



ACTOR BIOS

Kya Bess (Delta Nu, Sabrina) is a junior high student who enjoys being on the stage! Kya is going into her fourth season as a competitive hip hop dance team member, but has been taking recreational dance classes since the age of 3. Kya is also very active within her school. She is a member of the student council, just finished her second year playing the violin in her school's orchestra and is looking forward to taking drama at school in the fall. "Thank you for coming; enjoy the show!"

Sarah Chandler (Kate) is tickled pink to play Kate in *Legally Blonde Jr.* She has been in many musicals and short films at Places! Productions. Some of her recent roles include *Velveteen Rabbit*

(*The Velveteen Rabbit*), *Lefou* (*Beauty and the Beast Jr.*), and *Little Red Riding Hood* (*Into the Woods*). She will be going into sophomore year at ASU Prep Poly High School. Thank you to the cast, Allison, Tim, and Rachel.

Hayley Christesson (Delta Nu) is a 8th grader at Learning Foundation and Performing Arts and is excited to be a part of this amazing show. She is so grateful to be a part of Places! Productions. Over the past few years, she has loved being a member of Ping and Presto and has performed in many productions including *We Will Rock You*, *Velveteen Rabbit*, *Shrek the Musical*, *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, *Type One*, and *Harmony High*. A special thank you to Allison for helping her realize her love of theater!

Ashton Churchill (Winthrop, Judge) is very excited to be working with Places! Productions once more to bring you this wonderful show! In the past, they've worked with Places! on shows such as *We Will Rock You* as Buddy and *Beauty And The Beast* as Cogsworth while also tackling other projects simultaneously, namely *Matilda* as Agatha Trunchbull at LFPA and *Guys and Dolls* as Nicely, so as you may be able to imagine, it's been a wild ride, but all the incredible and supportive cast and crew members have definitely made it worthwhile and so has our wonderful audience. "Thank you so much for attending our show; I sincerely do hope you enjoy!"

Gracie Cook (Harvard Student) is a 13-year-old performer attending Learning Foundation and Performing Arts Jr. High, going into 8th grade. She has a passion for dancing, and enjoys hanging out with friends, shopping, and having fun. She would like to thank her family, friends, directors and everybody else who's helped her along the way to get here. "Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!!"

Emily Curran (Paulette) is thrilled to be back in the theater and in her first show at Places! She is a recent graduate from Chandler Preparatory Academy and in the fall, she will be attending the University of Chicago. She wants to thank her friends for their endless support and her family for encouraging her every step of the way.

Lauren Devey (Chutney Wyndham, Delta Nu) is a 9th grader at American Leadership Academy. She has been acting for 3 years and is a member of the Junior Thespian Society. Most recently, she played the role of Ermengarde in her school's production of *Hello Dolly*, for which she won the award for "Best Supporting Actress in a Musical". She was also honored to receive her school's "Spirit of Drama" award and the award for "Outstanding Ensemble Member" for her performances in *Julius Caesar* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In addition to acting, Lauren studies Ballroom Dancing and plays the Piano. She is also a gifted sketch artist and plays volleyball. She is very excited to join Places Productions! and portray the role of Chutney Wyndham in this production of *Legally Blonde Jr.*

Olivia Dostal (Brooke Wyndham), an incoming freshman at Rider University studying for a BFA in Acting, is excited to be playing Brooke Wyndham in *Legally Blonde!* Olivia has been performing for 8 years with favorite roles including Jo March in *Little Women*, Margot Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Scaramouche in *We Will Rock You* (Places! Productions) and Cinderella in *Into the Woods* (Actors Youth Theater). She enjoys painting, photography, and reading in her free time. She would like to thank the direction team and her friends and family for their support!

Gabi Etheridge (Delta Nu, Cashier) is a junior at Mountain View High School. She is so excited to be back after recently being seen as Quatro and Teen Queen in *We Will Rock You* Meg in *Little Women*. "Thank you to the whole cast and crew of this production. We hope you enjoy!"

