



ACTOR BIOS

Griffin Avery (Puglseey) is a thirteen-year-old homeschooled eighth grader. This is Griffin's second performance with Places! Productions. He previously starred as Bert in Places! Productions' *Mary Poppins*. Other credits include The Prince of Slumberland in *The Frog Prince*, Young Simba in *The Lion King Jr.*, Palace Guard in *Aladdin Jr.*, Tom in *SchoolHouse Rock Live! Jr.* and Drake in *Annie*. In addition to Theater, Griffin enjoys golf, soccer, show choir and playing video games!

Addie Beattie (Grandma) is excited to channel her inner senior citizen and be a part of the *Addams Family* cast. She is so proud to be able to perform with this extremely talented cast! She most recently performed as Billy Boy Bill (*Urinetown @ Places!*). Her favorite show she has performed in is *Les Misérables* here at Places! Productions. A huge thank you to all the directors and the Places! Production team for all you do for the cast and the show.

Keaton Beattie (Cousin It) is excited to be part of her first show at Places! She has been working hard to perfect the art of the silent but expressive shrug for her role and is happy to give tips on hair conditioning and care after the show. She most recently performed in *Matilda* at Greasepaint Theater. Keaton thanks the talented cast, amazing production team, and directors for this experience.

Charleen Bempong (Long John) is an incoming freshman in college who has been acting for seven years. This is her second Places! Productions show. Her last role was as Cogsworth in BASIS Mesa's production of *Beauty and the Beast*.

Kya Bess (Abigail/The Moon) is an incoming high school student who enjoys being on the stage! She has been dancing since the age of 3 and *Addams Family* is Kya's fourth summer show with Places! Productions. Last year, she was in *Bye Bye Birdie*, summer of 2022 she was in *Legally Blonde* and summer of 2021 she was in *Beauty & the Beast*. Kya is also very active in school. She has been involved in student council for 4 years and plans on participating in the theater program at Campo Verde High School. Thank you for coming, enjoy the show!

Liam Chacon (Thing/Rat) is a seventh grader at Saint Timothy's Catholic School. Liam is a member of the school's drama club. Liam has previously performed as part of the drama club's Christmas Nativity show as one of the Three Wiseman, as well playing the character of Schroeder in the club's performance of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and also as The

Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*. Liam has also performed here with Places! Productions, and was previously Johnny in *At the Bandstand* and also he played Randolph in *Bye Bye Birdie* and was most recently The Chairman in *Mary Poppins*, and is now cast as Thing and The Rat in the upcoming *Addams Family*. Liam also plays the piano and takes guitar lessons as well.

Ava Chiappetta (Grandma) will be a sophomore at Gilbert High School. She enjoys choir and drama. Some of her favorite roles include Mrs. Peacock (*Clue-Limelight*), Mrs. Millenium (*Urinetown-Places! Productions*), Mrs. Brill (*Mary Poppins Jr-Places! Productions*), Madame Thenardier (*Les Miserables-Limelight*), Denise (*Play That Goes Wrong-Zoni* nominated (Limelight), Pumbaa (*The Lion King Jr-Zoni* nominated (Limelight), Miss Hannigan (*Annie Jr-Mesa Encore*), and Georgi (*Miss Nelson is Missing-Zoni* nominated (Limelight). Ava is so excited to be playing the "kooky" grandma in *Addams*. She would like to thank Breona, Allison, Mr. Mills and the production team for this opportunity!

Eden Chon (Lady Penelope Addams) This is Eden's first year at Places! Production and her 4th show here. She is so glad for the opportunity to work with this cast and crew. She would like to thank her family and friends for coming to show their support!

Georgia Cleveland (Ol'Ebenezer Addams) is so happy to be joining Places! Productions again for *Addams Family*. She has been with Places! since she was in 2nd grade. Some of her favorite shows she has been in include *Little Mermaid*, *Shrek*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*. Georgia is a sophomore at Williams Field high school. When Georgia is not doing a musical, she enjoys dancing. Georgia would like to thank her mom for always being there for her and helping her to pursue all the activities she loves.

