

Big Fish

Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA | Book by JOHN AUGUST Based on the novel by Daniel Wallace & the Columbia Motion Picture written by John August

Originally produced on Broadway by Dan Jinks, Bruce Cohen and Stage Entertainment with Roy Furman, Broadway Across America/Rich Entertainment Group, John Domo, The Nederlander Organization and Edward Walson in association with CJ E&M, Dancing Elephant Productions, Parrothead Productions, Harvey Weinstein/Carole L. Haber, Peter May/Jim Fantaci, Ted Liebowitz/Joe Piacentile and Columbia Pictures.

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Directed by Justin Dilley

Music Direction
Carissa Arduini

ChoreographyKate Arthur

Costume Design
Jessica Williams

Set DesignJustin Dilley
Randy Bampfield

Stage Manager Mala Bhattacharya

Assistant Prop Master Mala Bhattacharya

> Technical Leads Murray Mann Spencer Godshall

IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR LICENSING AGREEMENT, ANY PHOTOGRAPHY, AS WELL AS THE AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.



180 Academy St., Alpharetta, GA 30009

BIG FISH Cast

Chris Davis	Edward Bloom
Jonah Carney	Will Bloom
Kalyan Dilley	
Lauren Tully	Sandra Bloom
Lily Naz	Josephine Bloom
Courtney Willett	Jennifer Hill
Emily Miller	Sandra Templeton
Brian Gustin.	The Giant/Dr. Bennett
Thainara Carvalho	The Witch
Al Such.	Amos Calloway
Rhynne Armstrong.	Don Price
Ben Humphrey	Zack Price
Molly Petner	Jenny Hill
Heidi Botzong	Ensemble
Chloe Camp.	Ensemble
Marissa Francis.	Ensemble
Blake Leaptrot.	Ensemble
Cade Leaptrot.	Ensemble
Ethan Manson	Ensemble
Tatiana Martinez	Ensemble
Travis Shedd.	Ensemble

Production Team

Director	Justin Dilley
Music Director	Carissa Arduini
Choreography	Kate Arthur
Stage Manager/Assistant Prop Master	Mala Bhattacharya
Costume Design	Jessica Williams
Lighting and Sound Design	Murray Mann, Spencer Goodshall
Set Design	Justin Dilley, Randy Bampfield

Use this QR Code to access our Digital Program, which includes Cast and Production Team bios, a Director's Note, more information about ACT1 Theater and Program Advertisements.



Cast Bios



Chris Davis (Edward Bloom): Chris is so excited to play Edward Bloom in his first role at ACT1 Theater. Previous roles include Leo Frank in *Parade*, Jesus in *Godspell*, Bellomy in *The Fantasticks...* and UPS Guy in *Legally Blonde*. Chris would like to thank Justin and Carissa for the incredible opportunity, and his wife, Michelle, for reminding him that he likes theater and should maybe do it sometimes!



Jonah Carney (Will Bloom): Jonah began acting in 2019 with the ACT1 Theater production of *Big, the Musical*, and has done a few shows since including a dinner theater production of *Almost, Manie*. Most recently he starred as The Old Man in *A Christmas Story, the Musical*. He enjoys cooking, golf, and anything related to UGA football.



Kalyan Dilley (Young Will): Kalyan is thrilled to be onstage at ACT1 Theater! This is his debut as a performer, but he is no stranger to musical theater, thanks to his parents. Kalyan is also a drummer, a black belt in Tang Soo Do, and a soccer player. Thanks to the cast, crew, and his dad for making his first theater experience so special. Love to Mom and Hazel!



Lauren Tully (Sandra Bloom): Favorite past performances include *The Sound of Music*, *Working*, *Seussical*, and *Into The Woods*. A special thanks to Peyton and Weston, who make being a mom the most fulfilling role she'll ever play, and to Randy for all his love and support. She dedicates this performance in memory of her dad, a hero in her story.



