

BURRELL HIGH SCHOOL  
THEATRE COMPANY

PRESENTS..

# ARTIST RETREAT

WRITTEN BY:

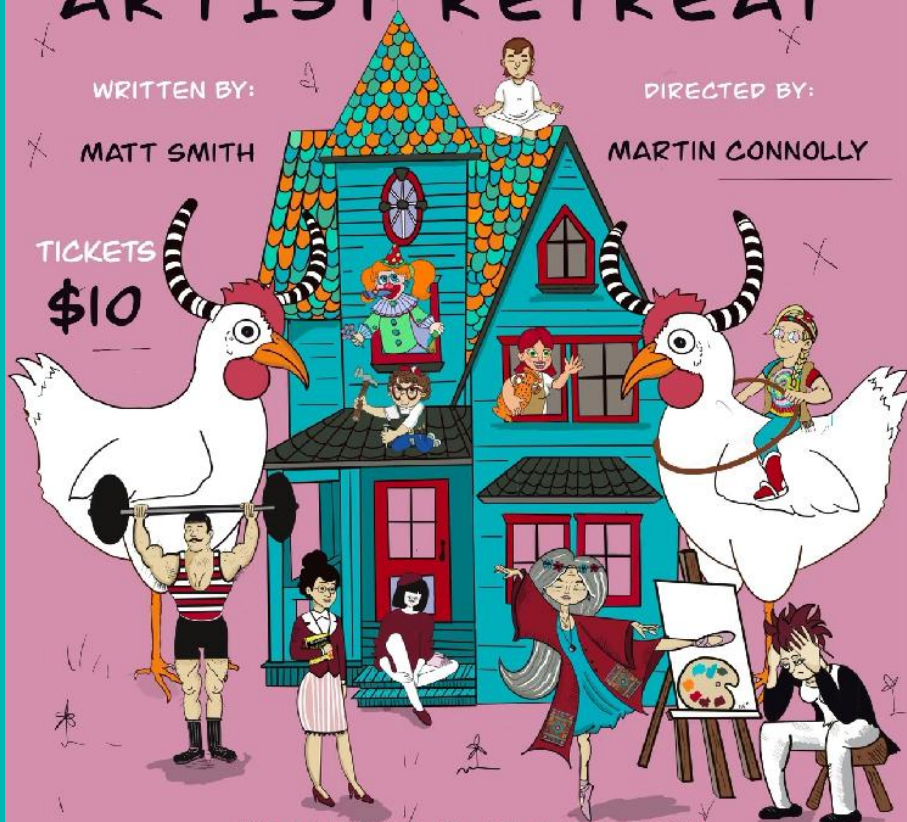
MATT SMITH

DIRECTED BY:

MARTIN CONNOLLY

TICKETS

\$10



NOVEMBER 18, 19 & 20 2021

7:30PM

The Burrell Drama Parent Boosters  
would like to wish the cast and crew of  
*Artist Retreat* all the best this weekend.

We are amazed by your talent,  
dedication and hard work!

We love to watch each and every one  
of you perform!



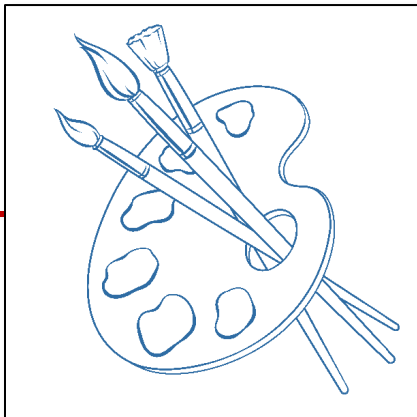


## BURRELL DRAMA CLUB

**President** ..... Kimly Hong  
**Vice President** ..... Abby Siwak  
**Treasurer** ..... Emily Roos  
**Secretary** ..... Samantha Bibza

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Burrell High School Maintenance and Custodial Staffs
- Jessica Lawson
- Erin Roos and the BHS Theatre Company Boosters
- Jennae Rakers
- Tom Ference
- Red Baughman
- Denise Wagner
- Jim Litterio
- Dave and Jane Prelosky
- Kellie Speer
- Shaun Reddick
- Sam Dibernardo
- Jackie Prather
- Chris Dwyer
- Scott Uzlik
- Sarah Connolly
- Danielle Kariotis



## SOME HISTORY

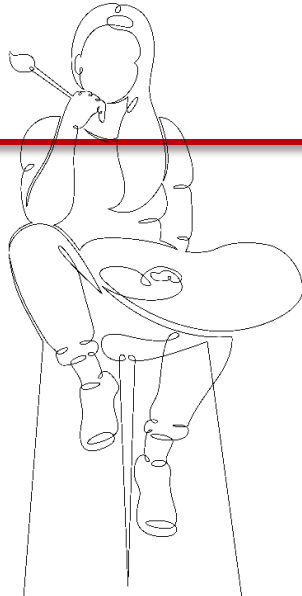
Burrell High School's first premiere of a new play has been in the works for over 2 years. Mr. Connolly first began talks with friend, playwright, and fellow former Duquesne University Red Masquer alum Matt Smith about the possibility of him writing something that the group could potentially perform in April of 2019. Matt immediately offered Artist Retreat as a possibility. The work, however, was in early stages of development. As a result, the BHS Theatre Company participated in a table read for Smith as an aid to developing his next draft. The original plan was to stage the new play in the fall of 2020. However, the pandemic stymied efforts to put the play on stage out of a desire to fully develop the potential of the play, as well as avoid playing it in masks to an empty house. With some restrictions now lifting in 2021, we saw the potential to finally bring Artist Retreat to life. Near the end of the 2020-21 school year, Burrell High School Theatre Company students read a newer draft for Smith via Zoom, and he once again went to work re-drafting the work. In August of 2021 Matt came to Pittsburgh to hear the group do a third reading of the play and get student feedback prior to finalizing the draft that Connolly and the group began working on. Now in November of 2021, we are proud to present the first run of Artist Retreat by Matt Smith.