Chica French (Bruiser) is 9 years old and is excited to be back on stage as Bruiser. She previously has been seen as Rufus in AYT's production of *Legally Blonde Jr.* In her free time she enjoys laying in the sun and cuddling with anyone that she can.

Lindsay French (Delta Nu, Stylist) is 13 years old and will be in 9th grade at Higley HS next year. Her favorite roles have been Brit in *We Will Rock You* at Places, Mayzie LaBird in *Seussical Jr.* at LFPA, and Iris Kelly in *Fame Jr.* at AYT. In her free time, she enjoys dance and pom. She would like to thank Allison for giving her this opportunity.

Phoenix Gladney (Grandmaster Chad) is a 16-year-old musician and artist ready for their third show with Places! Productions. Aside from music and art, they like to write, cook, read, and act. They extend their thanks to any families attending the show, and even more thanks to their fellow actors, who are working so hard to bring the best to the audience! They hope you all enjoy the show.

Alec Gordon (Callahan, Kyle) is pumped to be back with Places! Productions for another show, playing Callahan and Kyle in *Legally Blonde!* His past roles consist of Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast*, Judge Hathorne in *The Crucible*, Mr. Laurence in *Little Women*, and Khashoggi in *We Will Rock You*. He thanks Allison, Rachel, and the whole cast and crew of *Legally Blonde* for an incredible opportunity!

Olivia Haller (Gaelen) has spent most of her life on stage. This is her ninth Places! performance, following roles in *Annie*, *At the Bandstand!*, *The Happiest Place on Earth*, *Harmony High*, *Alice in Wonderland* (March Hare), *Shrek*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Lumiere), and *We Will Rock You* (Oz). Olivia also sings and dances in the Presto! show choir.

Dante X. Johnson (Emmett) is a high school senior at Learning Foundation and Performing Arts. Performances include *Guys and Dolls* (Sky- LFPA), *We Will Rock You* (Galileo- Places!) *Freaky Friday* (Adam- LFPA), *Little Women* (Laurie- Places!), and *Beauty and the Beast* (Beast- Places!), *Shrek* (Donkey- Places!), and *Aladdin* (Aladdin- LFPA). He is a member of Presto and recently placed 1st in AZ District NATS for Commercial Music and 2nd for Musical Theatre.

Mady King (Serena) is excited to join the cast of *Legally Blonde Jr.*! She has been performing with Places! since the beginning where she was an orphan in *Annie Jr.* Favorite credits include Places! Productions *Velveteen Rabbit* (Skin Horse Spirit), *The Crucible* (Betty Parris), and *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (Belle). In addition to musical theater, Mady enjoys being a part of Places! Productions' PRESTO Performance group. She sincerely thanks the Places! Team for all their love and support.

Buddy King (Rufus) is the last of the King Family to finally make his debut on stage! He is honored to be showcased in such a fun show! He waits everyday by the door to go to rehearsal and being a part of *Legally Blonde Jr.* has truly been the highlight of his summer!

Rigley Kirkpatrick (Harvard Student, Frat Boy) has loved participating in previous plays (most recently, Khashoggi in *We Will Rock You*) with Places! Productions and is thrilled to be a part of *Legally Blonde* and *Pinkalicious!* He loves all things theatre and in his free time he enjoys hanging out with his friends and going to the lake with his family. He would like to thank all of his teachers and family for supporting him with his passion.

Danielle Lee (Courtney, Pforzheimer) is an incoming sophomore at BASIS Mesa. This is her first play with Places! Productions and her first out of school performance for years. Recently at BASIS Mesa, she was the Ghost of Christmas Past in *A Christmas Carol* and Celia in *As You Like It*. She is also in the drama club and is about to be inducted into the Thespian Society. "Thanks to all my friends and family who supported me doing this show! A big thanks to the cast and directors as well! You're all great, and I know the cast is going to do amazing!"

Liam Lopez (Dewey) is an esteemed director and actor. He has starred in shows such as *Guys and Dolls* as Benny Southstreet, and has even directed a show, *The Audition*. He has been acting for as long as he can remember, and has always loved the thrill of performing.

