THE GENTER PLAYERS (CMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS



## BY BARBARA ROBINSON

DIRECTOR BRADLEY DAVIS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

## December 21-23



THE CENTER PLAYERS COMMUNITY THEATRE 2023 SEASON

Madioon the city

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"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

## THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

### WRITTEN BY BARBARA ROBINSON

DIRECTOR BRADLEY DAVIS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

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is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

program by: www.jamescovingtonmtdd.com/design

#### NOTE TO AUDIENCE



The videotaping or audio and/or visual recording of this production is a violation of United States Copyright Law and is an actionable federal offense.



Please respect the actors on stage and your neighbor by turning off all cell phones, pagers, and chiming watches.



Please be advised the use of tobacco is strictly prohibited at the Madison Square Center for the Arts. The characters are using props on stage.



Please be advised that theatrical special effects such as fire alarm and screaming sound effects are used in this production.

#### Meet The Directors



#### Bradley Davis - Director

Bradley is an International man of mystery. He was born and raised in Mississippi, where he participated in show choir and musical theater at Madison Middle School and Madison Central High School. Bradlev then studied Vocal Performance at Tougaloo College and the University of Southern Mississippi. After taking a gap year to focus on his recent signing to Nettwerk Music Group, Bradley is now a full-time recording artist. He is also the Founder of Davis Dance Demonstrations, where he does professional choreography for musicals and show choirs all over the state of Mississippi. In addition, he is Dance Instructor/Choreographer for Madison Summer Arts Camp. Bradley was most recently seen on the Center Players' stage as Mr. Boddy and looks forward to making his directorial debut with The Best Christmas Pageant Ever



#### Wyatt Wilson - Assistant Director

Wyatt is a graduate of The University of Mississippi with a BA in Theatre Arts. Wyatt was most recently onstage in *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Into the Woods* at Ole Miss. Wyatt has been performing in the Madison area for over a decade making his debut in *Nifty Fifties* at MMS, and he was most recently seen as Mr. Green in *Clue* at Center Players. Wyatt is the purple group counselor at Madison Summer Arts Camp where his favorite moments include hanging set pieces from the ceiling. He looks forward to assistant directing *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* for the Center Players Community Theatre.

#### **Special Thank You**

City of Madison, Mayor Mary Hawkins Butler, Amy Cummins, Lucy Weber, Richard Maddox, JP Martin, The Resource Center at Trace Ridge Church, Madison Fire Department, Madison Civinettes, Junior Auxiliary of Madison County, Christ Covenant School Theatre Department

#### The Cast

Grace Bradley	Katy Mayhan	
Bob Bradley	Parker Montgomery	
Beth Bradley	Campbell Haindel	
Charlie Bradley	Judah Britt	
Ralph Herdman	Conner Quinn	
Imogene Herdman	Elizabeth Yeager	
Leroy Herdman	Scott Thomas Murphy	
Claude Herdman	Adelaide Kirk	
Ollie Herdman	Gray Jones	
Gladys Herdman	Sloane Montgomery	
Alice Wendleken	Emily Kay Kirk	
Maxine	Peyton Anderson	
Elmer Hopkins	Miles Agent	
Hobie Clark	James Pickle	
David	Cohen Mader	
Beverly	Benna Britt	
Shirley	Madeleine Wylie	
Juanita	Cosette Anderson	
Doris	Greta Ethridge	
Shepherd	Mason Quinn	
Helen Armstrong	Amy Page	
Mrs. McCarthy	Hope Cuevas	
Irma Slocum	Ruthie Largen	
Mrs. Clark	Morgan Trusty	
Mrs. Clausing	Lizzy Bumgarner	
Reverend Hopkins	Isaac Kelly	
Firemen	Cannon Kirk, JP Murphy	
Head Angels	. Olivia Heeren, Ainsley Karlson	
Baby Angels Avery Heeren, Emerson Heeren, Savannah Kettler,		
Clara K	irk, Abigail Pickle, Berit Warren	

#### The Cast

Angel Ch	oir Sadie Bramlett, Emma Carlisle, Gracyn Dilley,
	Evey Harrison, Ashlyn Heeren, Ava Ledford, Emmy Ledford,
	Hallie Grace Murphy, Caroline Pickle, Mary Alden Ratcliff,
	Elsie Sligh, Ava Sullivan, Isabella Will
Carolers .	Miles Agent, Peyton Anderson, Olivia Heeren,
	Ainsley Karlson, Emily Kay Kirk, Ruthie Largen, Ava Ledford,
	Cohen Mader, Amy Page, Ava Sullivan, Morgan Trusty
Duet	
Solo	Mary Alden Ratcliff
Cameos	Omari Daniels, Corey Daniels,
	Benton Donahue

