

63RD SEASON 2023-2024



PRESENTS

Rapunzel AND THE BEANSTALK

ORIGINAL WORK BY STEPHEN TYLER DAVIS

ADDITIONAL STORY BY FFCFA
STUDENT COLLABORATOR L.J. UNDERWOOD

**Directed by
Michael Wood**

February 22-25

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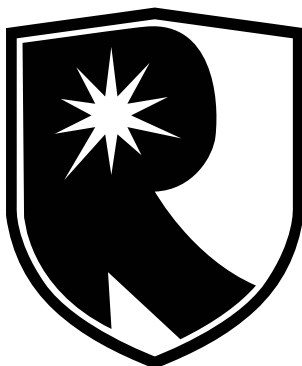


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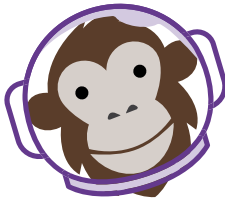
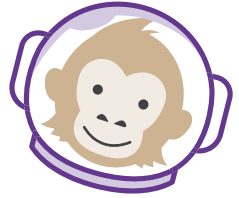

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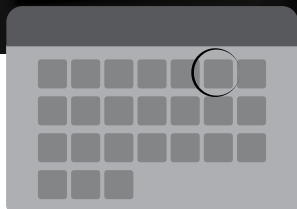


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Families and Theatre Lovers of the Tennessee Valley,

On behalf of our staff, teaching faculty, resident artists, and dedicated volunteers- we welcome you to our 63rd season of making magic at Fantasy Playhouse Children's Theater and Academy! This year we celebrate a season of new beginnings with four brand new adaptations and world premiere plays written by Alabama Authors! Our theme for 63 is **BRAVE SPACES, BRAVE STORIES**, and through each of these tales you'll meet characters who must identify their courage within to discover a better world for themselves and the world around them. Stories of kindness, teamwork, social responsibility, family, second chances, sacrifice, friendship and most of all, bravery! It's a brave new world! We are honored to produce this season of new works and so are our partners at Redstone Federal Credit Union, the Alabama State Council on the Arts, The Daniel Foundation, as well as the title sponsors of this production listed in your program.

We take great pride in creating pipelines from the classroom to the stage, to the work force, and beyond. Our community of artists can be found all over the region as engineers, educators, business owners, lawyers, doctors, nurses, and community organizers. Our partnerships with so many schools, colleges, universities, and local organizations and businesses have enriched our impact and have supported millions of Alabamians, each with their own brave story, since 1961.

The only thing missing from our magic is you! After you enjoy this production, we encourage you to check out upcoming productions, register someone in your family for our popular camps and classes, volunteer, or even audition for our next production! We also offer sensory friendly productions through our Special Stages Series, scholarships for families in need, and we never charge anyone to participate in our shows, ever. Fantasy is your one stop shop for family fun, enchanting productions, and innovative arts education programs for kids at a professional level that you won't find anywhere else. Learn about all the ways you can join the magic at www.FantasyPlayhouse.org.

Thank you for being a part of this special season. We couldn't do it without you, and we wouldn't want to! Welcome to our brave space!

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SPECIAL THANKS

Athena Cooper and Lauren Hester

Donna Foreman, GrubSouth, Independent Musical Productions,
Olivia Skillern/Grissom High Theatre, Priscilla Underwood,
Jenni & Lennon Wood, Taco Mama, Tennessee Valley Living WAFF 48, WHNT, UAH

...and to all others who pitched in after this program went to print!!

**THANK YOU
★ FOR BEING A
★ PART OF THE MAGIC! ★**



FANTASY PLAYHOUSE CHILDREN'S THEATER & ACADEMY PRODUCTION #221



Directed by Michael Wood

Original Work by Stephen Tyler Davis

With additional story by FPCTA Student Collaborator L.J. Underwood

Assistant Director: Mark Moore · Student Director: Ruby Hudgins

Choreographer: Jessica Alexander Bradley · Technical Director: Benton Reed

Production Manager: Joanna White · Artistic Director: Stephen Tyler Davis

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Bean Man	Zachary Ivey
Lemon	Penny Hester
Lime	Mac Wood
Fruit Lady	Amy Hester
Rapunzel	Bella Shuman
Jaq	Dylan Ragland
Willy Walliwart	Natalie Fields
Wanda Walliwart	Fathia Hardy
Wappo	Michael Becher
Tip Tapestry	Tony Comer
Billy Blacksmith	Davis Bigelow
Patty Cake	Sam Kuetemeyer
Basket Bassandra	Ava Hewlett
Townsperson Peggy	Amy Lawson
Town Crier	Amiyah Johnson
Zoomie	Addy Gottlieb
Little One	Justin Hudgins
Ensemble	Olivia Bumbalough, Nikkia Dollar, Nikki Fields, Kylie Harden, Emily Jimmerson, Jonah Lawson, Dylan McComb, Adeline Mixson, Clara Monroe, Norah Nance, Brendan Philpott, Esther Pierce, April Schonrock, Kayla Schonrock, LJ Underwood, Jacob White