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Matt Smith is a Seattle-based playwright whose plays have appeared at the Seattle Outdoor Theater Festival, Balagan Theatre, Playlist Seattle, the Eclectic Theatre (Los Angeles), the Pittsburgh New Works Festival, Pittsburgh Playwrights' Theatre, and 14/48: The World's Quickest Theatre Festival. His full-length plays Cork Dinosaur and March were performed at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, where he studied Journalism. His play The Hanford Invasion! was developed at the 2018 Seven Devils Theatre Conference and featured as part of Macha Monkey's Distillery reading series in 2017.

## SYNOPSIS

Artist Retreat tells the tale of retired dancer, Mother Dee, who now lives in the aging mansion of her deceased parents. Over the years she has slowly turned the home into a haven for artists and creatives who need a place to work, live, and ply their trades. But the house is in dire need of upkeep. In spite of the overtime efforts of resident handiwoman, Hacksaw, the roof is caving in, and as Hacksaw puts it, “the duct tape is structural”. As a result, Mother Dee attempts to draw on a trust left to her by her parents in the hopes of securing the much-needed moneys for appropriate repairs. However, when bank representative Penny shows up, it becomes clear that the money cannot be accessed unless Mother Dee is using it for what the bank deems to be “a viable business”. As Penny becomes embroiled in the wild antics of the resident artists the group must come together in a way that will help them stay together as a collective under a crumbling roof. Meanwhile Penny begins to second guess her ties to corporate America as she begins to find life among these quirky artists oddly satisfying.



## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

For the last 16 years, I have attempted to make this an organization that breaks new ground. I have attempted to select material that is challenging for students, that is meaningful in its intentions, and that gives students the opportunity to feel like they are on the edge of what is presented at the secondary level. I have attempted to produce plays in a way that shows the possibilities that storytelling on the stage can offer and show students that the only rules are those we impose on ourselves. And while that is not always an achievable goal at this level, I certainly believe that this year's production of Artist Retreat meets the above set of standards. Presenting new work is challenging for theatre artists at any level, and it is one that few high school students have the opportunity to tackle. So when Matt and I first started talking about doing one of his plays in 2019, I was immediately enthusiastic about the possibilities. The opportunities he has given my students in regard to allowing their participation in the development has only deepened their connections to the characters and helped us all feel more a part of this world.

Most of the characters that these students have portrayed on the stage over the years are ones that we are familiar with in one way or another, from Macbeth to the Fantastic Mr. Fox to Jo March, it has been easy for many of them to find a reference point to start from. But presenting new and original work offers a greater challenge. The internet offers no previous performances of eeee or Penny or Reef to reference. The characters that we see on stage tonight are the result of digging into the script and our hearts, having lengthy discussions and working through problems in order to create something that has never been brought to life before.

I like this play as an opportunity for these students' first foray into new work for a dizzying number of reasons. It is a reminder to them that art can keep them centered and sane through the challenges of life. Art is something that so many of us take for granted as music, movies, visual art, and literature are so very accessible to all of us in the 21st century and this play emphasizes the struggles many artists go through to create it. It advocates that we not simply work in jobs that we hate, but leave the things behind us that don't make us happy to pursue careers and passions that we find truly fulfilling. And it foregrounds the idea that everyone lives in a community, we cannot do everything on our own, and we are always better when working with the people around us.

Lastly, it has allowed me to reconnect with an old friend. The first play I was ever in at Duquesne University was a one act entitled "Girlfriend for Christmas" by Matt Smith. As Mother Dee says, "Art is a moment. A snap of magic in the wind." The people that I have been closest to in my life have always been the ones that I am making something creative with at that moment. I am grateful to have created a new moment with Matt and connected my roots in theatre to the growth that I have experienced through these kids and this organization. So my thanks to both him and them for entertaining this latest experiment.

~Mr. Connolly

## **PRODUCTION TEAM & TECH STAFF**

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**Directed by**

Martin Connolly

**Technical Director**

Kimly Hong

**Assistant Director**

Amelia Sallach

**Choreographed by**

Mallory Codita

**Scenic and Lighting Design**

Martin Connolly

**Costume Design**

Nancy Albinini

**Associate Costume Designer**

Bella Seidel

**Projection and Sound Design**

Ian Campbell

**Production Stage Manager**

Emily Roos

**Deck Stage Managers**

Kimly Hong, Abby Siwak, Samantha Bibza

**Assistant Stage Managers**

Sydney Sanchez and Katie Pahlman

**Lighting Technician Crew**

Meadow Wlodarczyk

**Livestream Producer**

Shane Napier

**Camera Operator**

Gabe Manchini

**Poster Design**

Jamie Smittle

## CAST

<b>Mother Dee</b> .....	Ella Uzlik
<b>Penny</b> .....	Mackenzie Plusquellic
<b>Sally</b> .....	Elizabeth Lagattuta
<b>Triss</b> .....	Haley Swauger
<b>Evelyn</b> .....	Georgia Brothers
<b>Reef</b> .....	Matthew Crane
<b>eeee</b> .....	Rebecca Newell
<b>Brunk</b> .....	Michael Swanger
<b>Hacksaw</b> .....	Alexa Callender
<b>Bingo</b> .....	Riley Kinter
<b>Real Estate Agent</b> .....	Zack Jones
<b>Malloy</b> .....	Kole Kaczor
<b>Kathy</b> .....	Katie Armstrong
<b>Horace</b> .....	Camden Seidel
<b>Adam</b> .....	Christian Litterio

