



## CAST BIOS

**Bryce Allen** (Old Man Strong, UGC Staff- Teen Cast) is a sophomore, both born and raised in Arizona. Theatre has always been an interest for him, leading him to take four years of drama at his previous school. This is his first community theater play with Places! Productions.

**Karissa Anderson** (Hope Cladwell- Adult Cast) is excited to be part of the very talented cast of *Urinetown*! Some of her favorite past roles have been Nellie in *South Pacific*, Aurora in *Sleeping Beauty*, Bianca in *Taming of the Shrew*, Reggie in *Murder in Paradise*, and Cinderella in *Into the Woods*. When off-stage, Karissa's most treasured way to spend time is with her amazing family. She also adores her job making magic for hundreds of children as a birthday party princess performer. "Thank you so much to the incredible cast, crew, and artistic team for this experience."

**Addie Beattie** (Billy Boy Bill- Teen Cast) is so excited to be a part of *Urinetown* and to be able to perform with this extremely talented cast! She most recently performed as a Godspell Dancer (*Prom @Greasepaint Theater*) and Alice (*Seven Brides for Seven Brothers @ State 48*). Her favorite show she has performed in is *Les Misérables* here at Places! Productions. "A huge thank you to all the directors and the entire Places Production team for all you do for the cast and the show."

**Ava Chiappetta** (Mrs. Millenium/UGC staff) is a freshman at Gilbert High School. She enjoys choir and drama. Some of her current roles include Mrs. Brill (*Mary Poppins Jr-Places! Productions*), Madame Thenardier (*Les Miserables-Limelight*), Widow Corney (*Oliver Jr-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 back at

Places! Productions in her second performance. She would like to thank Allison for the opportunity to be part of this fun musical!

**Eden Chon** (UGC Staff- Teen Cast) is participating in her third Places! Production show, and loves every second of it. She is also in show choir at Places! too. She is thankful for this opportunity to work and learn with her older cast members and appreciates this opportunity. She wants to thank Miss. Allison, her family, and friends.

**Lexie Critchlow** (The Poor- Teen Cast) is excited to be a part of *Urinetown* as her first production at Places! She has been doing musical theatre since she was 4 years old and has been in love with it ever since. She is currently pursuing a degree in music theatre at Arizona State University. She would like to thank her friends and family for supporting her dreams.

**Zack Desmangles** (Senator Fipp- Teen Cast) is super excited to be in his first show with Places! Productions. This Zack's 10th show. The rest of his shows have been with State 48 Theatre company with being in shows like *Guys and Dolls* as Nicely Nicely Johnson, *The Count of Monte Cristo* as Fernand Mondego, *Hamlet* as Horatio, and his most recent, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* as Ephriam Pontipee. Outside of theater, Zack loves to play music. He would like to thank all of his friends that he made while doing this show. He would also like to thank all of the amazing directors who directed this show!

**Lauren Devey** (The Poor- Teen Cast) is a Sophomore at American Leadership Academy. She has been acting for 4 1/2 years and is a member of the International Thespian Society. Most recently, she played the role of Little Red Riding Hood in her school's production of *Into the Woods*, for which she won the award for "Best Supporting Actress in a Musical". This is Lauren's fourth season with Places! Productions. She played the role of Chutney Wyndham in *Legally Blonde Jr.*, was part of the incredibly talented ensemble cast of *Les Miserables*, and played the roles of Ursula in *Bye Bye Birdie* and Mrs. Brill in *Mary Poppins Jr.* In addition to acting, Lauren studies voice and American Sign Language, plays the piano, and is a talented artist.

**Leah Dodge** (UGC Staff- Adult Cast) is incredibly thankful to be joining Places! Productions for her very first community theater performance. She extends many thanks to her friends and fellow castmates, without whom she would not have had the courage to audition. Leah is most excited for her son to be in the audience, as he silently cheered her on while she made her audition recordings.