MAGIC MAKERS BEHIND THE SCENES

Stage Manager	Kendra Kizer
Assistant Stage Manager	Ashley Jablonski
Student Stage Manager	Savannah Sumner
Stage Crew	Janet Davis, Matt Davis, Emma Jean Lowder, Deirdre Mixson, Lewis Morris, Ben Scarborough
Student Production Manager	Avery Schmitt
Composer & Sound Designer	Stacy Morris
Technical Advisor	Lynn Broad
Fly Master	Scott Trites
Set Build & Scenic Team	Kelly Brannon, Janet Davis, Matt Davis, Eden Hashman, James Hashman, Malik Hardy, Carter Hewlett, Ava Hewlett, Zachary Ivey, Teresa Kennemer, Amy Lawson, Jonah Lawson, Deidre Mixson, Harvey Mixson, Tom Prohaska, Ben Scarborough
Makeup Co-Directors	Elena Ontiveros, Lunar Wall
Makeup Team	Charelle Hudgins, Anna Marker, Emma Soto, Jana Waters, Emma Walther
Hair Director	Jackson Clifton
Costume Designer	Gillian Stocks
Costume Team	Gay Broad, Jessica Bumbalough, Beth Keys, Anne Martin, Mendy Pierce, Rebekah Pierce, Michelle Rutherford, Jason Rutherford, Jenna Rutherford, Adrine Seckin, Stephanie Sheppard, Faith Taylor, Kya Taylor, Nola White
Lighting Designer	Issac Gentle
Lighting Crew	Bakari Prigg
Sound Designer/Operator	CEVA
Sound Crew	Stacy Morris, Beth Soto, Benji Prichard, Jeremiah Williams
Properties Manager	Julia Ramsey
Hospitality/Backstage Crew	Andrea Brown, Nora Gottlieb, Kritsana Harden, Scott Harden, Josh Hudgins, Emmitt Jimmerson
House Manager	L. Enitza Gillespie
Box Office Manager	Andrea Boswell
Artistic Director & Playwright	Stephen Tyler Davis
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Guest Service Team	Kelly Brannon, Sallie Keene Denton, Malik Hardy, Farrah Hardy, Teresa Kennemer, Erin Holt, Audrey Morgan, Kristin Nancer, Annie Rapiere, Rachel Schonrock, Shannon Nixon, Chase Nixon, Abby Wilkerson, Haley Wilkerson

CAST & CREW BIOS

LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY CAST & CREW

Michael Becher (*Wappo*) This is Michael's first FPCTA show and first non-musical since 2007! He's performed with AAA, LHS, MSU, IMP, HCCA, and Everest Theatre.

Davis Bigelow (*Billy Blacksmith*) Is just happy to be here. This is only his second FPCTA show after *Christmas Carol* in December. This is also his first show as a legal adult which is both cool and terrifying. He thanks his parents for forcing him to try theater 8 years ago and he hopes you like the show!

Olivia Bumbalough (*Ensemble*) I'm a senior at Lee High School in the Performance Theatre Magnet. This will be my first FPCTA Performance, however I worked with FPCTA on *Charlotte's Web* as Student Director, and I loved it! I am so excited to be doing this show before going off to college and being part of the first ever cast to perform it! Thank you to Michael and Stephan for this opportunity! An even bigger thank you to my Mom, Dad, Nana, and Granddaddy who support everything I do, even if no matter what! Enjoy the show!

Tony Comer (*Tip Tapestry*) is excited to be back in the FPCTA business. The last FPCTA show I was in was *Pinocchio* back in 2017, but that was over 6 years ago! I am so thankful for all the people who got me here today, whether it's my family, friends, or teachers.

Nikkia Dollar (*Ensemble*) is excited to return for the 2nd time this season in her 5th production with FPCTA! When she's not on stage, she's developed a knack for props and has been seen lending a hand with hair, makeup, and helping as needed behind the scenes.