Lily Naz (Josephine Bloom): Lily, a midwest transplant, started acting in 2014. This is her debut show with ACT1. She also works on TV and film. You can see her in live performances and online with Mighty Shorts Comedy Company. She would like to thank her family and friends for the unconditional love and support as she chases her acting dreams. Big thank you to ACT1 for this opportunity!



Courtney Willett (Jennifer Hill): Courtney previously played Tom Snout in ACT1 Theater's *A Midsummer Night's Dream. Big Fish* is their first musical. Until their acting career takes off, Courtney is a biologist working on their PhD in Genetics. When not acting, Courtney can be found kayaking, playing Dungeons & Dragons or hanging out with their cats (and loving spouse).



Emily Miller (Sandra Templeton): Emily is overjoyed to be making her ACT1 Theater debut! Favorite prior roles include Brooke Wyndham in *Legally Blonde, The Musical* and Olive Ostrovsky in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.* By day, Emily works in Customer Experience Design with Delta Air Lines, dreaming up ways to better connect the world.



Brian Gustin (The Giant/Dr. Bennett): Brian is thrilled to be making his ACT1 Theater debut! He most recently played Mr. Laurence in *Little Women* at Act3. His other favorite credits include Scrooge (*A Christmas Carol*), Curly (*Oklahoma!*), The Baker (*Into the Woods*), and Fagin (*Oliver!*). Brian also performed with the Atlanta Opera in his youth. Thank you, Justin, for the opportunity to be part this great show!



Thainara Carvalho (The Witch): ##### Thai is thrilled to be part of her first production with ACT1. Thai received her degree in vocal performance from Georgia State University back in 2020. In August she will be in Morningside's annual concert where she will sing selections from *Rent*, *Hamilton* and more! Thai currently resides in the Decatur area where she lives with her fiancé and two kitties.



Al Such (Amos Calloway): This is Al's second show with ACT1 Theater, and his first musical. A Shakespeare Nerd at heart, Al first played Peter Quince in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, but could not pass up the opportunity to audition for one of his favorite productions! Al is married to fellow cast member Courtney Willett and on the weekends enjoys hiking and camping.



Rhynne Armstrong (Don Price): Rhyne is the father of 4 children who are heavily involved with the performing arts in N. Georgia. He has appeared in *Gypsy* and *Funny Money* at the School Street Playhouse, *Barefoot in the Park* at the FoCal Center Black Box, and *Mamma Mia!* on the FoCal Center MainStage. Rhyne and his family are heavily involved with Four Scythes Haunted House where he is a haunt actor and set builder.



Ben Humphrey (Zack Price): This is Ben Humphrey's first time appearing in a production at ACT1, and his first time back on stage in 5 years. He is excited to be back and wants to thank Justin and the ACT1 team for this opportunity. Additional thanks to Chris for bringing him on board, and, as always, to Sarah, Tristan, and Logan for their support and being willing to share him with the stage.



Molly Petner (Jenny Hill): Molly is joining us from Atlanta. This marks her third show with ACT1 Theater. Previously, she has acted as Chief Elf in *A Christmas Story, the Musical* (2022) and Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2023). She is very excited to be a part of the *Big Fish* cast and would like to thank her friends and family for all of their encouragement.



Heidi Botzong (Ensemble): Heidi is excited to be in another production with ACT1 Theater. She was recently seen in *A Christmas Story, the Musical* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Heidi just graduated from Valdosta State University and will return to pursue a Master's in Deaf Education and Hard of Hearing. Thank you so much for coming. Please enjoy the show!!



Chloe Camp (Ensemble): Chloe is currently performing in her first (and hopefully not last) ACT1 Theater show as an ensemble member! She recently graduated from Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor of the Arts in Theatre & Performance Studies with a concentration in Musical Theatre. She'd like to thank her family and friends for all the love and support that's helped her get here!



Marissa Francis (Ensemble): This is Marissa's first show since she has moved to Georgia from New York. She has had a love for musicals and theater since she was a little girl. On the side, she also loves to write poetry and stories. She hopes to pursue a career in the Arts.