**Bella Elle** (Tiny Tom- Teen Cast), age 14, is honored to return to the stage with her friends at Places Productions! Most recently, Bella played the roles of Jane in *Mary Poppins Jr.* and Mary in *The Secret Garden*. She has also been fortunate to play the role of Matilda with both AYT and Limelight theatres, and she has performed with Phoenix Theatre Co as Ivanka in *Once* and Gretl in *The Sound of Music*. In addition to theatre and singing, Bella loves dancing, and working with children and animals. Bella thanks everyone at Places! Productions for this opportunity, and says "Break Legs" to everyone!

**Sonya Etchamendy** (UGC Staff- Adult Cast) Places! roles include Mrs. Medlock in *The Secret Garden* and Grandma in *The Little Match*. She thanks Mrs. Zuccaro for helping her learn how to sing this past year and for the honor of being part of this amazing and talented cast. It is never too late in life to try something new.

**Alison Ethridge** (UGC Staff- Teen Cast) is a freshman at Highland High School who has always loved to perform. She was recently in *Les Misérables School Edition*, where she first got started with Places! and discovered her love of theater. She would like to thank Allison for helping her realize her fondness of acting and hopes to continue with Places! in the future.

**Brianna Fallon** (Penny Pennywise- Adult Cast) (aka Ms Bri) is an actor, director, playwright, teaching artist, singer, and musician. She absolutely adores Allison and Places! Productions and is always honored and excited to participate in their productions in any way. Brianna received her AA in Fine Arts with a focus on Theatre from MCC and has studied acting at Scottsdale Conservatory Theatre and the Megaw Actors studio and thanks Alicia Ferrin for her incredible voice lessons. She has forged a path directing and participating in theatre pieces that champion artists of color and their stories. She is also passionate about her job as Academy Manager for Childsplay's Theatre Academy. Some of her favorite roles have been Dragon in *Shrek the Musical*, Sour Kangaroo in *Seussical*, Tituba in *Crucible*, and Lady in Brown in *For Colored Girls...* When she's not performing, Brianna can be found exploring the outdoors with her husband Justin, designing a graphic for something, or learning a new instrument.

**Lindsay French** (UGC Staff/Ensemble Swing- Both Casts) is in 10<sup>th</sup> grade at Higley High School. Some of her favorite roles have been Karen in *Mean Girls* at Higley HS, Brit in *We Will Rock You* at Places! Productions, and Mayzie LaBird in *Seussical Jr* at LFPA. In her free time she enjoys dancing and is on the pom team at Higley HS and enjoys helping out with Ping and a member of Presto at Places! Productions. She would like to thank Allison for this opportunity with the show.

**Mackenzie Gilligan** (Soupy Sue- Teen Cast) is a 15-year-old sophomore at Red Mountain High School. She was just in *Mary Poppins* as Winifred Banks and is happy to be in another show with Places! Productions. 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. She takes great pride in her academics as well and was asked by her school to apply to the National Honor Society. Her future goals are to not only be on Broadway and acting on TV/Films, but to also attend college at Julliard. In her free time, she is in acting classes, voice lessons, and loves to hang out with her friends.

**Abby Gordon** (Becky Two Shoes- Adult Cast) is thrilled to return to the stage with Places! as Little Becky! Her most memorable roles include Mary Warren (*The Crucible*), Meg March (*Little Women*), and Martha (*The Secret Garden*)! Abby is about to graduate with her

bachelor's degree in Engineering (Robotics) from ASU. She thanks Allison, Jung , Breona, and the whole cast and crew for the opportunity to be a part of this incredible show!

**Alec Gordon** (Officer Barrel- Adult Cast) is pumped to be back with Places! Productions for the first time since *Les Miserables!* Some of his past roles at Places! consist of Mr Laurence (*Little Women*), Khashoggi (*We Will Rock You*), and Professor Callahan + Kyle (*Legally Blonde*). He thanks Allison, Jung, Breanna, and the whole cast and crew of *Urinetown* for an incredible opportunity!

**Olivia Haller** (Little Sally- Teen Cast) has spent most of her life on stage. This is her 14th Places! performance, following roles in *Annie*, *At the Bandstand!*, *The Happiest Place on Earth*, *Harmony High*, *Alice in Wonderland* (March Hare), *Type One*, *Shrek*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Lumiere), *We Will Rock You* (Oz), *Legally Blonde* (Gaelen), *Les Mis*, *The Secret Garden* (Holmes), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Alice), and *Mary Poppins* (Bird Woman). A sophomore, Olivia also sings and dances in the Presto! show choir.