Nicole (Nikki) Fields (*Ensemble*) I was the Magic Mirror in FPCTA's *Snow White* 15 years ago. Since then, I have worked behind the scenes, front of house & served on the production council. Excited to be on stage again with my daughter Natalie. Thankful for my supportive family. #FPCTAforlife #Supportingthearts

Natalie Fields (*Willy Walliwart*) Is Willy Willy excited to be apart of the FPCTA Magic. She may or may not look exactly like a Little named Peeve who also happens to be from Nysland.

Addy Gottlieb (*Zoomie*) Alabamian, Book dragon, Cheese fiend

Kylie Harden (*Ensemble*) is having a blast with her first stage experience. Thanks to FPCTA for giving her this chance to explore drama and the performing arts.

Fathia Hardy (*Wanda Walliwart*) is excited to make magic in her second mainstage production with FPCTA. UAH Director by day and actor/mom of 2 by night. Some previous notable roles include Mrs. Fred in *A Christmas Carol*; Taylor in *High School Musical*; Sour Kangaroo in *Seussical the Musical*; and Cha-Cha in *Grease*. Fathia also serves FPCTA as a Board Member, Secretary and FPCTA parent. She is passionate about supporting the mission of "teaching life skills through stage skills".

Amy Hester (*Fruit Lady*) As a self-described "community theater junky" in her youth, Amy is beyond excited to be back on the stage. This is her first performance in many years since taking on the role of Mom, so having the opportunity to share this experience with her real life daughters is the icing on the (fruit)cake. Love you, Brad!!!



CAST & CREW BIOS

LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY CAST & CREW

Penny Hester (*Lemon*) is so excited to be in her second FPCTA production; she first fell in love with this amazing community when she was in *The Jungle Book*. When not at play practice, she can be found baking in the kitchen, and dog-sitting around her neighborhood.

Ava Hewlett (*Basket Bassandra*) When not causing chaos, Ava is writing, acting, and singing in whatever production she can. Excited to make her main-stage debut at FPCTA.

Justin Hudgins (*Little One*) is very excited to reprise the role of Little One in the magical town of Nysland and his Fantasy Family. 6th grade honor student at the Academy for Academics and Arts and avid gamer. Thanks to Daddy for letting me play my Sport.

Zachary Ivey (*Bean Man*) is thrilled to return to the FPCTA stage after last appearing in *Sleeping Beauty* (2010). Favorite past roles include Edna Turnblad in *Hairspray* and William Barfee in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

Emily Jimmerson (*Ensemble*) is so excited to be in her first main stage performance! Normally behind the scenes or at the merch booth, she is trying her hand at the onstage thing! Always remember to live like today is your last day!

Amiyah Johnson (*Town Crier*) My first Show was *The Hobbit* in 2020. I'm very excited to do another show! I'm 17 and a high school student.

Sam Kuetemeyer (*Patty Cake*) is so excited to be an actor in their first ever show! You can usually catch Sam backstage or in the costume shop at The Lee High School Technical Theater Magnet. They are super excited for this change of pace and is looking forward to being in more FPCTA shows in the future!

Jonah Lawson (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be in his first FPCTA performance! When he isn't on stage, he enjoys soccer, video games, and chess.

Amy Lawson (*Townsperson Peggy*) is so grateful for the opportunity to be on stage with her kiddo Jonah! Amy played Missy in Theatre Huntsville 's productions of *The Marvelous Wonderettes* and *Winter Wonderettes*, and this is her first show with FPCTA.

Dylan McComb (*Ensemble*) This is Dylan's first show ever. He is thrilled to experience it with FPCTA!! He enjoys playing baseball and football.

Adeline Mixson (*Ensemble*) This is her first show and excited to add theater to her list of hobbies. She also enjoys ballet, is on her Math Team at school, baton twirling and annoying her little brother (proficient)

Clara Monroe (*Ensemble*) is a fifth grader at Jones Valley Elementary. She's thrilled to be part of her first regular season FPCTA production, after performing four years in *A Christmas Carol*. She's also loved performing in the local high school musicals for the last six years with favorite parts including Young Fiona in *Shrek* at Grissom (2021) and Young Anastasia in *Anastasia* at Huntsville (2022). Rapunzel has been a long favorite and she's so excited to be a storyteller in this newly adapted, mashup show.

CAST & CREW BIOS

LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY CAST & CREW

Norah Nance (*Ensemble*) is a lifelong theater kid with a special place in her heart for FPCTA. This will be her second time onstage for FPCTA after performing in *A Christmas Carol* as Martha Cratchit in 2022.

Brendan Philpott (*Ensemble*) has been involved in a few shows in the roles of Donkey in *Shrek The Musical Jr.* and Mr. Mayor in the play *Suessical Jr.* He enjoys making skits, content creation, and playing video games. Brendan looks forward to his first play with FPCTA. Brendan could not do any of this without his lovely mom and family's support.