Blake Leaptrot (Ensemble): This show is Blake's third production with ACT 1 Theater and she is excited to perform with friends, both old and new. Blake was previously seen last year in *A Christmas Story, The Musical*, where she played the Mother. Her son, Cade, is also in this production. In her free time Blake enjoys family time, cooking and traveling!



Cade Leaptrot (Ensemble): Cade is an upcoming third grade student at King's Ridge Christian School where he participates in drama club, soccer, and piano. Cade is excited to be back at ACT1 this season for his second production. He enjoys sketching, dancing, singing, and hanging out with his friends and family!



Ethan Manson (Ensemble): Ethan Manson is a 13-year-old actor performing in his second production with ACT1, after debuting as Schwartz in *A Christmas Story, The Musical*. Prior experience includes The Businessman in *The Little Prince* and Old Man Jenkins in *SpongeBob SquarePants: The Broadway Musical*. He has loved working with this cast and hopes you enjoy the show!



Tatiana Martinez (Ensemble): Tatiana is originally from Puerto Rico and has been living in Georgia for a couple of months. This is her first time back on stage since High School and she is extremely excited to be a part of this production!



Travis Shedd (Ensemble): Travis Shedd is a seasoned theatre practitioner with countless starring and supporting roles to his credit. A former regular with Griffin-based Camelot Theatre he has also appeared with The Henry Players, GPC/TAG, and most recently as Robert Treacher in *Strangers On A Train* with Players Guild at Sugar Hill. This is his first appearance with ACT1.





Justin Dilley (Director): Justin is proud to be working with ACT1 Theater for the first time. An Ohio native, he has performed, produced and/or directed on stages in Boston, NYC & Atlanta. Most recently, he performed at Outfront Theatre in *Kinky Boots;* and he counts *Boeing, Boeing, Children of Eden, & Sweeney Todd* among his favorite directing credits. Bravo to K on his theatre debut & love to M.



Carissa Arduini (Music Director): Carissa is thrilled to be music directing Big Fish with Act1 Theater! Previous credits include *Desamor* (The Eagle Theatre) and *Remembrance* (Act1 Theater). Carissa is currently getting her teaching certification in music education at GSU. She would like to thank Justin for being such an incredible director, and her family and friends for always supporting her.



Kate Arthur (Choreographer): Kate Arthur is a singer, actor, director, and choreographer who has been dancing all of her life. Kate was most recently seen in Act1's productions of *Silent Sky* (Annie Cannon) and *A Christmas Story: The Musical* (Miss Shields). Some of her favorite past choreographer/director credits include *42nd Street, The Addams Family, Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *Anything Goes*.



Mala Bhattacharya (Stage Manager/Assistant Prop Master): Mala is new to the world of stage management but thrilled to support the cast and creative team. Her theatre performance credits include productions at Synchronicity Theatre, Aurora Theatre, Resurgens Theatre, Out of Box Theatre, Lyric Stage Company of Boston, Speakeasy Stage, and others. Mala is active in the Atlanta film and television industry and holds an M.M. in Opera Performance from the Longy School of Music of Bard. She is mom to Kalyan (Young Will) and wife to Justin (Director) and is very proud of them. Thank you for supporting this show and live theater!



Jessica Williams (Costume Designer): Jessica is an Atlanta based Actor and Costume Designer; she has been performing for 20 years and costuming for 10. She resides with her husband and two daughters in Cumming, GA. Her recent costuming credits include Almost, Maine (Subtext Dinner Theatre), Big the Musical (ACT1), Much Ado About Nothing (ACT1), Little Women (The Oak Theater), The Little Mermaid (SJBA), and Little Shop of Horrors (ACT1).



Murray Mann (Technical Lead): Murray has been providing technical services for ACT1 for more than 20 years. He has occasionally appeared on stage during that time (including the memorable role of a French man in *Death by Chocolate*) but his real passion is the technical side of theater. He manages, and often runs, the lighting and sound systems for the main stage theater as well as the more portable gear used around town. He has an electrical engineering background but writes software for a living.