**Ayden Iwan** (Officer Barrel- Teen Cast) is very honored to be participating in this refined theatrical experience with Places! Productions. Some of his past roles with Places! include Marius Pontmercy (*Les Miserables*), Conrad Birdie (*Bye Bye Birdie*), Bert (*Mary Poppins Jr.*), and Dickon (*The Secret Garden*). Ayden would like to thank everyone who has helped on this show for making it such a special experience.

**Dante Johnson** (The Poor/Bobby u/s- Both Casts) currently attends Mesa Community College. Performances include *Guys and Dolls* (Sky- LFPA), *We Will Rock You* (Galileo- Places!), *Freaky Friday* (Adam- LFPA), *Little Women* (Laurie- Places!), *Beauty and the Beast* (Beast- Places!), *Shrek* (Donkey-Places!), *Aladdin* (Aladdin- LFPA), *Les Mis* (Javert- Places!), *The Secret Garden* (Archibald- Places!), ...*Spelling Bee* (Barfee- Mesa Encore), and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour- Mesa Encore). They are a member of Presto and recently places 1st in Musical Theatre at NATS Nationals in San Diego.. Dante's performances are dedicated to the fight against cancer.

**Erin Johnson** (UGC Staff- Teen Cast) is a freshman at Heartwood Montessori and has been performing in youth theater for the past 4 years. Some notable roles she has had were in *Charlie Brown* (Sally), *SpongeBob the Musical* (Mayor of Bikini Bottom) and *Junie B. Jones* (Camille). Erin would like to thank her parents for supporting her interests, Miss Allison for giving her this amazing opportunity, and Addie Beattie for inviting her into the Places! community.

**Peyton Jordan** (Little Sally- Adult Cast) has had the privilege to grow up performing in the theater from the age of 11. Some of her favorite roles include: Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, Mayzie in *Seussical*, & Alice in *Alice in Wonderland*. She also spent a few years performing as characters such as Tinker Bell and Cinderella for Disney in their theme parks and aboard their cruise ships. She is happy to return to the stage after a hiatus from performing due to a career in travel. She would like to thank Allison and the Places! Productions team for inviting her to come play again and her wonderful husband Kevin for being a real-life happily ever after.

**Abby Kesner** (The Poor- Adult Cast), who is 14, enjoys art, swimming, reading, skateboarding, having fun with her family and homeschool. This is Abby's sixth show with Places! Productions. She is delighted to have her dad and three of her sisters in this production. She would like to thank Mrs. Houston, Breona, and Jung for sharing their creativity and direction.

**Chloe Kesner** (Girl Cop/The Poor- Adult Cast), who loves to sing, dance and act, is excited to be a part of the *Urinetown* cast. When Chloe is not performing, she is passionate about spending time with her family. Chloe wants to thank Jung, Breona, and Allison for making this show possible.

**Eddie Kesner** (Dr. Billeaux- Adult Cast) is excited and considers it a privy-ledge to be performing in another Places! Show. His previous Places! credits are flush with memorable characters including Archibald Craven (*The Secret Garden*) and Reverend Hale (*The Crucible*). A few of his other favorite roles are Mayor Shinn (*The Music Man*), Ralph Sheldrake (*White Christmas*), and Schroeder (*You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*). He would like to thank Allison, Breona, and Jung for their time and whizdom. He will especially savor the memories of sharing the stage with his four daughters, who made this experience quite the "potty!"

**Molly Kesner** (The Poor- Adult Cast), a junior, is thankful to be in another Places! Productions show performing alongside her three sisters and her dad. In her first Places! show, Molly played the part of Lefou in *Beauty and the Beast*. She would love to give a big shout out to Mrs. Allison and the Places! Team for all their hard work.

**Olivia Kesner** (Billy Boy Bill- Adult Cast) is excited to be in the cast of *Urinetown*. This will be her sixth show with Places! Productions. When she is not onstage, Olivia enjoys dancing, skateboarding, and having a good time. Olivia is thrilled to join her dad and sisters onstage for this production. She would like to thank Mrs. Houston, Breona, and Jung for putting the show together.