Ethan Day (Lucas Beineke) is excited to be in his first show at Places! Productions. And even more excited to be playing one of his dream roles. He has played other roles such as Frankie Churchill (*Emma: A Pop Musical*) and Trevor (*The Play That Goes Wrong*). He has had an incredible time during the rehearsal process and hopes you enjoy the show.

Lauren Devey (Wednesday) will be a Junior at American Leadership Academy this year. She has been acting for 5 years and is a member of the International Thespian Society. Her favorite roles include Little Red Riding Hood in *Into the Woods* and Leanne in *Puffs*, both of which she won Best Supporting Actress in a Musical or Play. This is Lauren's third season with Places! Productions. She is honored to play Wednesday Addams in this production of *The Addams Family*; this has been a long time dream role and she is ecstatic to bring this character to life.

Alison Ethridge (Slice) has been at Places! Productions for a year and a half. She's performed many times, as Champmatheiu's Wife in *Les Misérables*, UGC Staff in *Urinetown*, as well as Flounder in her school's *The Little Mermaid Jr*. She'd like to thank her family and friends for supporting her theatrical life and hopes to continue to keep performing.

Mackenzie Gilligan (Alice Beineke) just finished her sophomore year at Red Mountain High School. This will be her third show with Places! Productions. She was cast in *Mary Poppins* as *Winnifred Banks* and *Soupy Sue* in *Urinetown*. Some of her past roles include Ms. Honey in *Matilda Jr.* at Inspire Theater Co, Mrs. Wormwood in *Matilda* at Greasepaint, Rafiki at Fountain Hills Youth Theater, Mrs. Potts in *Beauty and The Beast*, Gretchen Weiners in *Mean Girls*, Emma in *Emma A Pop Musical*, and Nancy in *Oliver Jr* at Limelight Performing Arts. Besides doing stage performances, she also loves to do on-camera acting. She has been in several short films and a feature film in California. In her free time, she is in acting classes, voice lessons, and loves to hang out with her friends. She is so thankful to the director and amazing Places! Production team for casting her as Alice in *Addams Family*

Kaylin Hamelwright (Goober) is excited to be performing at Places for the first time and doing one of her favorite shows! Her previous roles include Arista (*Little Mermaid Jr*), Fat Friar (*Puffs*), & Tigger (*Winnie the Pooh*), all at AYT. She was also in *Freaky Friday* with Musical Theatre East. Kaylin is soon to be a senior at Desert Ridge High and is going into her second year of the Veterinary Assistant Program at EVIT. When she is not acting, she enjoys Aerial Arts & hanging with friends & family.

Alex Harrison (Lurch) is thrilled to be part of his first acting performance for Places! Productions! Over the years, he has had a lot of experience with both comedic and dramatic work in his drama classes at BASIS Mesa. He has acted in the musicals *The Wizard of Oz* (Cowardly Lion, 2023) and *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (Beast, 2024) at BASIS and has written several theatrical works of his own, including the critically acclaimed *The Weird Kid: Insights from an Autistic Individual*. He has also acted as the stage manager and light operator for Places! previous production of *Urinetown*. In his spare time, Alex enjoys reading, building Lego Architecture sets, and hiking.

Tanner Hutchinson (Thing/Rat) This is Tanner's 2nd show with Places! Productions. Previously, he played George Banks in *Mary Poppins, Jr.* (2023-2024). He is also a member of the Titan Drama Club, where he has performed as the Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz* (2024), Linus in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (2023), Joseph in *The Most Wonderful Time of the Year* (2023), and Roman Soldier/Innkeeper in *A Journey to Bethlehem* (2022). In his spare time, Tanner enjoys everything Pokémon, training at D1 and reading. Tanner is very excited to be on stage again with Places! and is looking forward to future shows.