## UNDERSTUDIES

<b>Penny</b> .....	Elliana Koulouris
<b>Evelyn</b> .....	Nadia Nee
<b>Triss</b> .....	Kelsey Haas
<b>eeee</b> .....	Braelie Krahe

## DANCERS

<b>Chicken 1</b> ...	Emily Marchlewski
<b>Chicken 2</b> .....	Sarah Kelley



## SET CREW

Thaniel Dobies  
Brianna Fields  
Gillian Glogowski  
Mikayla Gorsuch  
"Gen" Henderson  
Hannah Leatherwood  
Madison Leight  
Bethany Manchini  
Leah Troiano  
Jesse Wheeler



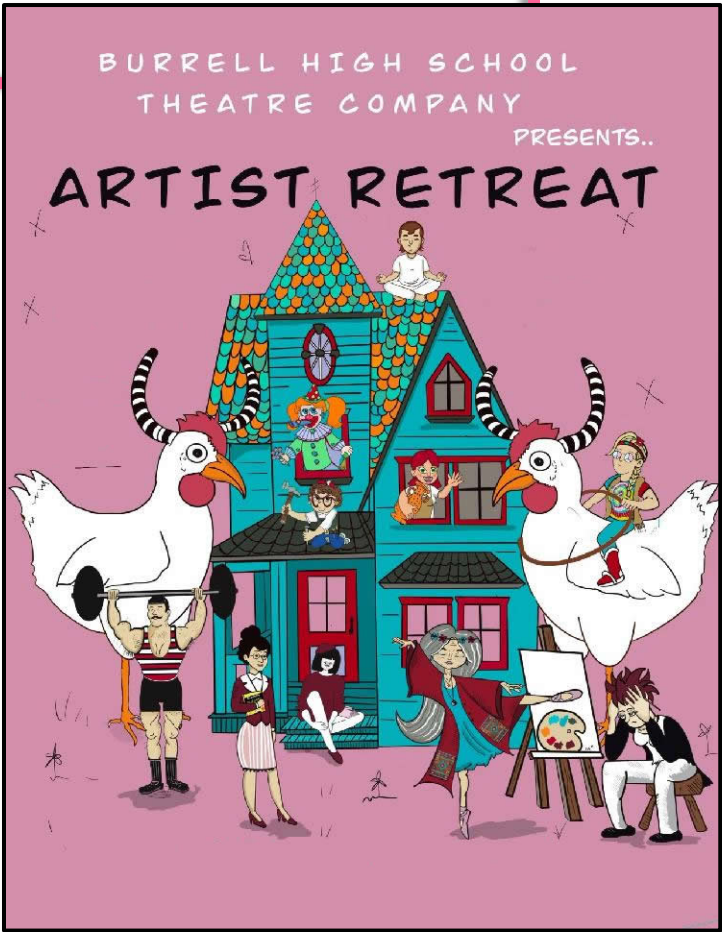
## HAIR AND MAKE UP

Gabby Guido  
Kate Leiner  
Quinn Oswalt  
Reese Pallone  
Karen Rushnock



## CAST & CREW

# Bios



## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



**Katie Armstrong (Kathy)** is a junior and is very excited for her fifth production at BHS. She has previously appeared in *Macbeth* (Doctor), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Domina), *Fantastic Mr. Fox* (Reporter), and *Little Women* (Aunt March). Katie is also actively involved in Burrell and travel softball, BHS Sapphires Colorguard Captain, NHS, Reading Railroad, and Relay for Life. Katie would like to thank her family and friends for always being supportive in everything she does. In addition, she would like to thank all of

the cast and crew for all of their hard work and dedication in making wonderful productions at BHS and making wonderful memories.

### **Samantha Bibza (Deck Stage**

**Manager)** is a junior and is a stage manager for *Artist Retreat*. She has previously acted in *Little Women* and *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. Samantha participates in color guard for the marching band, concert choir, and concert band. In her free time, she enjoys playing with her dog. Samantha is excited to continue to be a stage manager in the upcoming productions. She would like to thank all of her friends and family for their support.



**Georgia Brothers (Evelyn)** is a senior excited for her final fall production at Burrell High School. Georgia has taken part in 15 previous productions, six of which were with the Burrell High School Theatre Company. Outside of being an actress, Georgia enjoys participating in the National Honor Society, Interact Club, Girls Varsity Track and Field, competitive dance, and giving back to her community through her non-profit, "Change" for Cancer. Finally, she would like to thank all of her friends and family for supporting her unconditionally in all that she does.

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Alexa Callender (Hacksaw)** is a junior and is very excited to be a part of the open cast for *Artist Retreat*. This will be Alexa's fifth production at Burrell, she has previously been in *Macbeth*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox* and *Little Women*. She also participates in Choir, Show Choir, Colorguard, Interact, NHS, and Reading Railroad. Alexa would like to thank everyone in the Theatre Company for working together to put this production on. Additionally, she would like to thank her family for supporting her in anything she does and her friends for always being there for her.



### **Ian Campbell (Head of Sound Crew, Projections, & Live Stream Technician)**

is a senior and this is his seventh production at BHS. He ran Projections for *The Heart of Robin Hood*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and *Macbeth*. He was on the Sound Crew for *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. He was on Sound Crew and Projections for *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and was on the Sound Crew, Projections, and was the Live Stream Technician for *Little Women*. Ian is part of the concert, jazz, and marching bands at BHS, and is also a member of the Burrell Chapter of the National Honor Society. He would like to thank his Mom and Dad for their support.



## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



**Matthew Crane (Reef)** is a junior and is ready to entertain in his fourth BHS play! He had played Little Jake in *Annie Get Your Gun*, The Changeling Boy in *A Midsummer Night Dream*, Malcom in *Macbeth*, Hero in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, Mr Fox in *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and Laurie in *Little Women*. He is also part of the Burrell Buccaneer Marching Band. Matthew has loved all manners of performance since forever and is thankful to have this outlet to showcase his entertainment abilities. Matt would like to thank his family for sticking with him through tough times and always being there to support him no matter what.

**Thaniel Dobies (Set Crew)** is a freshman, and this is his first production at BHS, working as a part of the stage crew. He is also a shot put and discus thrower on the Track and Field team. He would also like to thank his parents for their support.



**Brianna Fields (Set Crew)** is a freshman and participates in set crew for *Artist Retreat*. This is her first year working on set crew. She is part of the Track and Field team. In her free time, she like to shop and eat. She is excited to help with set crew in the future.

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Violet Gamble (Set Crew)** is a freshman, and *Artist Retreat* is her first production with the Burrell High School Theatre Company.



**Gillian Glogowski (Set Crew)** is a junior, and is eager to participate in her fifth production at BHS. She has worked on the set for *Macbeth*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and *Little Women*. She likes to write and draw in her free time. She would like to thank her family and friends for being supportive in her life.

**Mikayla Gorsuch (Set Crew)** is a freshman and is currently working on the set crew for *Artist's Retreat*. She hopes to be able to play a role in a play or musical sometime within her high school career. She played Cinderella's mother and Stepmother in the musical, *Into the Woods* in middle school, and played Katherine from the Newsies in our Cabaret performance, *Dear HMS* in her 8th grade year. She participates in Choir and Drama Club, and enjoys singing and performing. She deals with horrible anxiety sometimes, but uses her anxiety to cope with her anxiety, so that she can put on her best performance possible. In her free time, she likes to swim, play with both her dog and her grandparents' dogs, and to sing. She would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her all of the time within her academic years.





## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



**Gabby Guido (Hair & Makeup)** is a freshman at BHS this year. She was a part of the HMS musicals for her whole middle school career, playing the Witch in *Into the Woods*, and assisted in writing the musical from last year and singing the song from *Godspell*. Gabby enjoys acting and singing and has done it for most of her life. Gabby would like to thank her family for always supporting her with making her dreams become reality.

**Kelsey Haas (Understudy for Triss)** is a freshman and is excited to be in her first BHS production. Previously, she has been in the HMS productions of *Dear HMS* as Adult Fiona, *Into the Woods* as the Baker's Wife, and *Seussical the Musical* as both the Understudy for the Cat in the Hat and a Who. Kelsey is currently participating in Cross Country, Chorus, Set Crew, Student Government, and Reading Railroad. She loves to sing and travel. Kelsey would like to thank her family for their endless love and support.



**Genevieve "Gen" Henderson (Set Crew)** is a senior and has previously acted in *Fantastic Mr. Fox* and *Little Women*. Through BHS, she also participates in Varsity Volleyball, Choir, Student Government, ASL Club, and FBLA. Following high school, Gen plans to continue her education at a 4-year institution to study Cybersecurity. She plans to continue acting into the musical next semester, and is grateful for all of the memories and friendships formed so far in her drama experience!

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Kimly Hong (Deck Stage Manager)** is a senior and has previously worked on *The Heart of Robin Hood*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Macbeth*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and *Little Women*. In her free time, Kimly enjoys hanging out with her friends, thrifting, listening to music, and of course, building the set. She is excited to work on her seventh production at BHS and is thankful for all of the opportunities she has been given. She would like to thank her parents, her friends, and Conn for their support and their patience throughout all of this.



**Zack Jones (Real Estate Agent)** is a senior and is acting for the fourth time in his high school career. He has previously acted in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and *Little Women*. Prior to that, he was on the tech staff for the shows *Macbeth*, *Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and *The Heart of Robin Hood*. He also goes to every set crew. In his free time he likes to make movies and shop. He is excited for his last play and hopes to make it a good one!

**Kole Kaczor (Malloy)** is a junior and is excited, as this is his first year being involved in theatre since middle school. Kole also participates in Cross Country and Track. Kole enjoys videogames and driving in his free time, and would like to thank his friends and family for encouraging him to do this.





## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



**Sarah Kelley (Chicken 2)** is a senior and has been a part of the Burrell High School Theatre Company for four years. She has participated as a dancer in *Little Women*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, *Macbeth*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and the *Mystery of Edwin Drood*.

**Riley Kinter (Bingo)** is a freshman and is very excited for her first year in the BHS Drama Club. She was The Mysterious Man and Stewart in *Into the Woods* and was also Wendy in *Dear HMS*. Riley also participates in Marching band, Choir, and Set crew. Riley likes to travel, play online and talk with friends. Riley would like to thank her family and friends for the endless support given over the years.



## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Elliana Koulouris (Understudy for Penny)** is a freshman, making this her first BHS production. She has previously been in all three middle school musicals. Her roles include a Lady Bird in *Seussical the Musical*, Jack in *Into the Woods*, and Nala in HMS' cabaret - *Dear HMS*. She participates in Track & Field along with singing lessons and plays the guitar, piano, and ukulele. She is a member of Pittsburgh Musical Theater and has also participated in two Penn State New Kensington productions, which include the roles of Gabriella in *High School Musical Jr.*, and also Annie in *Annie Jr.* In her free time Elliana enjoys writing songs, painting, and spending time with family and friends. She is excited to be part of this production and to be part of BHS Theater Company's productions to come. She would like to thank her parents and brother for their support and love throughout everything she does.