#### The Crew

Director	Bradley Davis
Assistant Director	Wyatt Wilson
Technical Director	Callie Jackson
Stage Manager	Benton Donahue
Assistant Stage Manger	Landry Mader
Technical Assistant	Ella Joyner
Lighting Designer	James Covington
Sound Designer	Callie Jackson
Choreography	Casey Pierce
Set Construction	Ben Haindel, Courtney Haindel,
	Phoebe Whitley, Landry Mader,
	Megan Mayhan, Cast Parents
Producer	Megan Mayhan
Production Assistant	Mandy Hackman
Graphic and Media Design	James Covington
Headshot Photographer	Ashlee Britt







Juanita





**Cosette Anderson Peyton Anderson** Maxine / Caroler

Sadie Bramlett Angel



Benna Britt Beverly



**Judah Britt** Charlie Bradley



Lizzy Bumgarner Mrs. Clausing



**Emma Carlisle** Angel



**Hope Cuevas** Mrs. McCarthy



**Gracyn Dilley** Angel



Greta Ethridge Doris



**Campbell Haindel** Beth Bradley



**Evey Harrison** Angel



**Ashlyn Heeren** Angel



**Avery Heeren** Baby Angel



**Emerson Heeren** Baby Angel



**Olivia Heeren** Head Angel / Caroler



**Gray Jones** Ollie Herdman



**Ainsley Karlson** Angel / Caroler



Issac Kelly **Reverend Hopkins** 



Savannah Kettler Baby Angel



Adelaide Kirk Claude Herdman



**Canon Kirk** Fireman / Orderly



Clara Kirk Baby Angel



**Emily Kay Kirk** Alice Wendleken / Caroler



**Ruthie Largen** Irma Slocum / Caroler



Ava Ledford Angel / Caroler



**Emmy Ledford** Angel



**Cohen Mader** David / Caroler



Katy Mayhan Grace Bradley



Parker Montgomery Sloane Montgomery Bob Bradley



Gladys Herdman



Hallie Grace Murphy Angel



JP Murphy Fireman



Scott Thomas Murphy Leroy Herdman



Amy Page Helen Armstrong / Caroler



Abigail Pickle Baby Angel



Caroline Pickle Angel



James Pickle Hobie Clark



**Conner Quinn** Ralph Herdman



Mason Quinn Shepherd



Mary Alden Ratcliff Angel / Soloist



Elsie Sligh Angel



Ava Sullivan Angel / Caroler



Morgan Trusty Mrs. Clark / Caroler



Berit Warren Baby Angel



Isabella Will Angel



Madeline Wylie Shirley



Elizabeth Yeager Imogene Herdman



James Covington Lighting / Media Design



Benton Donahue Stage Manager



Mandy Hackman Production Assistant



Callie Jackson Technical Director



**Ella Joyner** Technical Assistant



Landry Mader Assistant Stage Manager



Megan Mayhan Producer



#### Miles Agent - Elmer Hopkins / Caroler

Miles, son of Rush and Allison Agent, is an 8th grader at Madison Middle, where he is a member of Student Council, Beta Club, and Kaleidoscope Show Choir. When he is not performing on stage, he enjoys reading, playing video games, and staying active in his church. Miles was most recently seen on stage as SpongeBob in the Summer Arts Camp production of *The SpongeBob Musical*, and as Ryan Evans in *High School Musical*, *Jr.* at MMS.

#### Cosette Anderson - Juanita

Cosette is a 5th grader at Madison Station Elementary, where she is a member of the Honor Choir. She is thrilled to be making her debut performance with Center Players in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*!

#### Peyton Anderson - Maxine / Caroler

Peyton is an 8th grader at Madison Middle School, where she is a member of Kaleidoscope Show Choir and Beta Club. Peyton is a veteran of Madison Summer Arts Camp, but her most recent appearance onstage was as Taylor in the MMS production of *High School Musical, Jr*. She is excited to be a part of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*!