**Mady King** (Becky Two Shoes- Teen Cast) is excited to join the cast of *Urinetown*! 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 Theater 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!

**Rigley Kirkpatrick** (Robby the Stockfish- Teen Cast) is honored to be a part of the *Urinetown* cast at Places Productions! He is 14 years old and attends Learning Foundation and Performing Arts. He has also competed in two NATS competitions and loved the experience! Rigley loves to sing, dance, and just be on stage. In his free time, he likes to hang out with his friends, play Roblox, snow ski, go to the lake, and attend play/show choir practice. Ripleys favorite plays to be a part of have been *Legally Blonde* and *We Will Rock You*. His whole family is so proud of him and all that he has accomplished so far!

**Sara Kubiak** (UGC Staff- Adult Cast) This is Sara's second show with Places! Productions. She is so pleased to be working alongside her friends and former students. She would like to thank her husband and two best girls for their support and inspiration.

**Lexi Leibrand** (The Poor- Teen Cast) is a sixteen-year-old sophomore at Red Mountain High School. This is her fifteenth theatrical production and her first at Places Productions. A few of her favorites include *Anastasia, the musical*, *The Three Musketeers*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. Off stage, Lexi plays bass guitar in her band and takes singing lessons with Nichole Jensen at Melodic Music Studio. She thanks the entire production team for the opportunity to be a part of this show.

**Aaron Leybovich** (UGC Staff- Teen Cast) was last seen on the Places! stage as the fabulous drummer in *Rock and Roll Forever!*

**Tim Mills** (Old Man Strong- Adult Mast) Mills is normally Places! Productions' Assistant Director but is now back on stage again! His previous acting credits include *What a Wonderful Life* (Ensemble), *Timothy of Lystra* (Jason), *Joan of Arc* (Bishop Cauchon), and with Places!: *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Otto Frank), *The Crucible* (Thomas Putnam), and *Little Women the Musical* (Mr. Laurence). It has been 20 years since Mills has had to learn this much music and choreography, so he thanks Breona and Allison very much for their patience with those who have been away from this for a while! He is also happy to be working again with his favorite theatre guy, Kasey Ray! "For those of you who have come to support us and the Arts, Urine for a fun time! Enjoy the Show!!"

**Beau Morgan** is so excited to be making his debut with Places! Productions. Some of his favorite roles include Sam (*Pirates of Penzance*), Henry (*Newsies*), and Snoopy (*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*). He is always thrilled to be performing and is grateful to have the chance to play one of his favorite roles in all of musical theater. He'd like to give a special shoutout to his beautiful wife who always supports him, and is so thankful for everyone who came out to support! "Welcome to Urinetown!....The Musical."

**Steve Morgan** (Caldwell B. Cladwell- Adult Cast) is thrilled to be playing the evil, miserly Caldwell B. Cladwell in Places! Productions' staging of *Urinetown*. He was seen recently as Oliver Hix in *The Music Man* at Hale Centre Theatre. Other Valley credits include *Annie* (Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks), *Newsies* (Joseph Pulitzer), *Oklahoma* (Ali Hakim), and *Guys & Dolls* (Rusty Charlie). Steve is excited to share the stage with this talented cast, and especially his son, Beau. He would like to thank his wife, Wendy, for her never-ending love, support, and encouragement. Also, a shout out to Betty, his other 4 kids, and 6 beautiful grandkids. Enjoy the show!

**Jeremy Poehls (Pails)** (Senator Fipp- Adult Cast) is thrilled to make his Places! Productions debut, marking his first theatrical stage appearance in 24 years. Back in the 20th century, Jeremy graced the stage in productions such as *Bye Bye Birdie*, *South Pacific*, *The Odd Couple*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. A true renaissance man, Jeremy is a practicing luxury real estate professional, a digital garment decoration expert and trainer,

and a YouTube content creator in both fields. Jeremy is a multi-instrumentalist and enjoys mountain biking, hiking, backpacking, snorkeling, and scuba diving. His return to theater is inspired by his daughter, Josie, who shares the stage with him today. Jeremy would be remiss to not thank his wife Rachel for supporting him in all his endeavors, especially the crazy ones.