**Braelie Krahe (Understudy for eeee)** is a freshman and the understudy for eeee for *Artist Retreat*. She has previously worked on shows at the middle school portraying Little Red Riding Hood in *Into the Woods* and Zoe from *Dear Evan Hansen* in the *Dear HMS* Cabaret Show. She has been singing since she was 7 years old and enjoys performing in front of an audience. Braelie is very excited to continue taking part in high school productions as she goes through her years at Burrell High School. She would like to thank her friends and family for supporting her and pushing her to work hard even if it wasn't easy.

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



### **Nathaniel Krajci (Sound Crew)**

is a sophomore and is working on sound for *Artist Retreat*. He has previously done sound for *Fantastic Mr. Fox* and *Little Women*. Nate participates in the band and also plays guitar in his free time. He would also like to thank his parents for their ongoing support in his academic journey.

**Lizzy Lagattuta (Sally)** is a sophomore and performing in her third show at BHS. She was previously involved in the BHS productions of *Fantastic Mr. Fox* last fall and *Little Women* in the spring. Along with the Burrell High School Theater Company, Lizzy is involved in Marching Band, Show Choir, Swim Team, STEM Team, Interact, and Jazz Band. She would like to thank her family for continuing to inspire and support her.



**Hannah Leatherwood (Set Crew)** is a freshman and working on the set crew for the Fall Play. She has helped in set crew for the middle school in



eighth grade. Ever since she joined set crew in eighth grade, she felt like that had sparked an interest in being a part of set and helping in one way. She does not play any sports, because they never interested her. In her free time, she likes to draw/sketch and she also likes to cosplay as well. She can't wait to see what is ahead for her in set crew. She would also like to thank her friend Mikayla (also in set crew) for helping her get to this point. She would not have realized her passion for set without them. She would also like to also thank her mom for being supportive of her decision to join set, and also for taking the time out of her day to drive her to school for it.

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Madison Leight (Set Crew)** is a sophomore and a set crew scenery artist for the productions. She is excited to be a part of set crew this year, and looking forward to the years ahead. Maddy would like to thank her friends and family for supporting her throughout her adventures.



**Kate Leiner (Make-Up)** is a senior and has done make-up for *The Heart of Robin Hood*, *The Mystery Edwin Drood*, *Macbeth*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and *Little Women*. She participates in Tennis, Interact, and NHS. She enjoys spending time with her friends and loves thrifting. She would like to thank her friends and family for supporting her.

**Christian Litterio (Adam)** is a junior and is very excited for his eleventh production. He has played various roles, been stage manager at his old school, and worked backstage in the past. In his free time, he enjoys being with friends and playing basketball. He would like to thank his family and friends for their constant support in his curricular and extracurricular activities.



## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



**Bethany Manchini (Set Crew)** is a sophomore member of the set crew. She has worked on the set of *Little Women* last year and worked on the sets of *Seussical the Musical* and *Into the Woods* during middle school. Bethany is the voice of the band for the Burrell Buccaneer Marching Band. In her free time, she enjoys painting. She would like to thank her family for the endless amounts of love and support during her high school career.

### **Gabriel Manchini (Camera Operator)**

is a junior and is excited for his first production as a tech member. Gabe was in the pit for the musical *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Gabe is in Jazz, Marching, and Concert Band. He is excited to be in upcoming productions, and would like to thank his family for being very supportive with everything he does.



**Emily Marchlewski (Chicken 1)** is a junior and also assists with sound crew. She has previously helped in the past four productions while in BHS. This is Emily's first time being on stage at the high school. She would like to thank her friends and family for constantly supporting her. She can't wait to see what the rest of her high school career holds.

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Brooke McElhattan (Set Crew)** is a senior at Burrell and has previously participated in set crew for *Little Women*, and was a member of the ensemble for *Fantastic Mr. Fox*.



**Shane Napier (Livestream Assistant/Camera Operator)** is a junior at Burrell High School. His freshman year he participated in set crew for the BHS productions of *Macbeth* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and also assisted with the spotlights for the latter. This is his second year in drama club. He enjoys reading, watching movies, listening to music, and going for walks. He would like to thank his friends and family for their continued love and support.

**Nadia Nee (Understudy for Evelyn)** is a sophomore and is very excited to watch the wonderful cast and crew of *Artist Retreat* put on an amazing show! Nadia was also a part of Huston Middle School's productions of *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (ensemble), *Seussical the Musical* (ensemble), and *Into the Woods*. (Baker's Wife), and Burrell High School Theatre Company's productions of *Fantastic Mr. Fox* (Agnes) and *Little Woman* (Hag). Nadia displays her passion for music through singing, songwriting, and playing her guitar. She is happy to be a part of Burrell High School's Theatre Company and can't wait to see what's in store for the future!





## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



**Rebecca Newell (eeee)** is a senior and has been helping out the drama club via set and makeup crew since her freshmen year. She is now performing for her first time in *Artist Retreat*. Rebecca is not really into sports, but enjoys participating in art club, whenever there are meetings. In her free time, Rebecca is often found doodling cartoon versions of her friends, baking for her friends and classes, or reading. Rebecca is nervous for her first performance, but is excited to be a part of the cast this year. Rebecca would like to thank her mom and dad for their encouragement, advice, and love.

**Katie Pahlman (Assistant Stage Manager)** is a freshman. She's currently training as a stage manager for *Artist Retreat*. Previously she had been an actress in musicals at the middle school. Katie participates in the color guard for the marching band and choir. Katie is ecstatic to be a stage manager in the future and would like to thank her friends and parents for supporting her in everything she does.



**Reese Pallone (Hair & Makeup)** is a senior, and has been helping with Hair & Makeup for many Burrell High School Theatre Company productions.

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Alex Platt (Sound Tech)** is a sophomore and is assisting in sound tech. He has some experience with recording software with recording instruments. He participates in Band, Marching Band, Track and Field, and Cross Country. In his free time, he enjoys playing bass and clarinet. He also enjoys running long distances in his time outside of track and cross-country season. He would like to further expand his knowledge with sound equipment this year while working in sound tech.