#### Sadie Bramlett - Angel

Sadie is the daughter of Bubba and Celeste Bramlett and is in the 5th grade at Madison Station Elementary. She is an avid reader, painter, and fan of all things involving creativity, and she also loves to play basketball and volleyball with her friends. Sadie played the role of Baby Angel Shirley in the 2021 production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and is excited to be a member of this cast once again.

#### Benna Britt - Beverly

Benna is a 5th grader at Madison Avenue Upper Elementary where she is a member of Voices, Strings, and Pathways. Benna loves dancing, playing the piano, painting, and being creative. Benna is tickled to make her Center Players debut as Beverly.

#### Judah Britt - Charlie Bradley

Judah is excited to make his Center Players debut as Charlie Bradley. Judah is a 3rd grader at Madison Avenue Upper Elementary, where he is in Pathways and Strings. His interests include Minecraft, horticulture, and chickens. Judah enjoys all things outdoors and hopes his acting career will earn him enough money to buy a farm.

#### Lizzy Bumgarner - Mrs. Clausing

Lizzy Bumgarner is a freshman at MRA. She had worked backstage for musicals such as *Seussical*, *Addams Family Jr.*, *Freaky Friday*, and MRA's production of *Into the Woods Jr*. Lizzy is very excited to be making her Center Players debut as Mrs. Clausing.

#### Emma Carlisle - Angel

Emma, a fifth grader at Madison Station Elementary, is excited to make her Center Players debut. Emma enjoys ballet and has performed in Ballet Mississippi's *The Nutcracker* for several years. She also enjoys lessons in piano, voice, and violin.

#### Hope Cuevas - Mrs. McCarthy

Hope is thrilled to make her Center Players debut in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*! She is a junior at Madison Central and is a member of the choir and Thespian Troupe 5251. Hope's most recent onstage appearance was as a shepherd in Madison Central's production of *Beauty and the Beast*.

#### Gracyn Dilley - Angel

Gracyn, daughter of Adam and Jessica Dilley, is in 6th grade at Madison Middle School, where she most recently appeared on stage in *High School Musical Jr*. She was seen before that in *The SpongeBob Musical* at Madison Summer Arts Camp. Gracyn is active in soccer, theater, and art.

#### Greta Ethridge- Doris

Greta is a 3rd grade homeschooler from Madison, and she is excited to make her Center Players debut in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*! She enjoys skating and riding her bike with friends, learning French and drawing. Greta has been on stage in programs with her homeschool enrichment class and has been in her church's Christmas pageant – twice as an angel and once as Mary.

#### Campbell Haindel - Beth Bradley

Campbell is an 8th grader at Madison-Ridgeland Academy, where she is on Student Council and active in MRA theater, as well as in Madison Summer Arts Camp productions. She is a self-proclaimed indoorsy book nerd and die-hard theater kid. Campbell was most recently seen as the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods, Jr.* for MRA.

#### Evey Harrison - Angel

Every is excited to perform in her second production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, having previously played Doris in 2021. She is a 6th grader at Madison Middle School, where she is a member of the choir. She is a competitive dancer with Repeat Performance and has performed in several local youth theater productions including *All Shook Up*, *The SpongeBob Musical*, *Aladdin*, *Matilda*, and *High School Musical*.

#### Ashlyn Heeren - Angel

Ashlyn is a 6th grader at Madison Middle School and is very talented at gymnastics and cheer. She loves being a part of Madison Middle's state honor choir, as well as participating in MMS plays like *High School Musical, Jr.* Ashlyn can't wait to make her Center Players debut and perform with her sisters!

#### Avery Heeren - Baby Angel

Avery is a 1st grader at Madison Station Elementary. She enjoys gymnastics, hiking, and singing & dancing with her sisters! Avery is so excited to make her Center Players debut and can't wait to join her 3 sisters on stage!

#### Emerson Heeren - Baby Angel

Emerson is a 2nd grader at Madison Station Elementary. Emerson loves to perform, but she also enjoys singing, dancing, drawing, and hiking. Emerson is thrilled to be up on stage with her sisters and so excited to make her Center Players debut!

#### Olivia Heeren - Head Angel / Caroler

Olivia is a freshman at Rosa Scott and is a member of Renown show choir. She loves participating in plays and musicals, as well as drawing and traveling with her family. Olivia is a veteran of Madison Summer Arts Camp and loves performing at Center Players. All four sisters are appearing on stage together in this production.

#### Gray Jones - Ollie Herdman

Gray Jones is the son of Laurie and Brandon Jones. He is an 8th grader at Madison Middle School, where he is a member of the Kaleidoscope Show Choir. Gray most recently appeared as Old Man Jenkins in *The SpongeBob Musical* for Summer Arts Camp.