Xander Lopez (Aaron, Prison Guard), 15 years old, has been performing for years. He has had the honor of performing in many fantastic shows, most recently he portrayed Professor Plum in *Clue: On Stage* and assisted with writing and directing, while also starring in LFPA's original *Channel Surfing*. He is very excited to perform in *Legally Blonde Jr.* and hopes you enjoy!

Evi Mesa (Kiki) recently graduated from Perry high school and is thrilled to be a part of *Legally Blonde* for her last show as Kiki! Evi underwent rigorous culinary competitions and earned a scholarship towards the Institute of Culinary Education in Pasadena, California. Her passion in the culinary industry is one she will follow come September. Evi shares her love of culinary with her love of theater as she enjoyed being a part of Studio 3 Academy for 2 years with the roles of Ms. Honey in *Matilda* and Pippin in *Newsies*. She also attended Childsplay Acting conservatory for 3 years. With Places! Productions, Evi has been a part of *Happiest Place on Earth*, *Shrek the Musical*, the short film, *Alice in Wonderland* and *Cycles*, *Crucible*, and *We Will Rock You!* She has always loved *Legally Blonde* and is grateful to have been a part of Places! Productions throughout the years. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Phoenix Moore (Enid) is 16 years old and excited to make their places debut! This will be Phoenix's 13th show. They would like to thank the directors and cast for giving them this amazing opportunity to be part of Legally Blonde.

Peta Nichols (Whitney) is a sophomore at ASU Poly Prep High School is excited to be given the chance to perform in one of her favorite shows with Places! Productions! She is relatively new to acting but has been seen as Grace in *Annie Jr.* at Mesa Arts Center and ensemble in *We Will Rock You* at Places! She would like to thank the Places! team for this amazing opportunity. She hopes everyone enjoys the show!!

Aselem Portee (Harvard Student) is new to the Places! Productions program. She started acting, dancing, and singing 2 years ago at East Valley High School, and now she has the courage to do a show. Doing the show had her get out of her comfort zone and meet new friends! She can't wait to do another show for Places! Productions.

Ava Saba (Vivienne) is in 11th grade at Perry High School. She fell in love with being on stage at a young age. She was most recently seen as Scaramouche in *We Will Rock You*, Beth March in *Little Women*, and Fiona in *Shrek* with Places! Productions. Some of her favorite shows she's been in are *Lion King*, *All Shook Up* and *42nd Street* with AYT and *Matilda* with Valley Youth Theatre. She is so excited to be back on stage with Places! Productions and playing the role of Vivienne! As always, she wants to thank Allison for always believing in her and pushing her out of her comfort zone.

Lily Saba (Elle Woods) is excited to be back on stage with Places! Productions for her final junior show. She attends Arizona State University for Sports Journalism. She was recently seen as Amy March in *Little Women* and Babette in *Beauty and the Beast* with Places! Productions. Some of her favorite roles she has played were Miss Hannigan in *Annie*, Sandra in *All Shook Up*, and Penny Pingleton in *Hairspray*. She was also recently given the chance to choreograph *Rock and Roll Forever* with Places! Productions. When she's not on stage she enjoys photography and hanging out with her friends. She would like to thank Allison, Rachel and Mr. Mills for always encouraging her to try new things!

Lilah Suniga (Pilar) is going into 8th grade. She has been doing theater for 5 years, this being her 17th show, and her first at Places! Some of her other favorite roles have been Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* (Limelight), Barfly in *All Shook Up* (Studio 3), Little Elsa in *Frozen* (QCPAC), Little Red in *Into the Woods* (NBHJ), and Hortencia in *Matilda* (Limelight). She recently took 4th place for her solo at MTCA, singing What Baking Can Do (thanks to Danica Hill, her voice coach for the last 3 years). She would also like to thank Places! Productions for taking a chance on her and giving her this amazing opportunity.

Mia Thiel (Delta Nu) is 13 years old and new to Places! Productions. She has always loved any art: dancing, theater, painting, and music. Mia has been dancing competitively since she was 7 years old. She is currently at Motivating Movement Creative Space, a dance school, and was on their competitive team for the 2021-2022 season. Mia will be going into 8th grade at Santan Junior High. She is very thankful to the directors and cast, and is excited to be a part of this great show!