Ayden Iwan (Gomez) is very excited to be returning to the stage in Places! Production's cast of *The Addams Family*. His favorite past roles include Marius (*Les Mis*), Conrad Birdie (*Bye Bye Birdie*), Dickon (*The Secret Garden*), and Bert (*Mary Poppins*).

Kevin Jacobs (Mal Beineke) - Kevin is thrilled to be performing in this year's production of *The Addams Family*! Kevin is 16 years old and has performed in productions of *The Wizard of Oz*, *Hello Dolly*, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, *Into The Woods*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Puffs*, *Mary Poppins*, and *The Little Mermaid*. Kevin has received awards for Outstanding Ensemble Member in *Hello Dolly* and *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* as well as winning a superior for a solo at CAFT and Spirit of Theatre for his school. He was inducted into the International Thespian Society in March 2023. He is a part of the varsity ballroom team where they have earned 2 awards at a national competition and where he has earned MVP for the program. He is the youngest of 4, likes to hang out with friends and play video games, and he loves his dog Charlie. Kevin expresses gratitude to his friends and family for supporting him and helping him grow.

Lela Jones (Mortimer) is thrilled to make her community theatre debut in Places! Productions' presentation of *The Addams Family*. A senior at Apache Junction High School, Lela has been an active member of the AJHS theatre program for three years and is entering her fourth year. Throughout high school, she has discovered her true passion for theatre and show choir, inspiring her to pursue a degree in musical theatre. Lela attributes her growing confidence and ambition to the unwavering support of her mother and choir teacher, Michelle Iglewski. Without their encouragement, she would not have had the courage to pursue her dreams.

Mady King (Mortica) is excited to join the cast of *The Addams Family*! She loves performing with Places!, and her favorite credits include Places! Productions *Mary Poppins Jr.* (Mary

Poppins), *Les Miserables* (Cosette), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Kim), *The Crucible* (Betty Parris), and *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (Belle). In addition to musical theatre, Mady enjoys being a part of Places! Productions PRESTO show choir. She sincerely thanks her family and the Places! Team for all their love and support!

Cecily Kinnaman (Cousin Helga) is an 11-year-old homeschool student who is thrilled to be performing in her fourth and fifth shows with Places! Productions this summer. Her favorite roles include *Bye Bye Birdie* (Mayor's Daughter), *At the Bandstand* (Judy) and *Mary Poppins* (Mrs. Corry). Ever since joining Places!, Cecily's love of dance has grown, and she is now also enjoying tap. Cecily wants to thank her musical theater besties for their support and inspiration.

Rigley Kirkpatrick (Fester) is thrilled to be in the cast of *Addams Family* and is playing the character of Uncle Fester. *Addams Family* marks Rigley's 11th play with Places! Productions. In his free time, he likes to hang out with friends, play Roblox and go to the lake.

Neelan Kumar (Curly) was born in 2009 in Gilbert, Arizona and has lived in Mesa her whole life. She started taking voice lessons in August of 2017 and continued for 4 years. She then became interested in piano and began lessons in 2018 and continued taking lessons until 2021. Neelan is a student at BASIS Mesa and is currently learning the tenor saxophone in her band class. At school, she has been given many awards, such as citizenship and kindness certificates. Neelan joined NJHS in the 7th grade and became historian and parliamentarian of the organization in her 8th grade year. Neelan enjoys spending time with her family and friends, hiking, target shooting, and traveling. Neelan has visited many countries such as Italy, Switzerland, India, France, and Iran. Neelan joined Places! Productions in 2021 and has since been in *Pinkalicious*, *The Little Match Girl*, *Les Miserables*, *The Secret Garden*, *At The Bandstand*, *Mary Poppins*, and she is currently doing *We Are Monsters*, and *The Addams Family*.

