



CAST BIOS

Ayden Armbrust (Madonna/Avril/Neil Schon) is a 14 year old soon to be Freshman at Mesquite High School. She is so excited to be a part of her 2nd Places! production. Her past roles include Shy Maiden/Ensemble in *Cinderella* (Places!), the Gryphon in *Alice in Wonderland* (EVCT), Ensemble: *Elf* (EVCT), Ghost Pirate: *Sleepy Hollow* (EVCT), Erato: *Xanadu* (EVCT), Darzee: *Rikki Tikki Tavi* (EVCT), Dunya: *Anastasia* (EVCT), Boisrenard: *3 Musketeers* (EVCT), Moving Chair: *Beauty and the Beast* (EVCT), City Woman: *Yes Virginia There Is A Santa Claus* (EVCT) and Lioness: *Lion King Junior* (EVCT). She thanks the cast and crew for all their hard work and everyone at Places! for giving her this opportunity.

Naomi Avery (Roxie) is a ten-year-old homeschooled fifth grader. This is Naomi's fifth production with Places! Naomi got her start in theater as an orphan in *Annie* at six years old and previously starred as Joy in *Cinderella* and Michael Banks in *Mary Poppins!* Other favorite credits include Owl in *Narnia*, Vannie in *We are Monsters*, and Queen Titania in *The Little Mermaid*. In addition to theater, Naomi participated in NATS. Vocal Competition this year receiving an Honorable Mention in the Cal-West Region for Commercial Music. Outside the arts, Naomi enjoys horseback riding, playing volleyball and loves spending time with her friends.

Alexandria Avise (Student 1) is ecstatic to be a part of *Jukebox Time Machine* this season. This is her first production with Places! Productions. She is going into the 5th grade at Learning Foundation and Performing Arts and has been a part of fantastic productions, such as *Really Rosie*, *Annie Jr.*, *Elf*, *Mary Poppins Jr.* and as Sally in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Her parents, James and Tanya, and her sister, Paige, are so very proud of her! She would like to thank them for their constant support. Also, a special shout out to her friend Cora and her wonderful family... On with the show!

Paige Avise (Student 3) is so pleased to be a part of *Jukebox Time Machine*. She is going into the 6th grade at Learning Foundation and Performing Arts, and this is her first production with Places! Productions. She has been a driving force behind the scenes for shows such as

Really Rosie, Annie Jr., Mary Poppins Jr. and played The Little Red-Headed Girl in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Her parents, James and Tanya, and her sister, Alexandria are so excited to see her onto this next big journey! She would like to thank them for their continued support and love. "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." - Lao Tzu

Lesia Blitz (Student 6) joined Places! Productions for her theater debut in *Cinderella*. She fell in love with performing and is excited to be back again for *Jukebox Time Machine!* Lesia's hobbies include piano and voice lessons, and most recently, horseback riding. Lesia looks forward to performing with Places! Productions in the future.

Acelina Blitz (Student 4) joined Places! Productions for her theater debut in *Cinderella*. She fell in love with performing and is excited to be back again for *Jukebox Time Machine!* Acelina's hobbies include playing Minecraft and learning about dinosaurs. She enjoys piano and voice lessons and is excited to begin horseback riding soon. Acelina looks forward to performing with Places! Productions in the future.

Gabby Carpenter (Anni-Frid Lyngstad/Gregg Rolie) is so excited to perform this fun play. She would like to thank her parents for supporting her throughout her plays, including this one. Another big shout out to the directors for putting the play together.

Mark Carpenter (Ringo Starr) is a current student at St. Timothy Catholic School. This is his first play, and he is super excited to be with this production. He would like to take a moment to thank his parents for their support. He also appreciates the staff's effort in putting this production together.

Kayden Chacon (Paul McCartney/Geroge Tickner) is a 5th grader who is excited to be performing in his first show with Places! Productions. He previously appeared as a background character and trombone player in *The Music Man* at Seton Catholic High School. When not on stage, Kayden enjoys playing football and basketball. He enjoys music, playing instruments, and spending time with friends and family.

Aidan Dame (Bobby Darrin) This is Aidan's fifth and sixth time performing in a musical. He has been featured as David the Innkeeper in *The Most Wonderful Time of the Year*, The Wizard of Oz in *The Wizard of Oz*, Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Ensemble in *The Music Man*. He will be performing this year as Eugene in *Grease* and Bobby Darin in *Jukebox Time Machine*. Aidan is very excited about joining the Places! Productions family. "Enjoy the show!"

Matthew Dame (John Lennon) This is Matthew's third performance. Last year he was in the ensemble for both *Beauty and the Beast* (St. Timothy's) and *The Music Man* (Seton). He is excited to join Places! and to play one of his Grampy's favorite musicians. He would like to thank his mom and dad for supporting him.

Lucia Dame (Student 10) This is Lucia's first performance. She is very excited to be a part of this show with her brothers and friends. She would like to thank her parents for supporting her.

Nicholas Dame (George Harrison) This is Nicholas's first performance. He is very excited to be a part of this show with his brothers, twin sister, and friends. He would like to thank his parents for supporting him.

