

USU Eastern  
*Presents*

Roald  
Dahl's

James

and  
the

Giant  
Peach

*adapted by* David Wood

*directed by* Dr. Corey Ewan



# **CAST**

James-Taylor Karns

Aunt Spiker- Trinalee Hatch

Aunt Sponge-Sami Foster

Centipede-Hunter Peterson

Earthworm-Emma Bowers

Lady Bug- Aubrey Jorgensen

Miss Spider-Scyler Smith

Old Green Grasshopper-Jensen Otteson

Tour Guides/Parents/News Crew/Ship Crew/-Danielle Simmons,  
Patrick Paulk

Rhino-Kyra Waechtler

# **Crew**

Production Manager- Brent Innes

Director-Corey Ewan

Stage Manager-Kyaera Price

Assistant Stage Manager-Maxwell Otteson

Stage Crew-Kyra Waechtler, Maxwell Otteson

Sound Design-Taylor Karns, Benjamin Petersen

Light Design/Set Design -Brent Innes

Sound Operator-Benjamin Petersen

Light Board Operator-Hailey Haymond

Costume Design-Hongji Zhu “Joy”, Ellie DeMie

Costume Construction-Ellie DeMie

## **DIRECTORS NOTE**

Rhyme or reason; often the culminating force behind decisions to act, to not act, to do or to do not. I have thought of this as I have approached this assignment. I have had to conclude, that it was the actors who ultimately won me over to the project. I am always in awe of the creative spirit. These young actors have worked hard, many of them outside of their respective comfort zones to create these wonderful characters.

Early on in the development of this project we, as a cast and crew, thought of how warped Roald Dahl is. That when children are surrounded by fear and loss they often turn to the oddest of companions. James becomes friends with creatures we would rather not have in our homes or gardens. Yet they treat him with love and concern when human relations do not. We think of *Matilda* and her horrible family finding friendship with a put-upon teacher. Charlie and his circumstances with the other children invited to Wonka's factory. Strange.

Yet here, in the peach, James does find happiness and, in this world, these are not creatures to fear but to understand and accept. They treat him with respect and love and therefore we should do the same with those with whom we fear or avoid for the same reason; outward appearance and behavior. Perhaps this was Roald Dahl's objective; try to find love and acceptance in the most unlikely of circumstances.

Whew! Too much seriousness. Our goal here is also to entertain, to make you laugh, and to enjoy the hour spent with us. Thank you for being here and enjoy the show.

## **Corey Ewan**



Dr. Ewan has appeared in and directed over 100 plays, many of them here at USU Eastern. Corey has been acting since his first-grade year. His most popular role was the troll in *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* in Mrs. Spenser's 4th grade class at Washington Elementary school. Since then, he has taught here at USU Logan, and BYU. He has directed professionally at the Old Lyric Repertory Company in Logan and at Actors Repertory in Provo. Favorite roles have been Bo in *Bus Stop*, Eddie in *Fool for Love*, Eddie in Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*, Jack in *Man and Superman*, Benedict in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Gloucester in *King Lear*, Shylock in the *Merchant of Venice*, among others. As director he has brought such productions as *1776*, *Les Misérables*, *Inherit the Wind*, *A Few Good Men*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Rabbit Hole* and *Rumors* to life

## **Brent Innes**



BRENT INNES wears many hats as the Theater Production and Design faculty at USU Eastern. He recently earned tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor. He teaches stagecraft, stage makeup, lighting design, production sound, stage management and production practicum. In addition to this teaching load, Brent is also the designer, production manager and producer for all USU Eastern Theater productions, and grillmaster for all other activities. He teaches and mentors students in all aspects of theater production and live entertainment through practical experience on the stage as well as in the classroom.

Thank you to Kim and the kids for always being along for the ride and accepting these adult kids into our lives and home.



## **Kyaera Price**

Kyaera is a junior at Utah State Eastern. She once again engaged in one of her favorite past- times, theatre This time, however, she is doing tech and Kyaera enjoys being a part of a theatre productions. For "James and the Giant Peach," Kyaera worked as Stage Manager. Kyaera has been involved in theatre most of her life but has recently been introduced to the tech side of theatre and loves it.



## **Maxwell Otteson**

Max has recently premiered in the Stage Play of "Clue", and "All My Sons" here at Utah State University Eastern. Max has also performed in a number of shows in high school as well as perform in Disaster the musical at the Empress Theatre in Magna, Utah.



## **Hailey Haymond**

Hailey is a sophomore here at USU Eastern! She is a part of theater and student government and loves her opportunities to work with everyone on campus. Hailey has loved working on this production with all the amazing cast and crew. It has been an amazing experience to watch them all grow and to work under a fantastic director. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!



## **Benjamin Peterson**

Being a Cache Valley native, Benjamin Petersen decided to enroll in Utah State University. On the way to his first day of classes, Siri got him lost and he found himself three hours away from Logan at Utah State University Eastern. The empty tank in his car prompted him to bunker down and just call it good enough. He is studying Theatre Technology and Design and is most interested in Sound and Lighting. He has performed Improv Comedy with The Antics in Logan and graduated from Green Canyon High School in 2019.