**Josie Poehls** (The Poor- Both Casts) This is Josie's first time in a full production with Places! Josie is a junior at Perry High School and has been involved in drama, choir, and dance. When she isn't on stage, you can find her behind a camera as a photographer! She is so thankful for all the opportunities Places! has brought her! She would also like to thank her dad for taking the time to take the stage again, with her.

**Alyssa Ray** (Mrs. Millenium- Adult Cast) is excited to be in *Urinetown the Musical*. She would like to thank Allison for the opportunity and Breona and Jung for all of their patience and hard work. As well as her husband for his ability to always find the joy in all situations. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Kasey Ray** (Officer Lockstack- Adult Cast) is grateful to be performing with Places! Productions again! Previously appearing in *The Secret Garden* (Albert), *The Little Match Girl* (Father), *Little Women* (Professor Bhaer), *The Crucible* (John Proctor), *Shrek the Musical* (Shrek), and *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Kraler) with Places!, Kasey is thrilled to return to the stage in this presentation of *Urinetown*. Much thanks to Allison, Jung, Breona and this lovely cast for their hard work, and love to Alyssa and his family.

**Izzy Redwitz** (Josephine Strong- Teen Cast) is a 9th grade student. She has a passion for theater, music, singing, and dance. Her past shows include *The Addams Family*, *All Shook Up*, *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, *Les Miserables School Edition*, *The Secret Garden*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Mary Poppins Jr.* She has competed in the Musical Theatre Competition of America and sings in the choir at Highland High School. Izzy thanks her family, friends, directors, and teachers who have supported and taught her over the years. She is excited to be a part of *Urinetown* and looks forward to performing with such fun and talented actors.

**Ava Saba** (Soupy Sue- Adult Cast) is 17 years old and a Senior at ASU Prep Digital. She is thrilled to be back on the Places! Stage once again. She was most recently seen as Mary in *Mary Poppins*, Lily in *Secret Garden*, and Eponine in *Les Miserables* with Places! Productions. Some of her favorite roles she's played are Scaramouche in *We Will Rock You*, and Beth March in *Little Women*. Other shows she has been in are *Lion King*, *All Shook Up* and *42nd Street* with AYT and *Matilda* with Valley Youth Theatre. As always, she wants to thank Allison Houston Zuccaro for always believing in her!

**Juliana Salaiz** (UGC Staff- Teen Cast) is a Freshman at Gilbert High school. She is in Concert Band at her school and she has played the trumpet for the past 6 years. She has been in numerous musicals with StageDoor Studios since 2017 and has performed with Places! Productions. She has always enjoyed the stage life. Off stage, Juli loves spending time with her family and her friends. She especially loves her 2 dogs, Gordo and Flaka!

**Aaron Schneider** (Mr. McQueen- Adult Cast) is excited to have another opportunity to perform with and among the wonderful staff and artists of Places! Productions. Aaron has most recently been seen as Issachar in AZMTO's showcase of *Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, as Nicely Nicely Johnson and Jacey Squires in QCPAC's productions of *Guys & Dolls* and *Music Man*, and as multiple roles in two separate 2023 productions of *The Secret Garden*. He enjoys being active on the mountain trails and singing anywhere/everywhere he can! He'd like to thank his family for their ongoing patience and support! In the words of singer/song-writer Harry Chapin, "he did not know how well he sang...it just made him whole!"

**Zion Schneider** (Hope Cladwell- Teen Cast, The Poor- Adult Cast) is very excited to be performing with Places Productions for the very first time! It has been one of her most joyful theatrical experiences. Her recent credits include Sister Mary Robert Anne in *Nunsense* and Scar in *The Lion King* with the Queen Creek Performing Arts Center. In addition to exploring a career in the performing arts, she'll be attending med and esthetician school in the fall. She wants to thank her family and friends for their glowing love and support!

**Piper Searcy** (Boy Cop/The Poor/Penny u/s- Teen Cast) has been in love with musical theater since the age of seven. Her favorite role of all time has been Scar in *The Lion King*. This is her fifth show with Places!, and she is so excited to be in *Urinetown!!* 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** (Tiny Tom- Adult Cast) Places! credits include performing in *Les Mis* and *Mary Poppins Jr.* and music directing last summer's *At the Bandstand*.