#### Ainsley Karlson - Head Angel / Caroler

Ainsley is a freshman at Rosa Scott. She is a member of the Encore Elite Dance Company, Beta Club, and Girl Scouts; and she plays piano and sings with Mrs. Allison Jenkins. Ainsley is an artist who crochets (and has her own small business) and paints. She is a singer, dancer, and world traveler, visiting Norway, Sweden, Iceland, Ireland and many more. Production credits include the New Stage Youth Troup, Madison Summer Arts Camp, Madison Middle School, and Madison Central High School.

#### Isaac Kelly - Reverend Hopkins

Isaac is a sophomore at Madison Central High School, where he is a member of Reveille Show Choir and Thespian Troupe 5251. Isaac was most recently seen as the Tavern Master in Madison Central's *Beauty and the Beast*. Isaac enjoys playing guitar and producing music in his free time.

#### Savannah Kettler - Baby Angel

Recently turned 4 years old, Savannah is thrilled to make her theatrical debut on the Center Players stage. She enjoys singing, dancing, and telling her little sister what to do. As the youngest cast member, Savannah cannot wait for the audience to see her as a Baby Angel in her first "big girl show."

#### Adelaide Kirk - Claude Herdman

Adelaide, daughter of Molly and Matthew Kirk, is an 8th grader at Madison Middle School, where she is a member of the dance team and Kaleidoscope show choir. Adelaide is a Center Players and Summer Arts Camp veteran, who first appeared in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* for Center Players as a Baby Angel in 2015 and then again as Gladys in 2021. Adelaide would like to thank Bradley and Wyatt for their direction and for this opportunity.

#### Cannon Kirk - Fireman

Cannon is the 8th grade son of Molly and Matthew Kirk. He enjoys running on the Madison Middle cross country team. He also likes to play soccer, basketball, and video games. Cannon was most recently seen in *High School Musical*, *Jr.* for MMS and *The SpongeBob Musical* at Madison Summer Arts Camp. This marks Cannon's third time appearing in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* after first appearing in 2015 as a precious baby sheep. **12** 

#### Cast Bios

#### Clara Kirk - Baby Angel

Clara, a lover of all things pink and sparkly, is the daughter of Molly and Matthew Kirk. She is a kindergartener at Madison Avenue Elementary School. She is thrilled to join the "big kids" on the stage and is appearing for the first time ever with all of her siblings on stage. Clara looks forward to doing this show again in the future when she can be Gladys.

#### Emily Kay Kirk - Alice Wendelken / Caroler

Emily Kay is the daughter of Molly and Matthew Kirk. She is a sophomore at Madison Central, where she is a member of Reveille Show Choir. Emily Kay was most recently seen as Pearl in *The SpongeBob Musical* at Summer Arts Camp. Emily Kay played shepherdess Hobie in 2015, Ollie Herdman in 2021, and is thankful for the opportunity to be in the show again. This show marks the first time that all four Kirk siblings have appeared on stage together.

#### Ruthie Largen - Irma Slocum / Duettist / Caroler

Ruthie is a freshman at Rosa Scott High School, where she is secretary of the Beta Club, as well as a member of the MC Aquajags swim team and the Rosa Scott Chamber Choir. Ruthie's previous roles include Aunt Em in *The Wizard of Oz* at MMS and Silly Girl in *Beauty and the Beast* at Madison Central. She is so excited to share the stage with such talented cast mates!

#### Ava Ledford - Angel / Caroler

Ava Lee Ledford is the daughter of Leah and Bryan Ledford of Madison. She is an 8th grader at Madison Middle School, where she is a member of the cheer team and Kadence show choir. Ava Lee most recently appeared as Martha in *High School Musical, Jr.* at MMS and as Amanda in *Matilda the Musical, Jr.* with Rising Stars. Ava is also a veteran of Summer Arts Camp, where she has appeared in *Descendants, All Shook Up*, and *The SpongeBob Musical*.

#### Emmy Ledford - Angel

Emmy Ledford is the daughter of Leah and Bryan Ledford of Madison. Emmy is a veteran of Summer Arts Camp, where she has appeared in *All Shook Up* and *The SpongeBob Musical*. She is excited to take the stage in her first major production with her beloved sister Ava Lee.