**Mackenzie Plusquellic (Penny)** is a junior and is ready for her third production at BHS. Her other productions include *Fantastic Mr. Fox* (Mrs. Bean) and *Little Women* (Rodrigo 2/ensemble). Mackenzie also participates in NHS, Student Government, and Reading Railroad. In her free time, she likes to online shop, read, and hang out with friends. Mackenzie would like to thank her friends and family for the never-ending support in her endeavors.

**Emily Roos (Production Stage Manager)** is a sophomore and helps out by calling the lighting and sound cues. She assisted with *Little Women* last year. Emily is also in marching band and choir. She likes to play video games, bake, and knit. She would like to thank her mom, dad, and the rest of her family.





## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



**Karen Rushnock (Hair & Makeup)** is a senior and has previously worked on *Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *The Heart of Robin Hood*. She likes to work in the cosmetology field and participates in colorguard. She would like to thank her parents and siblings for their constant support with everything she's done/accomplished.

**Amelia Sallach (Assistant Director)** is a junior and this is her fourth time being involved in a production at Burrell High School. She has previously been cast as Donalbain in *Macbeth*, worked as a Stage Manager in *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, Dramaturg in *Little Women*, and now as Assistant Director for *Artist Retreat*. She is a member of NHS, involved in the Reading Team, Gardening Club, and loves to write creatively. Amelia is excited for the next productions and opportunities it will bring. She would like to thank her parents and Katie Armstrong for driving her to and from the school.



**Sydney Sanchez (Assistant Stage Manager)** is a junior and excited to be part of her third Burrell High School Theatre Company production. She has worked as a member of the set crew for *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and *Little Women*, as well as assisting with hair and makeup for *Little Women*. Sydney is an active member of the Burrell High School Marching Band as audio engineer for the front ensemble. She would like to thank her friends and family for their endless support and love.

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

### **Bella Seidel (Associate Costume Designer)**

is a junior at BHS, and is very eager to be a part of her second Burrell High School Theatre Company production. She has previously appeared in BHS's production of *Macbeth* as Witch #3 during her freshman year. Bella is a member of BHS's Girls' Tennis Team and Girls' Track & Field Team, as well as participating in Student Government, National Honor Society, FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), Reading Railroad, and of course Drama Club. In her spare time, Bella enjoys painting, sewing, and spending quality time with her friends and family, whom she'd like to thank for their support.



**Camden Seidel (Horace)** is a junior and in his sixth show at BHS. He was in two shows in the middle school and played McDuff's son in *Macbeth*, A soldier in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, Bunce in *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and the Knight in *Little Women*. He also plays golf and tennis for Burrell, and is in clubs including Student Government and National Honor Society. He would like to thank his friends, family, and cast and crew for all of the support throughout his time in the Theater Company and all of his achievements in school.

### **Abby Siwak (Deck Stage Manager)**

is a senior and has worked on the productions of *The Heart of Robin Hood*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Macbeth*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and *Little Women*. Abby participates on the Tennis Team, FBLA, and Interact. She likes to thrift shop and hang out with her friends in her free time. She would like to thank her family and friends for putting up with her!!



## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS



**Michael Swanger (Brunk)** is a senior and is excited to be performing in *Artist Retreat*. He also previously was in *The Heart of Robin Hood*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Macbeth*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, and *Little Women*. In his free time, Michael likes to work, spend time with his friends, and participates in Interact. He has loved performing in his years of drama and plans to do some performing when he goes off to college. He would like to thank his family and friends for supporting him throughout the years.

**Haley Swauger (Triss)** is a sophomore and is greatly appreciative and excited to be a part of her third BHS Theater Company production. She played Weasel in *Fantastic Mr. Fox* and Beth March in *Little Women*. At Huston Middle School, she played Cinderella in *Into the Woods* and had minor roles in *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* as well as *Seussical the Musical*. Haley enjoys playing guitar, piano, and other instruments that she mostly taught herself, in her free time. She also enjoys writing songs. She looks forward to participating in future BHS Theater Company productions. Haley would like to thank her loved ones for supporting her through the good, the bad, and everything in between.



**Leah Troiano (Dancer/Set Crew)** is a freshman and dancer for *Artist Retreat*. This is her first play at Burrell High School. Leah also participates in Reading Railroad and Track. In her free time, she likes to travel, garden, and practice ballet. She would like to thank her family, especially her sister Kaylin, for all of their endless support and inspiration.

## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Ella Uzlik (Mother Dee)** is a senior and is very excited for her final productions here at BHS. She has also been seen in *The Heart of Robin Hood*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Macbeth* (Ross), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Eunuch), *Fantastic Mr. Fox* (Mrs. Fox), and *Little Women* (Jo March). Ella participates in the school choir and is a member of the BHS L.I.G.H.T Initiative. In her free time, she enjoys having sleepovers with her friends, going on shopping trips, and listening to her Spotify Discover Weekly playlist. She would like to thank her friends and family for putting up with her constant singing because it sure can get annoying!