### **Taylor Karns**

Taylor is a sophomore here at USU Eastern. He is part of theater and works with the first-year experience team on campus. He loves to meet new faces on campus and help with events that allow the students to have fun. He has done theater for the last 10 Years of his life. Taylor is usually backstage or in the booth for productions. But for this production Taylor is excited to be on stage. Along with being James in this Production of James and the Giant peach he has been working as the sound designer with the help of Ben Petersen. He is excited to finally put on this production after it was canceled due to Covid 19 last year. He is grateful for his cast and crew who have been big supporters throughout the process. He hopes that you have fun and enjoy the show!



### **Trinalee Hatch**

Trinalee Hatch is a theater major at USU Eastern. This is her last semester here before she moves on to get her bachelor's degree at UVU in Orem. She has always loved theater and plans on becoming a theater teacher. She has been a part of some productions over the last two years; namely "Big Fish" (Sandra), "Clue" (Stage Manager/Cook), and this play "James and the Giant Peach" (Spiker). She hopes you enjoy the show.



### **Sami Foster**

Sami loves theatre and has been acting for 10 years! Her favorite roles include Ursula in "Bye Bye Birdie," Anticlea in "The Odyssey," and Belle in "Game of Tiaras." She hopes that you enjoy the show, and you are not too scared of Aunt Sponge!



### **Hunter Peterson**

Hunter Peterson (Centipede) is a current sophomore at Utah State University Eastern. He has had the pleasure of portraying a variety of characters within different shows including “Charlie Brown” in You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown, “Horton the elephant” in Seussical, “Tom Donahue” in a collegiate production of These Shining Lives, and “Mr. Green” in Clue. He also wrote and performed his own stand-up comedy show, The Rosegarden, last year on campus. He has passion for storytelling and wishes to always be a part of telling them, whether they be on stage, in conversation or otherwise. It has been a pleasure for him to work on James and the Giant Peach and hopes you are able to take in the show!



### **Emma Bowers**

Emma is a Freshman here at USUE. This is her third show here and she cannot wait for you to see it. This is a very different role for her, and it has pushed her out of her comfort zone in many ways, but she hopes you enjoy the show as much as she has enjoyed playing the part! Sent from my iPhone



### **Aubrey Jorgensen**

This is Aubrey's fifth production here at USUE. She has been singing and acting since 6th grade. She absolutely loves it. She is overly excited to play Ladybug in this fun, adventurous children's show. She wants to thank her Theatre family for loving her and making her feel welcome. She also wants to thank Brent and Corey for giving her yet another opportunity to have fun on stage. She looks forward to being in more productions here at this school.



### **Scyler Smith**

Scyler has been doing shows with the theatre program for about 11 years. She has designed makeup and performed in multiple shows with the USUE Theatre department. She is a makeup director and lead actor at Dead City Haunted House in Murray, Utah in her down time. She is so excited to play Miss Spider in James and the Giant Peach



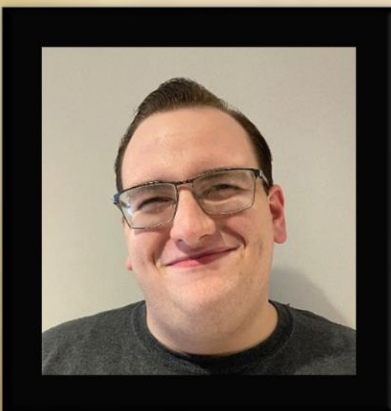
### **Jensen Otteson**

Jensen is a Freshman at USUE. He has been backstage for CLUE and was cast as Frank Lubey in All My Sons before he had to quit the show. He has absolutely loved rehearsing this show and is so excited to perform it.



### **Danielle Simmons**

Danielle Simmons is a freshman at USU Eastern, and James and the Giant Peach is her second show at the university. She is overly excited to be a part of this show.



### **Patrick Paulk**

Patrick, or Patty, is a recurring actor here at USUE for the last few years. He is happy to join this wonderful cast and crew in bringing his favorite Roald Dahl book to the stage. Patty has loved experimenting with all his characters, especially the Old Man! Try and count how many separate characters he plays!





## **Kyra Waechtler**

Kyra Waechtler is from North Logan, Utah. She was very involved in the theatre space at Green Canyon High School before graduating in 2020. She enjoys painting, video games, and animals. This is Kyra's third show with USU Eastern, and she is excited to explore being a part of the stage crew. This role has brought her new insights and perspective in the world of theatre.

# **SPECIAL THANKS**

Cain College of the Arts

Associate Vice President Greg Dart

Braden Nelson and Geary Event Staff

## **Up Coming Productions**

Fall Production TBA

As you Like It Fall 2021

Huebner Spring 2022

Bright Star Spring 2022