

GETTING TO KNOW...

Footloose

The Musical

ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES



Ocean Affo (Chuck) is entering into his first year of high school and is delighted to once again work with Ms. Houston and Places! Productions. He was previously featured in leading roles such as Scar in *The Lion King Jr.* and Seaweed in *Hairspray Jr.* Ocean is a lover of culture and would like to thank Ms. Houston for always seeing the best in him!

Samuel Alfaro is very excited to be making his stage debut with Places! Productions as Travis in *Getting To Know Footloose!* Sam will be beginning his freshman year at Gilbert High School in the fall. In his free time, Sam studies and practices the electric guitar and is an avid music enthusiast. He enjoys the theater immensely and looks forward to joining the Gilbert High theater department next year.

Aliyah Asher (13) is thrilled return to the Places! stage for the 5th time! Her favorite roles to date include LFPA's *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* (Alice) & *The Little Mermaid Jr.* (Sebastian) as well as the 2018 Places! Production of *Hairspray Jr.* (Ensemble). She enjoys dancing, singing, playing Fortnite, and begins the adventure as a Jr. High Cheerleader in August. Aliyah is grateful to her parents for their support and to Allison Houston & Rachael Jacobs Houston for helping her grow as a performer!

Cheyenne Buchholtz-Musacchio, is thrilled to be returning to Places! Productions as Ariel in *Getting to Know Footloose!* This is her 3rd production with Places! and her second appearance in a lead role. She is proud to have been in *Annie Jr.* and *Aladdin Jr.* with Places! Productions previously. Cheyanne is entering her Sophomore year in high school. Singing is her true passion. Cheyanne would like to thank Allison Houston for the support, mentoring & kindness!

Miella Briseno is in 8th grade at LFPA and is so excited to be returning to the Places! Stage as Cow-girl Bonnie in *Getting to Know Footloose!* At LFPA, other credits include *Music Man*, *The Little Mermaid Jr.* and many more. Miella was also blessed to be a part of the award-winning show choir SOUND-SATIONS this year! Miella would like to thank all her teachers and coaches for their guidance and support as well as her constant love and encouragement from her family.

Courtney Bunting is a soon to be 7th grader at the LFPA Gilbert campus. She is proud to say that she has done many musical productions, starring as Ursula in *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, Mrs. Bucket in *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* and *Hairspray Jr.*! Courtney has loved singing from a young age, and wanted to start acting when she saw her three brothers perform in LFPA's *Lion King Jr.*

Desmond Bunting is a senior at Gilbert High School and is excited for his final summer show with Places! Desmond has been performing since his freshman year as George "Stewpot" Watts in *South Pacific*, Marcellus Washburn in *Music Man*, and *Seaweed J. Stubbs* in Places! *Hairspray Jr.* He plans to attend university to major in Choral studies. He would like to thank Ms. Houston, Mrs. Houston, Mr. Mills, and all of the Places! cast and team for making this possible!

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Mara Chiles is playing the role of Ethel McCormack. Mara has been in 13 productions including Mordmouth Mabel in *Hairspray Jr.* with Places! Productions, Rafiki in *The Lion King Jr.* with LFPA Warner, and Nick Bottom in *A Mid Summer Night's Dream*. Mara has many achievements, like getting offered to a two-week acting program in Hollywood and having a job offer with The Young Agency! She would like to thank all of the actors who stuck with Places! since the very first production, *Annie Jr.*!

Izzy Cons is going into 8th grade at LFPA Gilbert Jr High School. She is thrilled to be playing Rusty in *Getting to Know Footloose* (June 15-16) by Places! Productions. Izzy has been in multiple musicals with notable credits including *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* as White Rabbit and *The Little Mermaid Jr.* as Sebastian with LFPA. She loves to dance, sing, perform, and paint. Izzy would like to thank her parents and her director Allison Houston for supporting her.

Steven Cook is a sophomore at LFPA. He's involved in Intermediate/Advanced Dance Class, Company Dance, Advanced Hip Hop, and Tap. He also takes Musical Theater and has previously taken Advanced Drama. His credits include Michael Banks in LFPA's Production of *Mary Poppins*, A-Rab in *West Side Story*, and Ewart Dunlop in *Music Man*. He has also done makeup design for *Music Man* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He would like to thank his friends, family and directors, especially Emily Radics and his mom for being so supportive.

Ania Crist, a Freshman at Highland High School is) is very grateful that she is able to dance in this show with her crazy dance schedule. Ania dances with Elektro Crew and Elektrolytes (as seen on NBC's World of Dance). Ania was seen in last summer's show *Hairspray Jr.* with lots of her friends and loves the bonding experience. Ania would like to thank Allison Houston, family, and all of her dance teachers for their ongoing support!