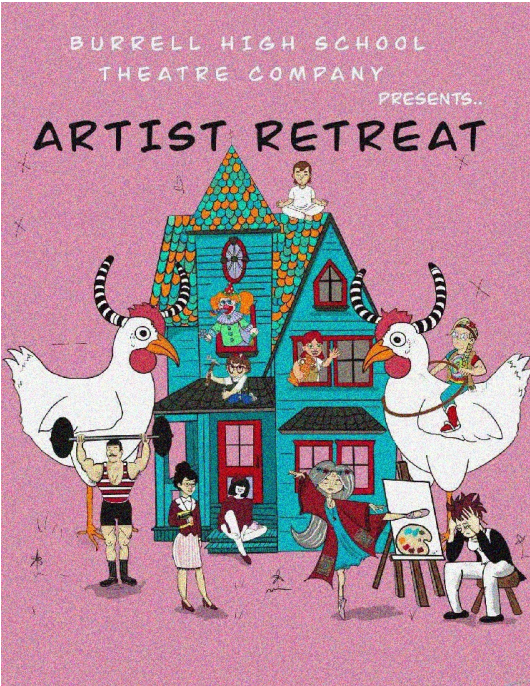
**Jesse Wheeler (Graphic Design/Set Crew)** is a senior and is very excited for his 5th production at BHS. He has performed in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* as well as helping backstage with all the other plays and musicals. He also participates in Chorus, Show Choir, Track and Field, Band, Color Guard, Reading Team, Reading Railroad, LGBTQ+ Club, Garden Club, and Art Club. Jesse enjoys singing and performing, playing guitar, creating art, and has loved all of his time in Drama Club over the last 5 years. He plans to study Art Education next year in college to continue his passion in Art. Jesse would also like to thank all of his friends and family for helping and supporting him as well as everyone else involved in drama for helping to create wonderful experiences and performances.



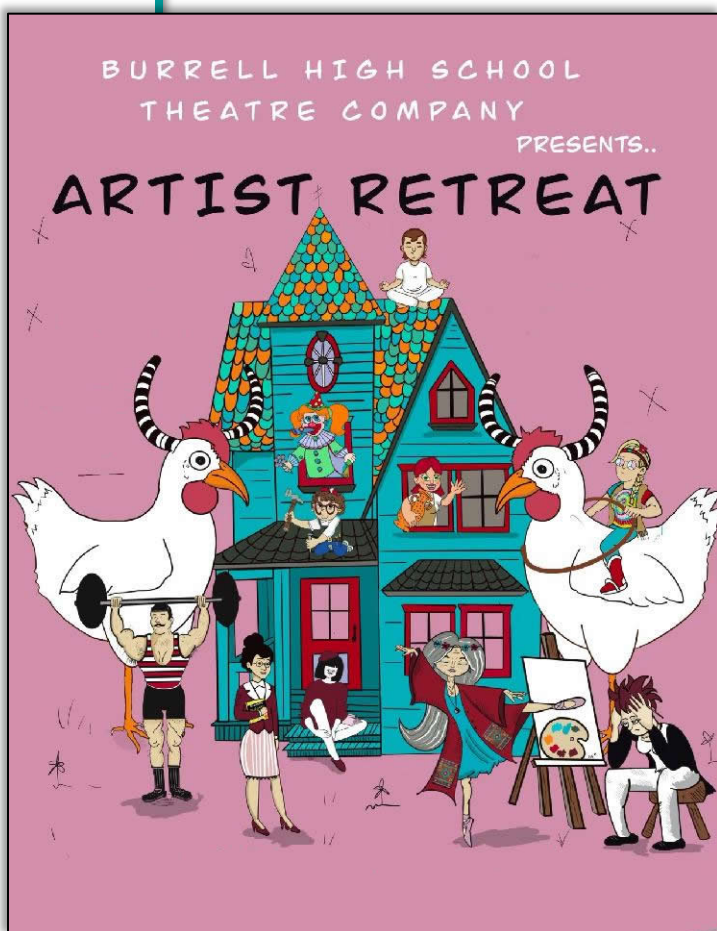


## ARTIST RETREAT CAST & CREW BIOS

**Meadow Wlodarczyk (Lighting Technician)** is a sophomore member of the BHS drama club and this will be her 3rd production working on lights. She previously helped with lighting in *Fantastic Mr. Fox* and *Little Women*. She is also a part of the Soccer and Track and Field team. She would like to thank her chauffeurs for their support (A.K.A. mom and dad).



# PERSONAL ADS





Kole,

We are all so proud of you. Going outside of your comfort zone and trying something new. Who would have ever thought you would be on stage instead of behind the scenes.

We love you and are looking forward to the great things you may do next.



Georgia –

We cannot believe this is your Senior Play!!! We have enjoyed watching you perform on stage since Annie at PSNK! You are going to do great things with your life and we really hope that someday you will find yourself back on that stage, doing what you love, even if it's not your career. You are just simply amazing to watch up there! We will always be your number one fans. We LOVE YOU SO MUCH and look forward to watching you perform in your last high school play.

Love – Mom & Dad ❤️





*Ella,*

We couldn't be more proud of the lady you have become. You SHINE on stage and we love watching you do what you love the most! Follow your dreams Sweetie....we'll be there every step of the way!