#### Cohen Mader- David / Caroler

Cohen has been in multiple productions with Madison Middle School, Summer Arts Camp, and Center Players. He most recently appeared as Troy Bolton in *High School Musical, Jr.* and Professor Marvel in *The Wizard of Oz* at MMS. Cohen is excited to play David for the second time in this production!

#### Katy Mayhan - Grace Bradley

Katy is a senior at Madison Central High School, where she is a member of Reveille Show Choir and 30+ Club, Vice President for Thespian Troupe 5251, and an alum of Renown and Radiance Show Choirs. Katy is also a Mississippi Thespian State Officer, as well as an active member of Mayor's Youth Council and Madison Civinettes. Katy was most recently seen on the Center Players' stage as Milky White in *Into the Woods*. Katy is honored to revisit the role of Grace after playing the role in 2021. Katy's first appearance in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* was in 2015, when she appeared as Gladys and began the legacy of the Pikachu hat.

#### Parker Montgomery - Bob Bradley

Parker is a junior at Madison Central High School, where he is a member of Reveille Show Choir, Thespian Troupe 5251, and the football team. Parker is also an expert kickball player. He most recently appeared as the Giant and Other Cow in *Into the Woods* at Center Players and crazy old Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast* at MCHS.

#### Sloane Montgomery - Gladys Herdman

Sloane is making her Center Players debut as Gladys Herdman. She was recently in the children's ensemble in the Rising Stars production of *Matilda, Jr*. Sloane is in 4th grade at Madison Station Elementary, where she enjoys Art, Strings, and Pathways. She loves tennis, Harry Potter, traveling with her mom and dad, and playing with her Goldendoodle bestie, Moonpie.

#### Hallie Grace Murphy - Angel

Hallie Grace is a 3rd grader at MRA. She is making her Center Players debut and is especially proud to be sharing the stage with her two brothers. She looks forward to being old enough to attend Madison Summer Arts Camp!

#### JP Murphy - Fireman

JP is the son of Michael and Jill Murphy and is an 11th grader at Madison Ridgeland Academy. He is a member of the choir, as well as the football and baseball teams at MRA. John Patrick has had many memorable roles on stage, including the skull busting Delancey in *Newsies*, Uncle in *Charlotte's Web*, and Mr. Krabs in *The SpongeBob Musical*. He has also been in MRA productions since he was a fourth grader. He is thrilled to be appearing with both his siblings!

#### Scott Thomas Murphy - Leroy Herdman

Scott Thomas is the son of Michael and Jill Murphy and is an eighth grader at MRA. He is currently participating in MRA Martial Arts, football, and performing arts. He is also a member of the cross country and track teams. He has appeared in many MRA, Center Players, and Summer Arts Camp productions.

#### Amy Page - Helen Armstrong / Duettist / Caroler

Amy Page is a freshman at Rosa Scott High School, where she is a member of Renown show choir. She enjoys singing and painting in her free time. Amy, most recently seen in Madison Central's *Beauty and the Beast*, is making her Center Players debut and is excited to participate in future shows.

#### Abigail Pickle - Baby Angel

Abigail is the first grade daughter of Clayton and Laura Pickle. She enjoys reading, art, piano, camping, and Mario Kart. This is Abigail's theatrical debut – she is excited to join her brother and sister on stage!

#### Caroline Pickle - Angel

Caroline is the fourth grade daughter of Clayton and Laura Pickle. She loves art, piano, Greek mythology, Taylor Swift, and meeting new people. Caroline's past performances include productions of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, Matilda Jr.*, and *The SpongeBob Musical*. She was also a Baby Angel in the 2021 Center Players production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*.

#### Cast Bios

#### James Pickle - Hobie Clark

James, son of Clayton and Laura Pickle, is in the seventh grade. Along with theater, James enjoys creative writing, playing piano, archery, and all things Marvel, and he is also an active member of BSA troop 164. James has enjoyed performing in many local productions, but his favorite role was Mr. Beaver in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. James is grateful to be part of this cast of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*!

#### Conner Quinn - Ralph Herdman

Conner is a freshman at Rosa Scott High School, where he is a member of Reveille Show Choir and Beta Club. Conner appeared in *The SpongeBob Muscial* at Summer Arts Camp and was recently seen as the young prince and Cronie in Madison Central's *Beauty and the Beast*.

#### Mason Quinn - Shepherd

Mason is a 6th grader at Madison Middle School. He made his theatrical debut this summer in *The SpongeBob Musical* as a cowfish. Mason was recently seen onstage as a jock in *High School Musical*, *Jr*: at MMS.