Aliya Czegledi is a 6th grade graduate of LFPA and has appeared in every play since Kindergarten! Last fall she performed "Pinocchio" in *Pinocchio*. Aliya is excited to be returning to Places! Productions for another summer play. Her favorite play to date was *Annie Jr.* & she was part of Leading Tones, Energy, Presto and Orchestra. She is a member of the *Phoenix Children's Chorus* and was recently promoted to their Concert Touring Choir. She wants to thank Miss Houston and Mr. Mills for being such an inspiration.

Olivia Destal, a Sophomore at Chandler Preparatory Academy, is excited to be playing Wendy Jo in *Getting to Know Footloose!* Olivia has been performing for 6 years with favorite roles including Margot Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* with Places! Productions and Morticia Addams in *The Addams Family* with Childsplay. She has been acting in the Childsplay Acting Conservatory for 4 years and enjoys photography. She would like to thank her family, Allison Houston, & Places! Productions for their support!

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Kali Doumbia is excited to perform as Lulu in *Getting to Know Footloose*. Kali was a member of LFPA High School's show choir, Soundsations. She also performed in *The Music Man*, *Aladdin Jr.*, *West Side Story* and *The Crucible*. She is thankful for the opportunity to participate with Places! Productions again this summer.

Gabriel Etchamendy is in 10th grade and has appeared in several productions with LFPA and Places! Productions since 2014. He was featured in leading roles such as Simba in *The Lion King Jr.* and as Bert in *The Happiest Place on Earth*. Gabriel enjoys dancing and cooking. He would like to thank his family and Places! Productions for all their support and guidance.

Jordan Gauthier is 13 and attends Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Scottsdale. She has been dancing since the age of 4 and loves performing on stage with her friends. *Getting to Know Footloose* is Jordan's very first musical and she is having a blast. She is grateful for her family and teachers for helping her grow in performing arts!

Katie Gibbons, a 9th grader at LFPA, is thrilled to be playing the part of Betty Blast in Places! Productions' take on *Getting to Know Footloose*! Katie has been performing for 5 years. Some of her favorite roles include Cheshire Cat 2 in *Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, Sonny in *Winter Wonderland* with LFPA and Matron in *Hairspray Jr.* with Places! Katie would like to thank her family, Allison Houston, Tim Mills, and Rachel Jacobs-Houston for believing in her!

Ava Haller has grown up with Places! Productions. This is her fifth appearance, following previous roles in *Annie Jr.*, *Aladdin Jr.*, and *At the Bandstand!*. Ava is an eighth grader at American Leadership Academy, where she sings and dances. She also plays guitar and participates in the Presto show choir.

Marissa Herrington is a 15-year old sophomore at LFPA. She has been performing since 2nd grade & her favorite role was Goldilocks, in *Goldilocks Trial*. Marissa has been with Places! Productions since the first production of *Annie Jr.*, followed by *Aladdin Jr.*, and *Hairspray Jr.* She enjoys singing with Presto! and recently sang with the show choir at Disneyland! She thanks Mrs. Houston and is thankful to Mr. Mills for always being there. A special thanks to Miss Houston for being an awesome role model and teacher!

Daylyn Lucky is delighted to be returning to Places! Productions again after debuting in *Hairspray Jr.* last summer. Favorite credits include Magic Carpet in *Aladdin Jr.* and Alana in *The Little Mermaid Jr.* She is a prepro dancer at Club Dance studio where commercial credits include SYTYCD season 13 and top 20 at 2018 The Dance Awards.

Isabella Ortiz, a 7th grader, has been gracing the stage as a singer for 6 years! Isabella also performs with The Leading Tones and Energy Dance Team. Some of her favorite roles include LFPA's Productions of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (Veruca Salt), and *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* (March Hare.) She enjoys drawing, singing, dancing and indoor skydiving. Isabella would like to thank her family, Allison Houston, Rachael Jacobs Houston, Mrs. E and the Places! Team for all their love and support!

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Peyton Pietroricca is 14 years old and will be a Sophomore at LFPA Gilbert next year. Peyton is no stranger to the stage. She has been performing with LFPA since 2014 and performed in *Aladdin Jr* and *Hairspray Jr.*, making this her third year with Places! Productions. Peyton is also a cheerleader, loves to dance, and wants to have a career in Cosmetology. She loves working with Allison Houston and Rachael Jacobs Houston and looks forward to many more shows with them.