Esther Pierce (*Ensemble*) is happy to be in her first FPCTA Production. She has previously been a Baby Spider in *Charlotte's Web* and a Lost Boy in *Peter Pan*, both with GHS Theatre.

Dylan Ragland (*Jaq*) is excited about being in another awesome show with FPCTA. Dylan loves everything about FPCTA and is happy to call it his second home, where he can perform and be his natural self.

Kayla Schonrock (*Ensemble*) Is a junior in high school and is so excited to be following up *A Christmas Carol* with *Rapunzel and the Beanstalk*. She would like to thank her family, especially her younger sister, for helping her with her acting. She hopes you enjoy the show!!

April Schonrock (*Ensemble*) Though not a stranger to the stage (or back stage) around Huntsville, April is excited to be on stage in her first FPCTA Mainstage production, and is especially excited to be sharing the experience with her daughters. Many thanks to her supportive family and friends. Enjoy the show!

Bella Shuman (*Rapunzel*) is excited to be participating in my first FPCTA production! I'm so happy to be sharing the stage with all of these amazing individuals. Being able to participate in this is going to be an amazing experience!!

L.J. Underwood (*Ensemble*) is a 14 year old actor and writer performing in her second FPCTA mainstage play. In addition to acting in *Charlotte's Web* (2022), she was a student dramaturg for *A Christmas Carol* (2023), and a student collaborator and dramaturg for *Rapunzel and the Beanstalk*. From working with #stephentylerdavis in the writer's room to performing on stage, L.J. has loved every second of being a part of this show.

Jacob White (*Ensemble*) is so excited to be in this new show! He's a 4th grader at AAA who loves video games and his friends. He's proud to be in this one with his pal Mac. Jacob thanks his parents and siblings for getting him into theater, and sends his NYC Aunt Katie a big break a leg!

Mac Wood (*Lime*) is very excited to be in another FPCTA show! Thank you to Mommy, Lennon, and Daddy for your help and Ms. Elena for the guidance.

★ TO: AVA HEWLETT ★

FROM: SHANE, KELLY & CARTER

★
CONGRATS TO OUR VERY OWN BASKET BASSANADRA!
★



CAST & CREW BIOS

LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY CAST & CREW

Issac Gentle (*Lighting Designer*) Once an actor doing shows with FPCTA and AAA at an early age, Isaac started doing lighting in 6th grade at AAA, eventually moving to Lee in high school to pursue lighting design, running the lights for *The Wiz*, *Sister Act*, *The Little Mermaid*, dance shows, and many more!

Ruby Hudgins (*Student Director*) is excited for her 9th FPCTA show, but this time trying something new! Her favorite tech credits include Stage Manager for FPCTA's *Snow White and the 7 Littles*, and Grissom High School's *Lafayette No. 1*. She would like to thank Michael for this amazing opportunity, and her family for dealing with her crazy schedule, especially her dad for driving her around everywhere. Enjoy the show!

Kendra Kizer (*Stage Manager*) has stage managed from Dollywood to Disney, but she started right here as a #fantasykid.

Savannah Sumner (*Student Stage Manager*) is thrilled to be working as the Student Stage Manager for *Rapunzel And The Beanstalk!* Sav is a student in the Technical Theatre Magnet at Lee High School. She would like to thank her friends and family for always supporting her, the amazing Fantasy family for giving her this opportunity and finally, she wants to thank Kendra and Ashley for being the best stage management team a girl could ask for! Enjoy!

Gillian Stocks (*Costume Director*) fell into costuming at Lee High School and has been costuming shows for the last six years. She is thrilled to bring her talents to FPCTA, but cannot create magic without her fabulous and every growing team of talented friends. She would like to thank her Husband Steve, Everyone who has help make this show come to life, and Steven Tyler Davis for making FPCTA a fun place to create and not taking "no" as an answer!

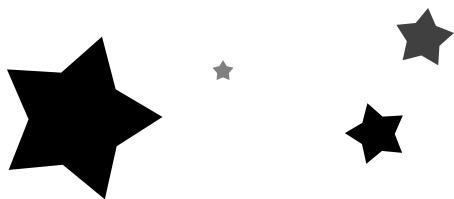
Joanna White (*Production Manager*) is a proud #FantasyKid who loves helping theater people make magic happen! She's thankful for the opportunities FPCTA creates for families to volunteer onstage & offstage together. Congratulations to Jacob on his first FPCTA show not set in London! Thanks to Jeff, Nola, & the fam, & BREAK A LEG to #FantasyKid Katie who makes her Broadway debut this month!

