stage for her 6th musical, playing the part of Bitsy Bontana and understudying Ladybug in Front Row Center's production of *James and the Giant Peach*. She previously played various roles in FRC productions such as Alana (*Little Mermaid*) and Curley (*Peter Pan Jr.*). Elissa was also involved in Mt-Isb's musical theater productions such as Amanda Thripp (*Matilda*), Orphan Ensemble (Annie), and White Rabbit (*Shrek*). Aside from her passion for theater, Elissa is an 8th grader who loves crafts, drawing, and hanging out with friends. She dedicates this performance to her parents, brothers, and grandparents for their continuing support of her passions. Now let's float along and let the adventure begin!



Mia Peña (James): Mia is a dedicated and talented musical theater performer excited to play James. Past roles include Orphan Ensemble (Annie), Michael (Elf), Young Fiona (Shrek), Michael (Peter Pan), and most recently, Flounder (The Little Mermaid). She embraces each new role with optimism and determination, knowing that every experience enriches her journey toward becoming the versatile performer she aspires to be. Mia thrives on collaboration with fellow performers and directors, always eager to learn and grow as an artist. Mia expresses her deepest gratitude to her family and the exceptional creative team. With her infectious energy, unwavering positivity, and dedication to her craft, Mia embodies the essence of a true musical theater girl - driven by a love for singing, dancing, and the transformative power of live performance. Join her in this magical voyage in a Giant Peach!



Camille Rodriguez (Jake, Ensemble): Camille welcomes you to James and the Giant Peach! This is her second show with Front Row Center, and she loves performing with such an incredible cast and creative team. When Camille is not on stage or rehearsing, she loves to read and spend time with family and friends. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Cora Sameit (Christine Cryermouth): Cora loves the stage! This is her 8th production and her first with Front Row Center. Some of her previous roles include Matilda in Matilda, The Musical, and Toad in Super Mario Bros., The Musical, both with New Hope Church. She also played Alice in Alice in Wonderland and Writer Barbie/Gloria in Barbie, The Musical, both with Chula Vista Parks and Recreation. When not on the stage, Cora is practicing gymnastics, jazz, and ballet. She would like to thank her parents, the cast, and the creative team for making this such a memorable experience! Now...go catch that peach!



Cooper Smith (Mr. Trotter, Ensemble, Earthworm Understudy): Cooper is thrilled to join the cast of James and The Giant Peach Jr. as he has a lifelong love of musical theatre and peaches. Music and science are Cooper's top passions, so you will often find him focused on his microscope, drumsticks, or piano - thanks Music Speaks Studio! This is Cooper's 4th musical production, including soaring high as John in Peter Pan Jr., and in the treasured casts of Matilda Jr. and Elf Jr. Cooper would like to thank Mr. Michael and Front Row Center for this opportunity!



Kleber Toala (Grasshopper): Kleber just turned 14 and recently graduated 8th grade as ASB president at Nestor Language Academy. This is his 6th production with Front Row Center, and he is excited to perform as Grasshopper in James and the Giant Peach. He has previously played Walter Hobbs, Shrek, Captain Hook, Linus, and most recently, Prince Eric in The Little Mermaid. Kleber is enrolled in voice lessons at Music Speaks and Professional Performers class at Front Row Center. He absolutely loves being on stage and is always looking forward to the next production. Kleber is so thankful you are here to watch the show.

Autographs

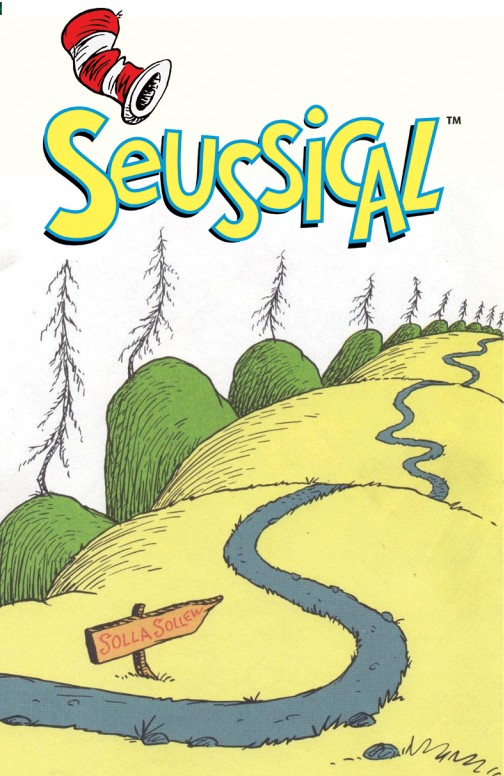
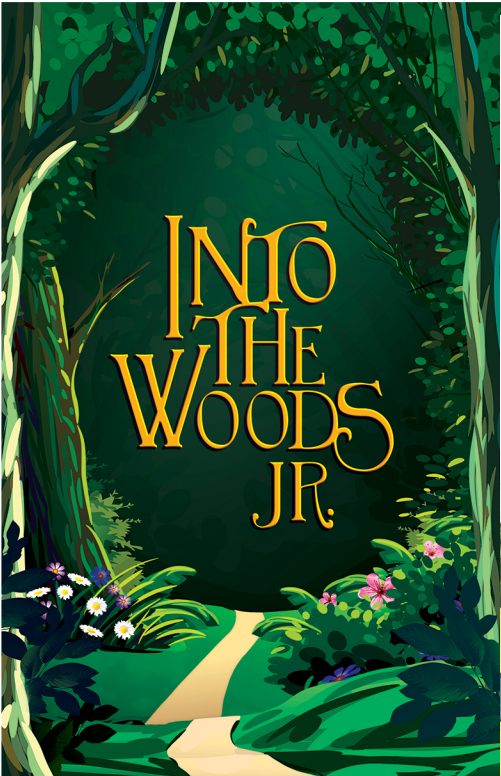


Be Our Spotlight!
Scan the QR code &
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our mission!

Thank you for considering a donation to Front Row Center Inc. We are a duly registered 501(c)3 non-profit youth musical theatre organization based in San Diego and your tax-deductable charitable contribution goes directly towards creating accessible theatrical opportunities for young performers in our vibrant community. For more information please visit www.frontrowcenter.live or email info@frontrowcenter.live



Exciting Fall 2024 Performance Opportunities!



Fall Advanced Production
Ages 12-17, Auditions August 6

Fall All-Ages Production
Ages 6-17, Auditions August 16-17



For more information about our line-up of upcoming Fall classes, workshops, and productions, please visit www.frontrowcenter.live.

Welcome to FRC's first-ever summer intensive production! We are thrilled you have joined us for this whimsical and creatively wacky musical, sure to leave you humming its catchy tunes all the way home after the performance. You'll notice our stage is exposed, like an open canvas, with all actors on stage for a majority of the show. This stylistic choice kicks your imagination into overdrive to paint the scenes – just as Roald Dahl intended! His novels are so descriptive, bursting with vivid imagery, flexing our creative muscles to bring his world to life. So sit back, savor those peach rings, and dive into the enchanting adventure of James and the Giant Peach Jr.!



**Enjoy the show,
Michael Kirsch
Executive Director, Front Row Center**



www.frontrowcenter.live
find us @frontrowcenter