**Joseph Sullivan** (Officer Lockstock- Teen Cast, Robby the Stockfish- Adult Cast) Joe has been performing for all his life and grew up in New York. Some previous performances include *Jekyll and Hyde* (Mr. Hyde), *Legally Blonde* (Emmett Forrest), *Elf* (Buddy), and *Hamlet: A Tragedy in Three Rings* (Hamlet), and *Les Mis* (Enjolras). Joe is thrilled to be back with his friends to perform in this show.

**Rosanna (Ro) Suniga** (UGC Staff- Adult Cast) is so excited to be back on the stage for her third performance, first time with Places!. She is so grateful to Allison and the rest of the directors for giving her this opportunity! Huge thanks to Danica Hill for always being a text away for vocal help!

**Jayda Vannoy** (The Poor- Teen Cast) is a freshman at LFPA who loves to sing and dance. Upcoming performances include Winter Showcase singing "Another Day of Sun", playing Reporter 1 in *Drowsy Chaperone*. Past performances at LFPA include solo as Sally Brown "My New Philosophy", Anastasia in "Once Upon a December", Jane Fairfax in *Emma the Pop Musical*. Other performances include *Footloose* and *Musical Revue*. Previous shows with Places! Productions are Chimney Sweep 4 in *Mary Poppins*, and Nancy in *Bye Bye Birdie*. She wants to send her thanks to Allison, Mrs Mills and the choreographers, and a special thanks to her mom for coming to every one of her shows.



**Julia Vollstedt** (The Poor- Adult Cast) is very excited to be in this production of *Urinetown*. This is her third show at Places! Productions; she was just in last season's production of *Mary Poppins*. She loves singing in choir, doing puzzles, reading, and she loves her super cool best friend Lauren.

**Allie Weid** (Penelope Pennywise- Teen Cast) is a sophomore at Desert Ridge High School. She has been doing musical theater since she was 8 years old. She is excited to be back on the Places! Productions stage for *Urinetown*. Her favorite roles include Eponine in *Les Mis*, Karen Smith in *Mean Girls*, Matilda in *Matilda Jr*, and Killer Queen in *We Will Rock You*.

**Davin Williams** (Mr. Queen- Teen Cast) is ecstatic to be playing Mr. McQueen in *Urinetown*. He has been doing theater for 2 years now, and some of his favorite roles have been Aaron Samuels (*Mean Girls* - Actors Youth Theater), Emmett Forrest (*Legally Blonde Jr.* - Desert Ridge High School), and Bishop of Digne/Courfeyrac (*Les Misérables* - Places! Productions). He has been doing voice lessons with Allison and Albert Lee and dance lessons with Djuro Baich and would like to thank all of them for all their help and support! Thank you everyone for getting him to where he is today!

**Jackson Wood** (Bobby Strong- Teen Cast, Hot Blades Harry- Adult Cast) is thrilled to be playing Bobby and Harry in this production of *Urinetown*! Some of his past roles include: *Mary Poppins* (Bert), *Secret Garden* (Dr. Neville Craven), *Les Miserables* (Jean Valjean), and *Bye Bye Birdie* (Conrad Birdie). He wants to thank his wonderful girlfriend for writing this bio for him and all his friends and family for their support.

**Erika Wright** (Josephine Strong- Adult Cast) is a huge ball of nerves and excitement as she debuts as Josephine Strong! As a wife, nanny, and mom to three daughters, 4 dogs, 1 cat, a tortoise, and 17 fish, she wears many hats; but, decided at age 41 to try on one more by auditioning for this musical- YOLO! A million thank yous to Allison Houston and the entire casting committee for offering Erika the opportunity of a new adventure and a space for personal growth- it has been a completely worthwhile experience!