Eliza Lauritzen (Cousin Helga) is a twelve-year-old, homeschooled, triple threat. She is thrilled to be performing as KC in *We Are Monsters*, and Cousin Helga/Ancessor in *The Addams Family*. She loved playing the Bird Woman and a Chimney Sweep in *Mary Poppins Jr.* with Places! Productions. Other credits include Cindy in *At The Bandstand*, Dreamer/Sowerby Child in *The Secret Garden*, a Tapping Gull in *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, and a Newsie in *Newsies Jr.* Eliza is so thankful to receive training under the direction of Allison Zuccaro, and loves her Places! Productions family.

Danielle Lee (Delilah) is an incoming senior at BASIS Mesa. This is her sixth show with Places!, and she is thrilled to be part of this new challenging but fun summer intensive. Her favorite credits include *Les Miserables*, *Bye Bye Birdie* (Mrs. Peterson), and *Mary Poppins Jr* with Places!, as well as BASIS Mesa's *Beauty and the Beast Jr* (Mrs. Potts). While not in theater, Danielle likes hanging with friends and being on her school's Science Olympiad team. She hopes to carry theater on in at least some aspect of her life, and she thanks her family and friends who have supported her through this. To the audience, have a morbidly good time!

Olivia Malabanan (Lady Penelope) is proud to perform for the stage as Vladimir the vampire in *We Are Monsters* and as Penelope Addams in *Addams Family* after her debut in *Mary Poppins* last year. She is a 7th grader who enjoys the arts, playing viola, and volleyball. She looks forward to growing in this craft and wants to thank her friends and family for their support.

Alexis Martin (Long John) is thrilled to be back to Places! for *The Addams Family*!! She is an incoming sophomore at BASIS Mesa, and over two years became a leader in her school's theater program after starring in the *Wizard of Oz* as Dorothy and as Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*. Other favorite roles at Places! include *At the Bandstand* (Robin), *Mary Poppins* (Katie Nanna), and ensemble in *Les Miserables*. She would like to thank Breona, Tim, Allison, Rachel, Heather, and the entire Places! Productions team!

Farrah McArthur (Cousin Helga), age 12, is so excited to be performing in her first summer show with Places. Farrah most recently played the title roles in *Mary Poppins* with Places! and *Oliver Twist* with Limelight last summer. Prior to that, Farrah performed with Places! Productions for both *The Secret Garden* in the role of Mary Lennox, and *Les Miserables* in which she played the role of *Young Cosette*. Music and performing have always been a passion of Farrah from the start. In the past year, she has won awards and accolades for her poem recitations (The Bard Competition) reciting verses from William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* as well as multiple singing competitions (NATS) placing first in both categories of classical and musical theater 2 years in a row. Her all-embracing love of the theater is easily witnessed in every rehearsal and performance. She would like to thank Allison Houston for her diligent voice coaching and continuous encouragement and her family members for their unwavering love and support.

Hyrum McClure (Gomez) is going to be a junior at American Leadership Academy where he enjoys choir, theatre, and being on the competition ballroom dance team. He has been acting in plays for the last 5 years and loves to be on stage. A few of his musical roles have included Barnaby Tucker in *Hello Dolly!*, Combeferre in *Les Misérables*, Jack in *Into the Woods*, Albert Peterson in *Bye Bye Birdie*, George Banks in *Mary Poppins*, and was most recently Sebastian in *The Little Mermaid*. Hyrum has received the award for the best leading actor for his portrayal of Wayne Hopkins in *Puffs* and as Honza Kosek in *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. He truly appreciates the directors and staff at Places! and the cast members that make each show a great experience. He is grateful to all of the family and friends that continue to come and support him.

Georgia Moreno (Aunt Singe) just finished her 7th grade year at Lincoln Preparatory Academy in Chandler. She first discovered her talent for stage performance in 2022 right here at Places! Productions when she was cast as Peter in *Pinkalicious*. She's spent the last two years developing her craft in musical theater through her school's own theater program and the local Chandler Youth Theater. She's thrilled to be back with Places! Productions, and looks forward to future shows with the company.

