

-Little Women Cast Bios-

(Adult Cast)

Juli Buehrle (Jo March) has been an absolute "gigglemug" since finding out she gets to be a part of this production of her favorite story ever! This cast and creative team is incredibly talented and she counts herself blessed to be included in it. She gets to share the stage with her beautiful husband David and wants to thank him for being, in a word, the best! Thank you to Allison for this opportunity and for her wonderful direction and leadership. Christopher Columbus, enjoy the show!!

Caitlen Richison (Beth March/Rodrigo 2) is so excited to perform in her dream show with her first appearance with Places Productions! She has a BFA in musical theatre from West Texas A&M university and loves anywhere where she can be creative. She has one regional credit with *Texas: The Outdoor Musical* and was recently in the Ensemble of *Best of Broadway* with Mesa Encore Theatre. Caitlen keeps herself busy as a school services rep for over 100 school's music programs around the valley, having a private voice studio, a member of the creative team at her church, and playing recreational ultimate frisbee.

Abby Gordon (Meg March/ Clarissa) is thrilled to return to the stage with Places! as Meg March! Her favorite past roles include Mary Bailey (*It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*) and Mary Warren (*The Crucible*). She also currently plays Mother in *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Abby has also been an assistant director for Places!' productions of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Our Originals*, as well as writing and directing her first short film, *Wishing*, which premiered in February. She thanks Allison, Rachel, and the whole cast and crew of *Little Women* for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing show!

Lily Saba (Amy March/Troll) is a 2021 graduate of Williams Field High School. She was recently seen as 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*. When she's not on stage she enjoys photography and hanging out with her friends. She would like to thank Allison for always encouraging her to try new things!

Mary King (Marmee March/Hag), is honored to be part of this production of *Little Women*! Recent credits include Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*, Mama Ogre/Mama Bear in *Shrek the*

Musical, *Mom in Type One*, and *Mrs. Frank in The Diary of Anne Frank* with Places! Productions. She is so excited for this performance where she has the wonderful opportunity to perform along side of such amazing talent! She sincerely thanks her family and the Places! Team for all their support!

David Michael Paul (Laurie) is humbled to share the stage with this talented cast and his beautiful wife, Juli. He had the pleasure previously working with Places! in *Shrek, the Musical*; playing a dream role, Lord Farquaad. Thank you to his amazing mother and sister for their endless love and support, Allison for her handwork and dedication in making a safe and wonderful place for all ages to perform, his wife for being the most "astounding" partner (on and off the stage), and to you, the audience, for supporting the arts.

Tim Mills (Mr. Laurence/Knight) is excited to be in his first musical in 18 years! His last musical was an original, *Timothy of Lystra, Come Before the Winter*, and was performed at Chandler Center for the Arts back in 2003. Past Places! Roles include Otto Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* and Thomas Putnam in *The Crucible*. Tim finds it interesting that he is playing a grandfather, Mr. Laurence, for the first time, right after becoming a grandfather in real life! His granddaughter, Harlee Stella, was born September 23rd! "This is for you, Harlee!" Of course, Tim hopes Harlee will be a theatre kid!! Enjoy the Show!

Kasey Ray (Professor Bhaer) is grateful to return to the stage for Places! Productions, formerly appearing in *Diary of Anne Frank* (Kraler), *Shrek the Musical* (Shrek), and *The Crucible* (Proctor). Much thanks to Dr. Tom Turner for all of his help and Milan Patel for being the real life Fritz. With love to his wife Alyssa, gratitude to Rachel for not making him dance, and sincere thanks to Allison for her patience, guidance, and allowing him to perform with Juli and the rest of this incredibly talented cast to which he simply cannot compare. "Danke to you for supporting Places and local theatre during these odd times."

Joseph Strode (John Brooke/Braxton) is a new member of the community originally from Mississippi. He received his BFA in musical theatre from the University of Mississippi. Where he was in various productions including *Assassins*, *Chicago*, *Macbeth*, *Dark of the Moon*, *The Wedding Singer*, and *Hair*. He has also been apart of various Ghostlight Rep theatre productions including *Title of Show*, *Black Comedy*, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, and also music directed *Heathers*. He is very excited for the opportunity to come back to the stage in his first production with Places Productions.

Jennifer Parent (Aunt March/Mrs. Kirk) is a homeschool mom to 4 children, ages 12 to 20, celebrating her 50th year doing first and intentional feats, which includes doing her first show

in 15 years (last one was *Fiddler on the Roof*), and her first ever with one of her children (Noelle). So thankful to Allison and David for believing in her. She is also trying to fit in 50 hikes and reading 50 books this year. Her family moved to Arizona in 2019 after 23 years in Oregon where she earned her M.Ed. and met her husband—so thankful for his support. She enjoys ethnic food, sushi, travel, dancing (most recently clogging and Irish), Shakespeare, discussing great ideas and teaching—currently enjoying most mentoring youth and supporting 2 children.

-Artistic 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 *Little Women* casts 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 (Assistant Director/Choreographer) has had so much fun choreographing and helping out with *Little Women!* She was last seen playing 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 family for being so supportive and Allison for giving her these wonderful opportunities! "Great job, Cast!"