#### Mary Alden Ratcliff - Angel / Soloist

Mary Alden has appeared in *101 Dalmatians, Frozen*, and *Aristocats*, with Rankin Performing Arts, and is thrilled to be making her Center Players debut. Mary Alden is a third grader at St. Andrew's Episcopal School and when she isn't at school or on stage, she enjoys practicing gymnastics and basketball, and hanging out with her family. She is thankful for this wonderfully fun opportunity!

#### Elsie Sligh - Angel

Elsie is a third grader at Mannsdale Upper Elementary School and is excited to make her Center Players debut in the Best Christmas Pageant Ever! She loves learning in school, the arts, and playing soccer for Madison Rush. She hopes to continue to be a part of Madison's theatre community in future productions.

#### Ava Sullivan - Angel / Caroler

Ava, an eighth grader at Madison Middle School, is a member of Kaleidoscope show choir and the MMS dance team. She has thoroughly enjoyed her time with Center Players this season. Ava has always loved the stage and has performed in productions and art camps in Jackson and Madison. Ava was most recently seen as Gabriella in *High School Musical, Jr.* for MMS. She loves her family, her pets, and dancing 24/7.

#### Morgan Trusty - Mrs. Clark / Caroler

Morgan is the daughter of Matt and Shelby Trusty and big sister to Mary Alice. She is a sophomore at Madison Central High School, where she is a member of Renown Show Choir and the MCHS Speech & Debate Team. Morgan discovered her love of the stage at Madison Summer Arts Camp, where she has attended the last 7 years. She most recently performed the role of Mayor of Bikini Bottom in the SAC production of *The SpongeBob Musical*. Morgan is excited to return to the Center Players stage as Mrs. Clark.

#### Berit Warren - Baby Angel

Berit, daughter of Brett and Courtney Warren, is making her Center Players debut! She is a first grader at Madison-Ridgeland Academy. Her most recent performance includes a reporter in *The Turkeys Go on Strike*. In her free time she plays tennis, and takes ballet at Mississippi Metropolitan Dance Academy. When she is not playing a Baby Angel she can be found reading Captain Underpants books and praying for the penguins.

#### Cast Bios

#### Isabella Will - Angel

Isabella is a sixth grader at Madison Middle and is thrilled for her Center Players debut. Isabella has been seen onstage as Karate Girl in *Press Start*, Actor H in *The Show Must Go On*, and most recently in *High School Musical*, *Jr.* at MMS. Isabella enjoys dancing and singing and was recently chosen to participate in Mississippi's All-State Choir in February.

#### Madeline Wylie - Shirley

Madeleine is delighted to make her Center Players debut! A sixth-grader at St. Andrew's, Madeleine has appeared in her middle school production of *Frozen Jr*: and in several productions with Rankin Performing Arts. In her free time, Madeleine enjoys singing, dancing, and horseback riding.

#### Elizabeth Yeager - Imogene Herdman

Elizabeth is a sophomore at Madison Central, where she is a member of Reveille Show Choir, Beta Club, and Thespian Troupe 5251. She is an alum of Renown Show Choir, and was selected Best Performer 2023. Her favorite roles include Little Red Riding Hood in *Into the Woods*, Sandy Cheeks in The Spongebob Musical, and Babette in *Beauty and the Beast*.

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#### Crew Bios

#### James Covington - Lighting / Media & Graphic Design

James Covington is currently a sophomore at Liberty University where he is pursuing a BFA in Musical Theater with minors in Vocal Performance and Dance. Professional credits include *Hydro Jive Junction* at Dollywood Theme Park in Pigeon Forge, TN and *The Music Man* with the Alluvion Stage Company in Lynchburg, VA. This spring, James will perform as Mr. Henry Etches and serve as a student choreographer for Liberty's production of *Titanic, the Musical*. He will spend the summer of 2024 in residence with the Ohio Light Opera, a professional summer repertory company in Wooster, Ohio, where he will perform in three musicals and two operettas throughout the OLO summer season.