Jacob Paine (Conquistador Ancestor) is a junior at Apache Junction High School. He participates in drama, choir, and marching band. He is thrilled to be in this production of *The Addams Family*, making his Places! Productions debut. He would like to thank the directors for this opportunity, and for helping him be one step closer to his dream of performing on Broadway.

Madison Salstrom (Ol'Ebenezer Addams) is an 8th grader at Payne Jr. High School. She joined theater because she wanted to be on stage; she continued theater because she loves the people she gets to build relationships with, and also the music. The music is phenomenal! She loves watching theater as much as she loves performing and takes any chance she can get to see a live show. Madison thanks her family for supporting her and being her crutch when times are too hard to get through alone.

Piper Searcy (Ophelia Gertrude) has been in love with musical theater since the age of seven. Her favorite roles of all time have been Mayzie in *Seussical*, Scar in *Lion King*, and Miss Andrew in *Mary Poppins*. This is her fifth show with Places!, and she is so excited to be

in *Addams Family*!! Recently, she got a drama award at her school for Scar in *The Lion King* and Mayzie in *Seussical*! One of her greatest achievements outside of theater was getting her black belt in karate! She would like to thank her friends and family for being so supportive of her passion!

Sam Shaw (Wednesday) is so excited to be playing their first lead at Places! Productions. Sam started their freshman year of college this past summer at Mesa Community College majoring in Music Education. Some of Sam's favorite past roles include Hope in *Anything Goes*, Mickey in *Mr. Spectacular and his Incredibly Mundane Life*, and Fletcher in *Freaky Friday*.

Chai Shay-Johnson (Morticia) has been a performer for many years, but this is the first time Chai has been at Places! Productions! Chai has played roles such as Adelaide (*Guys and Dolls*), Drowsy (*The Drowsy Chaperone*), Rusty (*Footloose*), and Emma (*Emma! the Pop Musical*). Chai would like to thank everyone who has helped her get to this stage in her life and is very excited to continue her musical theatre career with Places!

Sophia Steimle (Goody) This is Sophia's second show with Places! Productions after first appearing as Mrs. Peterson and Mrs. MacAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie*. She is incredibly grateful to have been a part of *Addams Family* and hopes everyone enjoys the show!

Kaylee Switzer (Ancestor Bride) will be a junior at ALAGN and is super excited to be in her first Places! Productions show after watching all of her friends for several years. She enjoys theatre and has been participating in her school's theatre department for 4 years! She has most recently played Megan in *Puffs* (for which she won best female lead) and Flotsam in *The Little Mermaid*! When she's not doing theatre, she loves to participate in her school's ballroom program. She would like to thank her family for supporting her, and her friends for encouraging her to audition!

Camden Toms (Mortimer) has been in many musicals including *Willy Wonka* and *Beauty and the Beast*. Outside of musicals, Camden also participates in dance. He is an incoming sophomore at Williams Field High School. Camden wants to thank his Mom; she has been there for him for everything and is so supportive.

Makenna Valenzuela (Delilah) will be a freshman at Williams Field High School. This is her second musical with Places! Productions. She enjoys singing, dancing, shopping, and spending time with her family and friends. Makenna looks forward to pursuing student council and joining the cheer team in the fall.

Jayda Vannoy (Cousin Helga) is very thankful to be returning to the stage with Places! Productions. She also played The Poor in *Urinetown*, Chimney Sweep 4 in *Mary Poppins*, and Nancy in *Bye Bye Birdie*. She also sang her first season in the show choir, Presto.

Audrey Williams (Ancestor Bride) loves theatre and always has a good time doing all of the Places! Productions shows. She has been in many plays including *Legally Blonde* as ensemble, *Much Ado About Nothing* as Leonato, *Sweeney Todd* as ensemble, and many more. Along with theatre, Audrey loves to do ballroom, choir, and art. Audrey would like to thank her parents for always driving her to rehearsal and her friends for always coming to support her.