Kennedy Thompson (Harvard Student, Salon Client 1) is a twelve year old actress who has been in multiple productions such as *Cinderella*, *All Shook Up*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Frozen* and now *Legally Blonde*. She enjoys acting, singing, dancing and performing for family and friends. She has a four month old puppy who helps her prepare for different roles. Kennedy enjoys traveling the United States and has been to multiple national parks and presidential libraries.

Kayla Tune (Harvard Student) is 13 years old and goes to BASIS Mesa. She is going into the 8th grade and excited to be taking intermediate drama. She loves animals, clothes, and the theater. She would love to thank her Mom who has always been supportive and her family for letting her pursue her love for acting! Kayla thanks you for joining us and hopes you enjoy the show!

Justine Wattay (Elle Woods) will be a junior at Williams Field High School, and has loved being a part of Places! Production playing Amy in *Little Women* and Brit in *We Will Rock You*. She has also been in many productions at AYT where she played Wendy in *Peter Pan*, Serena in *Fame*, Ariel in *Footloose*, Savannah in *Freaky Friday* and Mal in *Descendants*. Justine loves to sing, act and dance and is grateful for the opportunity to play Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde*.

Audrey Williams (Harvard Student) is a seventh grader going into eight grade. She loves singing, dancing, and anything that can express her creativity. She loves theatre and her dream job is to be an actor one day. She has done one other play, *Julius Caesar* by Shakespeare. She hopes to do many plays in the future after this.

Davin Williams (Callahan, Kyle) is 15 years old. This is his second show at Places!, and he looks forward to it and many more. Davin sings and plays piano in classes at Desert Ridge High School. He would like to thank Places! Productions for showing him his hidden love for acting and being on stage! "Places! Forever!"

Jackson Wood (Warner) is performing in his 5th Places! Production. He was last seen as Galileo in *We Will Rock You*, Professor Bhaer in *Little Women*, Willard in *The Crucible*, and Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*. He also has been found behind the scenes and was the light operator for *Shrek* with Places! He is a member of Presto and also recently took 1st place in the AZ District NATS competition in his musical theatre category.

PRODUCTION BIOS

Allison Zuccaro (Director/Music Director) is the Founding Artistic Director of Places! Productions. She graduated from ASU with a BM in Music Theatre and Minor in Justice Studies and performed as a member of Actors' Equity Association before deciding her heart was truly in teaching and directing. Over the last 20 years, she performed in over 30 productions and has now directed nearly as many. She is currently the performing arts instructor at East Valley High School and runs a private voice studio in Queen Creek. She thanks the amazingly talented *Legally Blonde* cast and crew, the Places! Board, all of our incredible volunteers, her brilliant parents, her supportive husband John, YOU for supporting the arts, and Liz Rhodes, who, for the last 15 years, encouraged Allison to pursue her dreams and believed in her more than she ever believed in herself.

Rachel Espericueta (Choreographer) recently choreographed Places! Productions' *We Will Rock You* and *Little Women* and was last seen on stage as Abigail Williams in Places! Productions' *The Crucible*. Rachel has also choreographed for Presto and Ping, along with *At The Bandstand* and *The Happiest Place on Earth*, a musical revue. She would like to thank her husband, dad and kids

for all of their love and continued support along with Allison for giving her these wonderful opportunities! Great job, Cast!

Tim Mills is a proud Assistant Director of Places! Productions! His assistant directing credits with Places! include *Annie Jr.*, *Aladdin Jr.*, *Hairspray Jr.*, *The Happiest Place on Earth*, *GTK Footloose*, *Shrek the Musical*, the short film *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and *We Will Rock You*. Before Places! he co-directed *Annie* and *Bye Bye Birdie* at his school. His lead Directing credits include the one-act Play *Remember Me* and the Musical *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* He has enjoyed being a part of Places! for six years, since the beginning! Thank you for including Places! in your summer plans! Enjoy!