#### Benton Donahue - Stage Manager

Benton Donahue is a Music Education major with a Vocal emphasis at the University of Mississippi. He is a regular collaborative pianist and conductor for all-superior choirs at contests and concerts. Benton has worked closely with the Center Players Community Theatre as music director and rehearsal pianist for several of their productions. He has most recently played the parts of The Mysterious Man in *Into the Woods*, Crutchie in *Newsies*, Lord Farquaad in *Shrek*, Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*, Feargal in *Back to the 80's*, and Jinx in *Forever Plaid, Plaid Tidings*. Since moving to Oxford, he has become the rehearsal pianist for the Ole Miss Men's Glee, serves as a scholarship singer at Oxford-University United Methodist Church, a member of Concert Singers, and secured his American Guild of Organists membership.

#### Mandy Hackman - Production Assistant

Mandy has been active with the Center Players since their first production in 2001, and has worked in various onstage and backstage roles in the years since. She has directed several Center Players shows, including *Into the Woods, Newsies*, and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Mandy was last seen onstage as Mrs. Peacock in *Clue*. Some of her favorite roles include Princess Winnifred in *Once Upon a Mattress*, Katisha in *The Mikado*, and Vera in *Dog Act*. Mandy received bachelor's degrees in English and Theatre and a master's in education from Mississippi State University. She taught English, German, and Film Production in the Jag zone for nine years, and now works for the MS Dept of Education.

#### Callie Jackson - Technical Director

Callie is daughter of Gil and Edie Jackson. This is her sixth year as Sound Technician/Playback Specialist at Center Players. Her most memorable moments at Center Players consist mainly of threatening actors with muting their mics and telling them she will kick them out of the show (an action she has no authority to do).

#### Ella Joyner - Technical Assistant

Ella is a senior at Madison Central High School, where she is a member of the Madrigals. She is also a student in MCHS's Academy of Multimedia & Communications, and last spring she was honored to win Best Original Screenplay at Madison Central's Academy Awards. Ella has been training at Ballet Magnificat School of the Arts for eleven years and is part of the Magnificat Youth Ballet.

#### Landry Mader - Assistant Stage Manager

Landry Mader is a sophomore at Madison Central High School where she is a member of Renown show choir. She also works on musical sets and does lots of painting and design for different groups. She is so excited to be a part of *BCPE* at Center Players for the second time!

#### Megan Mayhan - Producer

Megan is a cat mom, dog mom, girl mom, and wife to Anthony. Megan is the President of The Center Players and the Director of the City of Madison's Summer Arts Camp. Megan's favorite pastime is telling people what to do. In her spare time, Megan loves going to the gym and watching all things Bravo. Megan played Mrs. Armstrong for Center Players in 2015 and still channels her inner Mrs. Armstrong most days.

#### Message From The President

We are thrilled you are with us this holiday season for this special production. We hope you leave filled with joy and excited for Christmas! *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* is a Center Players fan favorite since our first production of it in 2005. We have produced it five times over the years and four cast members (Adelaide Kirk, Cannon Kirk, Emily Kay Kirk, and Katy Mayhan) are making their third appearance in this production. This show is near and dear to our hearts. The Center Players Community Theatre is proud to be Madison County's only community theatre and we take pride in the quality of content produced. We want audiences to be entertained and we want the community to feel involved and welcomed. We hope you will consider Center Players in your end-of-year giving - Donations are vital for much needed technology upgrades and to help us expand performance opportunities in the future. Please follow us online to see more details and updates of our productions, auditions and special events to come!

Merry Christmas, Megan Mayhan

#### THE CENTER PLAYERS | YEAR END COMMUNITY THEATRE | GIVING

Contributions to The Center Players **Community Theatre** are tax-deductible as allowed to the extent under the laws. The Center Players, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization registered under the laws of the State of Mississippi.



Congrats to the entire cast of The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!

Especially our Beth Bradley, Campbell Haindel!

## We are proud of you!

Barry and Liz Haindel, aka Pops and Grammy Life Resources, Inc. liferesources.net



Break a leg, Madeleine! We are so proud of you!

With love from your favorite fans, Meme, Mummis, Papa, Pop, & Ree Ree



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We are so proud of you girls! Love, Mom, Dad, Juju, Poppie, Grandma & Grandpa



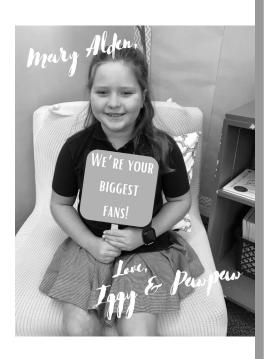
We are so proud of you! Ney Harrizon





Congrats on your Center Players debut! We love you BIG!

Mommy & Mary Gilbert





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