**V Wright** (Hot Blades Harry- Teen Cast) is a 17-year-old teen with a severe acting bug! She is thrilled to be in her first musical with Places! Productions! In 2023, V fulfilled one of her dreams of performing as Fantine in *Les Miserables*, after beginning her acting journey 13 years ago! She is a two-time AriZoni Nominee, and was awarded a National Youth Arts Award for her role as Princess Tilly in *The Clumsy Princess*. V's other memorable performances include singing her heart out as a narrator in *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Cinderella in *Into the Woods*, Enid Hoopes in *Legally Blonde*, and Young Tarzan. When V is not acting or singing, she is drawing, playing tennis, or making everyone laugh with her preternatural faces, noises, and body contortions! She would like to thank the Director, Allison Houston, and all of the Places! Productions family for giving her the role of the fierce and feisty Hot Blades Harry!

**Zayden Zahorka** (Caldwell B. Cladwell- Teen Cast) is excited for his role as the main antagonist, Caldwell B. Cladwell, in *Urinetown*. He was previously seen in Places! *Mary*

*Poppins Jr.* as George Banks, *Bye Bye Birdie* as Hugo Peabody, & *The Secret Garden* as Major Shelley, EVCT's *The Lion King Jr.*, & *Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus*. 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 him.

## PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

**Breona Conrad** (Choreographer) 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 first time. 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).

**Susan Houston** (Costume Designer) Susan would like to thank the Board of Places! for the opportunity to create a fresh approach for the *Mary Poppins* characters. Susan's credits with Places! include Costume Designer for *Les Miserables*, *School Edition*, *The Crucible*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Annie* and Costume coordinator/designer for *We Will Rock you*, *Little Women*, *Velveteen Rabbit*, *Shrek* and *Beauty and The Beast*. Before Places!, Susan designed for various youth theatres across the valley. Her favorite productions are *Les Misérables* (Arizoni recipient 2007-2008), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Arizoni Nomination 2008-2009), *Little Women*, *Peter Pan*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *Cinderella*, and *Charlotte's Web*, her costume design debut.

**Jung Lee** (Music Director) Jung Eun Lee, based in Mesa, Arizona, began her musical journey in Korea, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Vocal Performance. She furthered her education at Arizona State University (ASU), obtaining a second bachelor degree in Piano Performance and Music Education. This was followed by a Master's in Choral Conducting and Music Education from ASU. Her post-graduate mentors include Dr. Baruch Meir, Dr. George Umberson, and Dr. Gregory Gentry from ASU's School of Music. Additionally, she has enriched her knowledge under renowned figures like James Jordan, Charles Bruffy, Bruce Chamberlain, Sabine Horstman, and the internationally acclaimed educator and conductor, Weston Noble. Since June 2007, Ms. Lee has dedicated herself as the Music Director at Love of Christ Lutheran Church. Her responsibilities encompass directing the Chancel Choir, Women's Ensemble, Youth Bell Ringers, Alleluia Ringers, Children's Musical, and the Children's Chime Choir. She also annually conducts the Christmas Cantatas. Professionally, Ms. Lee has been an active member of the American Choral Directors Association, the Music Teachers National Association, and the Handbell Musicians of America since 2004. In the community, Ms. Lee showcased her talents as a solo and duet performer at the Chandler Center of the Arts during the Chinese New Year

celebrations in 2015 and 2016. She served as a clinician at the vocal choir workshop at New Life Presbyterian Church and orchestrated the mass choir for Arizona's 500th Reformation Choral Festival in 2017. That same year, she conducted the mass choir and performed a handbell solo at the 8th Anniversary Choral Festival in Kingston, Jamaica. More recently, in January 2022 and 2023, she was invited to conduct a piano ensemble for the East Valley Music Teachers Association. In July 2023, she had the distinct honor of working as a vocal coach alongside Musical Director Allison Houston of Places! Production Company for the musicals *The Secret Garden* and *Urinetown*. Furthermore, she was invited to adjudicate a voice competition through the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) on July 29, 2023. Jung Lee's life is a harmonious blend of her professional, personal, and artistic passions. While she is deeply committed to her musical endeavors, she cherishes the moments spent with her three beautiful children: two sons aged 15 and 12, and a daughter aged 9. They often travel together, exploring new places and creating lasting memories.

**Allison Zuccaro** (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 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 *Urinetown* cast and crew, Breona, Jung, and Alex 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.