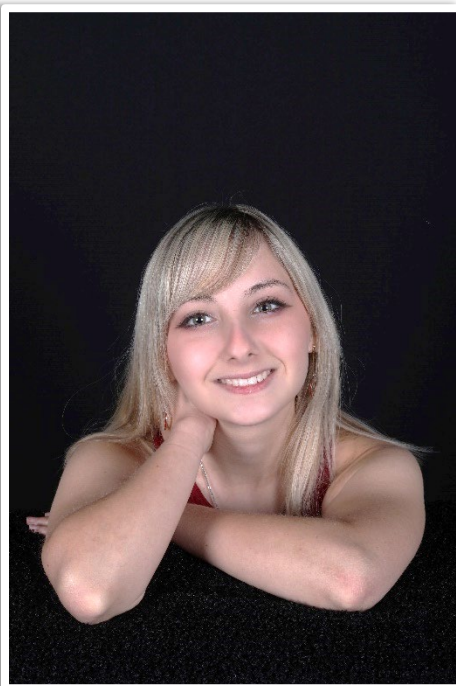
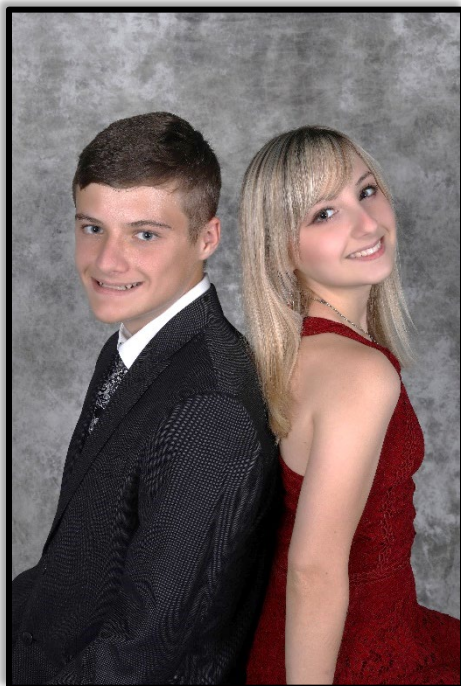


We are all proud of you, **Becca!**

Remember to always Love  
God, be kind to others and  
work hard. Good luck with  
your future. You got this!

Love, Dad, Mom, Trevor &  
Travis

*Proverbs 16:3*

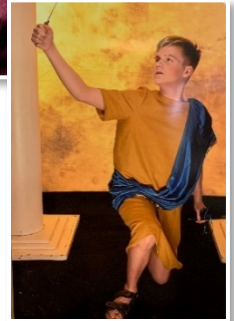
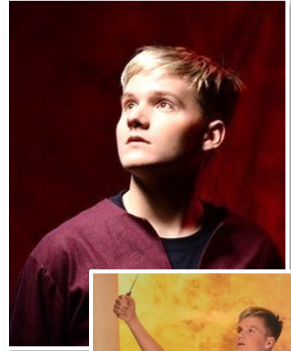






**Matt,**

Congratulations on yet another incredible show! We are so proud of your ability to rise above everything and continue to do what you love with confidence and pride! Your talent and courage never disappoint, and we look forward to all of your future performances with the BHS Theater Company and beyond. Keep shining and making us proud, "Reef". We love you! Love and God Bless! Mom, Mimi, Pappy, Buddy, Jovie and Curt



**Elliana,**

It is so exciting as you begin your high school acting performance. We look forward to watching you shine in the coming years!

Love, Mom, Dad & Spiro



**KEEP REACHING  
FOR THE STARS !!  
CLASS OF 2022  
WE ARE PROUD  
OF YOU !**

*Mom & Olivia*

*Nana & Pappy*

*Aunt Maria & Caythynne*

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**Bella~**

Whether you are shining on stage  
or slaying with creativity behind  
the scenes...you never cease to  
amaze us with your dedication!



Keep doing  
“you” in  
everything  
that you do  
because  
YOU are  
amazing!



Love~  
Mom, Dad, Abby and Camden

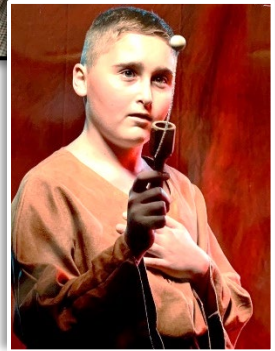
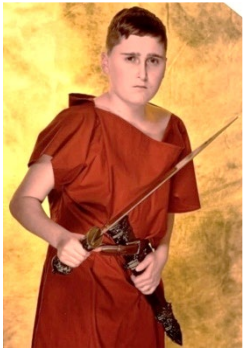


## Camden~

You are amazing in everything that you do! We love seeing you shine on stage!

Keep being the fabulous young man that you are in the great big drama called life!

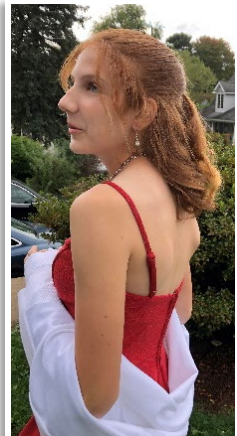
Love~  
Mom, Dad, Abby  
and Bella



Way to go **Bingo!**

All these years of acting up have really paid off.  
We're all proud of you, break a leg,  
not your arm!!

Team Chaos





Alexa,

Keep doing what makes you happy!

Love you,  
Mom, Dad, Ian, Riley &  
Grandma

## PERSONAL ADS

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Lizzy -

We are so proud of your drive and ambition, but most of all your kind and caring nature. Love you so much - Mom & Dad

Zack,

We are so proud of you! Great work onstage and behind the scenes. Love you! Mom, Dad, Nick, Lauren & Lindsay

Amelia,

We are so proud of you and the work you put into this production! Love, Mom, Dad, Tyler, Kayla, Logan and Bailey

Emily,

Your continued success is getting annoying, but congratulations anyways! Make that stage shine. All the muches Mom, Dad, Joseph and Erica.

Haley,

We are all so very proud of you! You always seem to amaze us with your talents and everything you do. Keep following your dreams! Love, Mom, Dad and Amy



THE BURRELL DRAMA PARENT BOOSTERS  
WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A HUGE

**THANK YOU**

TO SIR JAMES PRINTING AND JIM AND  
SHELLY LITTERIO FOR DONATING THE  
PROGRAMS FOR THE BHS THEATRE  
COMPANY'S PRODUCTION OF  
ARTIST RETREAT.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR KINDNESS,  
YOUR GENEROSITY AND YOUR SUPPORT!





[www.gowpd.com](http://www.gowpd.com)  
291 State Route 210  
Shelocta, PA 15774

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Office: 724-354-5188

Fax: 724-354-3699