Zayden Zahorka (Lucas Beineke) is excited for his role as Lucas in *Addams Family*. He was

previously seen in Places! *Urinetown* as Caldwell B. Cladwell, *Mary Poppins Jr.* as George Banks, *Bye Bye Birdie* as Hugo Peabody, & *The Secret Garden* as Major Shelley. Zayden has been active in theater and show choir, and when he isn't rehearsing, you can find him reading, golfing, or gaming. Zayden is thankful for everyone at Places! and for family and friends that continue to support his love for theater.

CREATIVE BIOS

Breona Conrad (Director) is a multi-faceted theatre artist who can be found on stages, production teams, and as a teaching artist in classrooms all over the valley. She is thrilled to be working with Places! for the second time after last choreographing *Urinetown*. Notable Arizona Credits include *Private Lives* (Sybil, Don Bluth Front Row, Zoni Award) and *Complete Works...* (Southwest Shakespeare, BroadwayWorld Award). Past performance credits include: *Much Ado* (Beatrice), *Midsummer* (Puck), and *As You Like It* (Phoebe), *Comedy of Errors* (Dromio E., Flagstaff Shakes.), *Taming of the Shrew* (Kate, Ronin), *Steel Magnolias* (Truvy, Don Bluth), and *American Idiot* (Whatsername, Stray Cat).

Rachel Espericueta (Choreographer) choreographed Places! Productions' *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Secret Garden*, *Legally Blonde*, *We Will Rock You*, *Little Women*, and *Little Match Girl*. She was last seen on stage as Abigail Williams in Places! Productions' *The Crucible*. Rachel has 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 family for all their love and support, along with the *Addams Family* cast and crew.

Heather McArthur is delighted to be a co-choreographer for Places! Productions *The Addams Family Young @ Part*. Not only is this her debut with Places!, but this is also her first time choreographing for musical theater. Although musical theater has always been very dear to her heart, classical ballet was her true calling. Heather danced ballet professionally for 5 years with Nevada Ballet Theater and 7 years with Ballet Arizona. During this time Heather performed lead and supporting roles in *Giselle*, *Fairy Doll*, *Peter Pan* and *Cinderella*, *Swan Lake*, *Coppelia*, *Don Quixote*, *Raymonda*, *Les Sylphides*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *La Sulphide* and of course, *The Nutcracker*. She also had the privilege to dance 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 dance to start a family in 2010, Heather began teaching ballet and choreographing to all levels all over the valley. Currently, she is teaching the highest level of dancers at Studio R in Mesa. Heather has 3 daughters, 2 of which are performing in the Summer shows with Places! this year. Farrah(12) and Lia(8) are both in *We are Monsters* and Farrah is also in *The Addams Family* working with her mom. It has been such a fun and new experience working with so many young and highly talented performers. Heather wants to thank Allison Houston and the board of Places! for giving her the opportunity to expand her choreography to include the wonderful world that is musical theater. Enjoy the Show!

Tim Mills is an Assistant Director for Places! Productions. He very much enjoyed working with Breona in her Places! Directing debut! His assistant directing credits with Places! Productions before *Addams Family* include *Annie Jr.*, *Aladdin Jr.*, *Hairspray Jr.*, *The Happiest Place on Earth*, *Footloose*, *Shrek the Musical*, the short film *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *We Will Rock You*, *Legally Blonde Jr.*, *Les Miserables*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Mary Poppins Jr.* His Places! 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! since the beginning, and watching the theatre grow! A big Thank You to both casts for your efforts and desire to grow into even better performers! Thank you to our audiences for supporting the Arts and Places! Enjoy the Shows!

Allison Zuccaro (Music Director) is the Founding Artistic Director of Places! Productions. She graduated from ASU in 2012 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 over 40. She runs a private voice studio in Queen Creek and is a board member for the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She thanks the amazingly talented *Addams Family* cast and crew, Breona, Rachel, Heather, Mills, and Jackson for their wonderful work on this show, 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 17 years, encouraged Allison to pursue her dreams and believed in her more than she ever believed in herself.