Spencer Godshall (Lighting and Sound Design): Spencer is excited to be a part of his third ACT1 production. He recently graduated from Georgia College and State University with a degree in Theatre. Spencer recently designed *The Revolutionists*, *Little Women*, and *Dido and Aeneas*. Enjoy the show!



Randy Bampfield (Set Design): Randy has taken real world building experience and combined that with lots of Googling to teach himself how to build theater sets. Most recently, he designed the sets of ACT1 Theater's *Harvey, Christmas Story, the Musical, Silent Sky* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



2022 ACT1 Theater Board of Directors

President: Virginia Mann Treasurer: Arthur Colby • Secretary: Stu Moring

> Loren Collins • Christie Lee Fisher Maya Gardner • Heather Wagner

Artistic Director	Jessica Williams
Managing Director	Randy Bampfield

Director's Note

We live many stories in a single lifetime and *Big Fish* (the book, the movie and the musical) aims to capture all the tall and small tales of one Edward Bloom.

This production is purposefully rooted in staging concepts from Noh theater, a form of Classical Japanese dance-drama that has been performed since the 14th century.

Noh seeks to illustrate a vast sense of time and space while using only a small stage, incorporating simple and symbolic movements, sounds and props, and stripping away extraneous elements.

The spectacle is the STORY and we all have a story meant just for us. The entire cast and crew hopes this production helps inspire you to go and tell your story.



Welcome to ACT1 Theater!

Our Mission Statement:

ACT1 Theater is an all-volunteer outreach of Alpharetta Presbyterian Church that produces high-quality and entertaining theatrical experiences and drama education. ACT1 Theater welcomes people of all backgrounds to an inclusive, loving, supportive and joyful environment in keeping with Christian values. We encourage growth and development as individuals and fellowship among all participants.

Connect with Us:



(770) 663-8989



act1theater.org



ACT1theater

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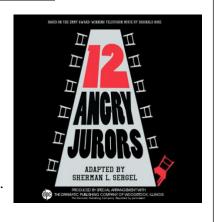
Upcoming Auditions

12 Angry Jurors

by Reginald Rose, adapted by Sherman L. Sergel

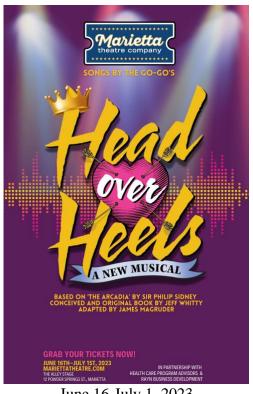
Directed by Randy Bampfield

Monday, June 19, 2023, 6-9 PM; Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 6-9 PM. Callbacks Thursday, June 22, 2023, 6-9 PM.

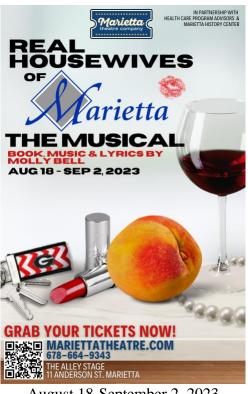


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June 16-July 1, 2023



August 18-September 2, 2023





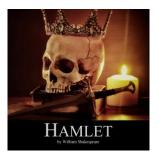
Our Partnership with the City of Alpharetta

ACT1 Theater and the <u>City of Alpharetta</u> formed a partnership in 2017. Working together, we have produced plays and vignettes of William Shakespeare outdoors in <u>Wills Park</u>, a series of songs and scenes for the City's inaugural Summer Concert Series in <u>Brooks Street Park</u>, and plays in the <u>Alpharetta Arts Center</u> intimate Black Box Theater.

We are pleased to continue this partnership during ACT1 Theater's 2023-24 season and the City of Alpharetta's 2024 Fiscal Year. As a result of this continuing partnership, we are offering these shows.