Kamryn Ray is 18 years old and just graduated high school in Glendale. This is her first musical production in about 8 years & her first with Places! Productions. Her brother, Kasey Ray (also involved with Places!) encouraged her to audition & she is so glad she did! This has been such an amazing experience for her & she's so thankful for her cast mates and directors!

Leilani Robles (Chicago kid/age 12) is beyond excited to be returning to Places! Productions for the 2nd summer in a row. Her favorite credits include *The Little Mermaid Jr.* and *Pinocchio* with LFPA and *Annie Jr.* and several other plays with Bakers Performing Arts. She's been acting since the age of 6 and she plans to continue her work on stage in both middle and high school. She would like to give a special thank you to Ms. Houston for her encouragement and support.

Lily Saba is a Junior at Williams Field High School. Some of her favorite roles she has played were Miss Hannigan in *Annie Jr.*, Sandra in *All Shook Up*, and Penny Pingleton in *Hairspray Jr.* When she's not on stage, she enjoys being a part of the Williams Field High School Varsity Spiritline, and hanging out with her friends. She would like to thank Miss Houston, Rachael and Mr. Mills for always pushing her out of her comfort zone and encouraging her to try new things!

Mary Salanski has appeared in 7 theater productions and is thrilled to embark in her second year at Places! Productions in both *Footloose* and *Harmony High*. She has also performed in *At the Bandstand* and *The Happiest Place on Earth*. Mary is in the 9th grade at Arete Prep and is a member of the advanced archery team. Mary thanks Mr. Mills for introducing her to Places! Productions and for the opportunities that Mrs. Houston has given her to perform.

Caleb Smalley a 9th grader at Seton Catholic High School is excited to be playing the role of Willard in *Footloose*. His favorite roles include *The Wizard of Oz* (Mayor) and *The Hobbit* (Kili), with Valley Youth Theatre and *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* (Edmond), *Pinocchio* (Stromboli) with Act One Youth Theater. He would like to thank everyone at Places! Productions for the opportunity to be a part of *Footloose* and his parents for their constant support.

Kayla Stillman (Rusty) is excited to be performing for her second time with Places! Productions! Her favorite roles include Anne Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Places! Productions), Jetsam in *The Little Mermaid* (DST), and Tessie in *Annie* (ABT). She is excited to be starting college this fall to study Early Childhood Education. Kayla would like to thank her family and Gage for their continual support, and she would also like to thank Places! Productions for this amazing opportunity. Enjoy the show!

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Asher Talamantes, a 6th grader at Learning Foundation and Performing Arts is excited to be playing Lyle in *Getting to Know Footloose!* Asher has been performing since 2016. His favorite roles include Captain Hook in *Peter Pan Jr.* and Mr. Buckets in *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Asher loves dancing, singing, and art of any kind! He thanks his family, Allison Houston, and Places! Productions for helping him grow as an actor!

Teja Trepte is going to be a sophomore at Highland High School. She debuted with Places! Productions last summer in *Hairspray Jr.* & returned to the stage this spring in *The Happiest Place on Earth*. She also joined Places! show choir Presto this year. She enjoys baking, dancing, and creative writing, and she plans to continue being involved with Places! Productions. She is thankful to everyone for their support & encouragement!

Daynon Vaness will be playing the role of Cop and Boy 1 in Places! Production of *Getting to Know Footloose*. He would like to give special thanks to his friends and family for their support.

Evan Villalobos will be a Sophomore at LFPA and thoroughly enjoys all aspects of musical theater! He has been a lead in 6 shows with the LFPA Jr. High & High School, starred in 4 Places! Productions, and has had multiple rolls with LFPA elementary. His lifetime goal is to make it on Broadway! Evan would like to thank Miss Houston for giving him the courage to get into theater, his family for their love and support, and God for his life & talent!

Ariana Vondrak is a 9th grader at LFPA Gilbert. She has been working with Allison Houston and Rachael Jacobs Houston for a while now and has loved every minute of it! Some of her favorite roles include LFPA Gilbert's production of *Aladdin Jr.* (Jasmine) and *Annie Jr.* (Grace Farrell) as well as LFPA Warner's production of *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* (Alice). She hopes you enjoy the show!

Nina Wilkerson (12) is excited to be participating in *Getting to Know Footloose The Musical* with Places! Productions. Past credits include Oompa Loompa and Candy Kid in *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* with LFPA several acts with Missoula Children's Theater, one being *Rumpelstiltskin*. Nina will start the 7th grade at LFPA in the fall and is looking forward to doing more performances and learning Spanish. In her free time, she likes to read and spend time with her friends.