Michael Wood (*Director*) I'm very excited to be directing such an amazing cast! The crew has been the absolute best. Thank you to Jenni and Lennon for their support. Mac break a leg!

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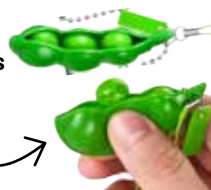
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David Parrish, (American, 1939-2021), *Goldwing*, 2016. Oil on canvas, 38 x 50 in. Huntsville Museum of Art, Bequest, 2023.07.07. ©Artist's Estate, 2023



David Parrish, (American, 1939-2021), *The Duke & the King*, 1991. Oil on canvas, 73 x 109 in. Huntsville Museum of Art, Bequest, 2023.07.01. ©Artist's Estate, 2023

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2023 4:00 pm
First Baptist Church

Nathan Laube, Organ

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023 7:30 pm
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American Spiritual Ensemble

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024 5:00 pm
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Lawrence Brownlee, Tenor

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024 5:00 pm
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FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024 7:30 pm
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Annual Fundraising Event
 Saturday, February 10, 2024 | 4:30pm
 Stone Event Center - Campus 805



Veterans Salute with Rocket City Bones
 Friday, November 10, 2023 | 7:00pm
 Trinity United Methodist Church



Songs of Travel
 Friday, May 3, 2024 | 7:00pm
 Covenant Presbyterian Church
 Sunday, May 5, 2024 | 3:00pm
 Monte Sano United Methodist Church



Under the Mistletoe
 Friday, December 1, 2023 | 7:00pm
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Collaboration with Huntsville Youth Orchestra
"Saint Nicolas" Benjamin Britten, Guest Soloist — David Tayloe
Trinity United Methodist Church

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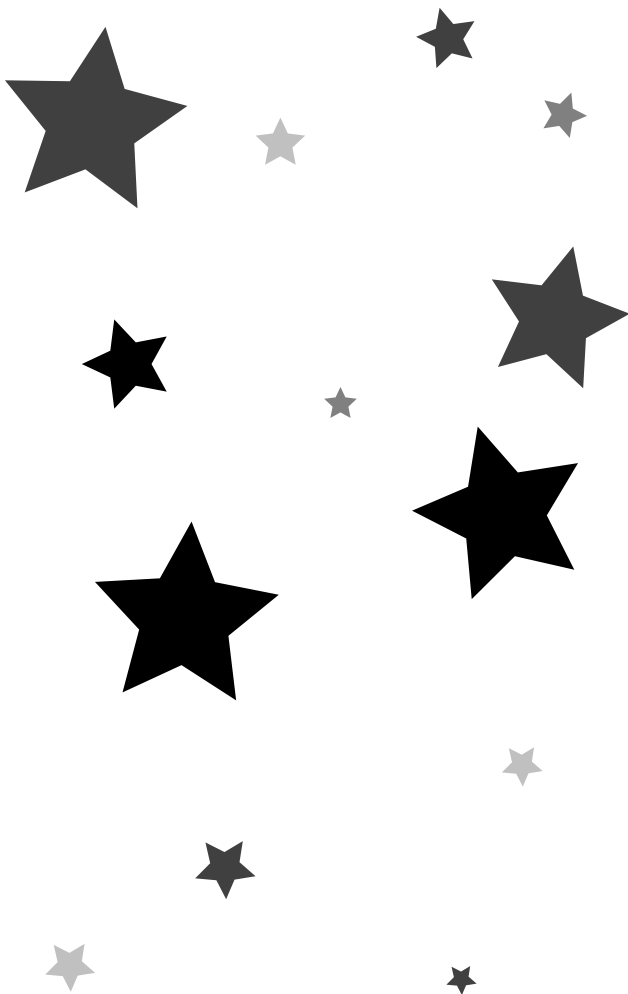
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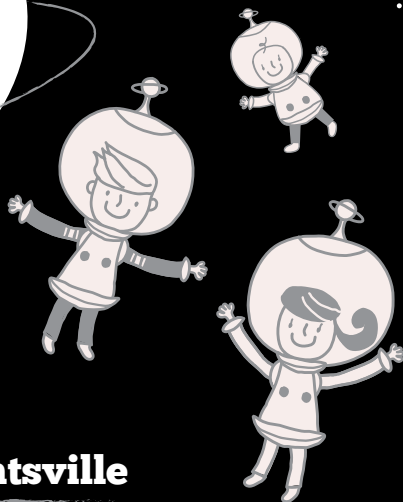
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