Hamlet

October 27, 28, November 3 &4, 2023 Fri at 7:30, Sat at noon and 7:30 On the Bandstand, Brooke Street Park, 2 Park Plaza, Alpharetta, GA 30009



Hamlet is Shakespeare's most popular, and most puzzling, play. It follows the form of a "revenge tragedy," in which the hero, Hamlet, seeks vengeance against his father's murderer, his uncle Claudius, now the king of Denmark. Much of its fascination, however, lies in its uncertainties. Among them: What is the Ghost—Hamlet's father demanding justice, a tempting demon, an angelic messenger? Does Hamlet go mad, or merely pretend to? Once he is sure that Claudius is a murderer, why does he not act? Was his mother, Gertrude, unfaithful to her husband or complicit in his murder?



Eurydice
February 10-18, 2024
Fri/Sat at 8 pm & Sun at 2 PM
City of Alpharetta Arts Center
Black Box Theater

Sarah Ruhl reimagines the classic myth of Orpheus through the eyes of its heroine. Dying too young on her wedding day, Eurydice must journey to the underworld, where she reunites with her father and struggles to remember her lost love. With contemporary characters, ingenious plot twists, and breathtaking visual effects, the play is a fresh look at a timeless love story.



ACT1 Theater is a proud partner and supporter of the North Fulton arts community and the organizations that support our City of Alpharetta.

ACT1 Theater is proud to partner with...



ACT1 Theater is a proud member of:





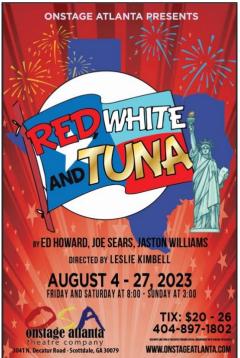
ACT1 Theater appreciates the support of...



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June 2-25, 2023



by Matthew Barbe August 4, 5, 6, Presented by Special Arrangement Dramatists Play Service, NYC August 4-12, 2023 LIONHEART PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL SUMMER KIDS SHOW THE

CENTERSTAGE NORTH PRESENTS



July 13-16, 2023



All are welcome.

Dear ACT1 Patron,

Alpharetta Presbyterian Church in downtown Alpharetta is proud to host the ACT1 Theater drama ministry and support the arts in our community.

I invite you to join us for worship at 9:30 or 11 am on Sunday mornings. We are an accepting faith community that strives to meet people where they are, ask honest and challenging questions about God and the world, and grow together as a dynamic and diverse church family.



Check out APC's website, **www.alpharettapres.com**, to learn more about our family of faith and subscribe to our e-newsletter, "The Good News." Whether through worship, music, APC Dayschool, small groups for all ages, service to neighbors in need, book club, Bible study, or mission trips, there are so many ways to build friendships and grow in faith.

Thanks again for supporting our ACT1 Theater drama ministry and enjoy the show!

Alpharetta Presbyterian Church Sunday Worship: 9:30 & 11:00 am

Infant/Toddler Nursery: 9:15am-12:15pm Sunday School: 9:30 am Ollie

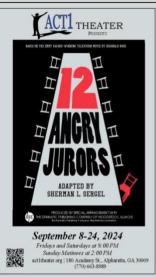
Rev. Dr. Oliver Wagner Senior Pastor

alpharettapres.com





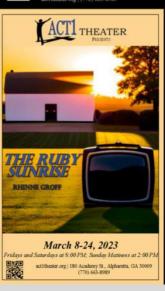
Season Subscriptions are Now on Sale for Our 2023-2024 Theatrical Season!

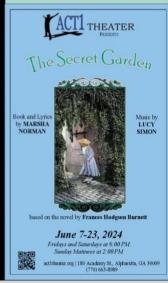












We have a 5-show subscription and a 4-show subscription which omits *Eurydice* in February.

The 5-show subscription saves you \$25 and the 4-show \$20.

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