Marliese Kinnaman (Benny Anderso) is excited for *Jukebox Time Machine*, her fifth show with Places! Productions. She was most recently seen as the Norwegian Princess in *Cinderella*. When she's not on stage, she enjoys sewing and dancing. She wants to thank Zoe for sharing her mom with all of the voice students!

Eliza Kinnaman (Student 5) is ecstatic to be in her fifth show with Places! Productions. She was most recently seen as the Chef in *Cinderella* and is so excited to be back on stage. When she's not performing, she loves to read and play with her dolls. She wants to thank Miss Allison and Jackson for all their help and encouragement!

Gwen Malabanan (Student 2) This is Gwen Malabanan's first musical production to perform in! After watching her sister and family friend perform with Places! Productions, Gwen decided to try out for the summer program. She is entering 6th grade next year and typically participates in soccer but hopes to see where her love for music, singing, and dancing take her.

Payten Moore (Student 11) is 8 years old, loves playing Roblox, and spending time with her friends. This will be Payten's 4th show with Places! She's so excited to be a part of it! She loves being with Places! because it helps her overcome her shyness and she loves meeting new friends!

Cora Redwitz (Agnetha Fältskog) is excited to be able to perform in another Places! Production musical. This will be her 3rd show with Places!, having been *Narnia* (Rabbit) and *Cinderella* (Little Girl/Mouse/Mermaid/Palace Staff/Maiden) over the last year. Before that, she had also been in her school's production of *Annie Jr.* as July. Cora is happy to have the opportunity to work with all the cast and crew of *Jukebox Time Machine*. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Milo Self (Student 8) is so excited to be back for his second summer show with Places! Productions! When not singing and dancing, Milo loves reading, playing with his pug, Mabel, riding his bike, and swimming. Thanks to the production team for this fun opportunity!

PRODUCTION BIOS

Isabella Bluesky Brewer (Stage Manager) is so happy to be working with Places! Productions, the very people who made her fall in love with theater. She is currently attending California Institute of the Arts to get her BFA in Experience Design and Production with specialization Emphasis in Stage Management & Sound Design. She will be going into her sophomore year of college in the Fall and cannot thank the Places! team enough for an amazing opportunity to practice what she loves over the summer. Special thanks to her family and friends for always supporting her.

Heather McArthur (Program Director) is delighted to be working once again with *Places! Productions*. Most recently, she co-choreographed *Narnia the Musical* and last summer's *The Addams Family - Young@Part* for the company. While musical theatre has always held a special place in her heart, classical ballet has been Heather's true calling. She danced professionally for five years with Nevada Ballet Theatre and for seven years with Ballet Arizona. During that time, she performed both lead and supporting roles in *Giselle*, *Fairy Doll*, *Peter Pan*, *Cinderella*, *Swan Lake*, *Coppélia*, *Don Quixote*, *Raymonda*, *Les Sylphides*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *La Sylphide*, and of course, *The Nutcracker*. She also had the privilege of dancing in George Balanchine's *Rubies*, *Theme and Variations*, *Serenade*, *The Four Temperaments*, *La Valse*, *Divertimento No. 15*, *Concerto Barocco*, and *La Sonnambula*. After retiring from the stage in 2010 to start a family, Heather began teaching and choreographing ballet at all levels across the Valley. She currently teaches the highest-level dancers at Studio R in Mesa. Three years ago, she launched her own business, Classical Ballet Beginnings, which brings ballet to grade school students directly within their schools. Heather is the proud mother of three daughters—her middle daughter, Farrah, frequently performs with *Places!* She would like to thank Allison Houston and the *Places!* board for the opportunity to work with such a talented and inspiring group of artists.

Lexie Shreeve (Choreographer) fell in love with the performing arts at the age of 6 and begged her parents to put her in dance classes since! She joined the Mesa Community College Dance Company after high school where she earned various awards and scholarships for her choreography. After receiving her Associate's Degree in Dance, she joined ASU's dance program where she continued to receive talent and education scholarships all while organizing and performing at dance events for the community. She received her Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Dance Education in 2020. Lexie is trained in tap, ballet, jazz, contemporary, modern, musical theatre, various hip hop styles, clogging, and is constantly adding more skills to her repertoire. Lexie also teaches dance, acting, and musical theatre with various programs for all ages throughout the valley including INSPIRE Entertainment, Disney Musicals in Schools with ASU Gammage, Childsplay, and more! She is excited to join Places! Productions for the first time this summer and to watch her students' confidence grow from their hard work and enthusiasm.

Jackson Wood (Director) is absolutely thrilled to be directing his first production with Places! Productions! Jackson is currently a musical theatre major at Arizona State University. Places! roles include Jean Valjean in *Les Mis*, Bobby Strong in *Urinetown*, Dr.

Craven in *The Secret Garden*, Conrad Birdie in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Aslan in *Narnia*, Bert in *Mary Poppins*, Galileo in *We Will Rock You*, Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Warner in *Legally Blonde*. He couldn't be more proud of the incredible group of kids who are part of this show—each and every one of them brings so much talent and heart to the stage. He can't wait for everyone to experience the amazing work they've put into this production!