



OVATIONS
THEATRE

DECEMBER
5, 6, 7, 8 | 2019

SPRING AWAKENING

Music by **DUNCAN
SHEIK**

Book & Lyrics by
STEVEN SATER

Based on the play
by Frank Wedekind

Direction by
DARNELL PATRICK MORRIS

Musical Direction by
VALERIE A. HIGGS

Choreography by
MORGAN CHRISTINA THOMAS

ovationstheatre.com

WELCOME

Welcome to the opening production of our Senior Company's Fifth Anniversary Season. It is not new for OVATIONS to bring shows to our young people that relate to what is actually going on in their lives. Spring Awakening once again allows OVATIONS students to be able to explore mature material in a safe space allowing them to have very open and frank conversations that for young people are often skirted around or all together ignored. During our process we've been able to discuss and explore some of the darker themes found in the material; teen suicide, sexual abuse, teen pregnancy, sexual exploration, to name just a few. As a company we were able to talk about resources and options available to our students and those they know who deal with these issues. What is astounding is that these themes and circumstances are as prevalent today as they were back in the 1800s when the original text was written for this piece. What I admire about this show is that it was not written to be edgy or to make audiences uncomfortable with teenage angst but rather to really open a dialogue about how consequences of censoring young people from knowledge can be detrimental to their development.



“Something was withheld . . . We found it was ourselves.”

- Robert Frost

When students are being threatened and punished for speaking out for what is right, OVATIONS takes seriously the responsibility to provide a safe place where young people can hone their voice and actually be heard. It is a strange reality we live in that our society thinks of young people as children until the age of 18 when magically they are adults.

“When you know better you do better; or you should at least try.”

- Maya Angelo

Exploring ideas of identity, community, sexuality and acceptance, Spring Awakening remains relevant as ever, as it examines what it means to be a young person in a changing world. The need for Knowledge is really the heart of our story. The show is set in a Victorian library where knowledge is everywhere around the students yet oddly hard to obtain. The show focuses on how knowledge was filtered to the students from the governing

adults providing them with only what they deemed appropriate.

This show, especially in the current polarizing society, continually challenges me about how I treat and communicate with young people. Our hope for this production is that our community leaves understanding that young people are hungry for knowledge- thirsty to be a part of our society- and desperate to have a voice. Unlike the characters in the script, our students are living in a time and a society where the access to knowledge and availability to have open conversations about tough subjects is available and happening. Our kids are empowered to speak out, question and seek understanding and put into action their efforts to leave this earth a little better than they found it. I am thankful to know that I have students who are truly thinking about the future and how their story will affect others for many years to come.

Make sure to check out our website at www.ovationstheatre.com for information our upcoming auditions for Kander and Ebb's Cabaret, our Junior Company's production of Matilda, our Summer Teen intensive and much more. Sit back, relax and enjoy the show.

- Darnell Patrick Morris, *Founder & Producing Artistic Director*

Student Production Note

Spring Awakening is a production showing the inside of things most people are too scared to talk about. Set in 19th century Germany, it was a time when the only people who could receive information were parents and teachers, and children were commonly completely sheltered from harsh realities. There was no internet to let teenagers know that what they were going through was normal. During this show, teenagers learn to question authority and discover things their parents kept from them. Spring Awakening focuses on subjects such as suicide, sexual abuse and abortion; and learning to break free from society's standards.



Here at OVATIONS THEATRE each student has a voice. No matter who they are, or where they're from, everyone is equally challenged and pushed to be the best version of themselves. Each actor is incredibly important and is given their own spotlight. Spring Awakening is an exceptionally difficult show to put on due to the many potentially triggering topics, but we work hard to educate the audience and hope to leave them thinking when the show is over. These topics have also brought us together as a cast to really notice things around us and care about one another like a family.

Although this show takes place a long time ago, the topics are very prevalent today. Things such as the #MeToo movement have really brought these topics to the light, but victims are still scared to reach out and get help. OVATIONS THEATRE hopes that we as teens in today's society can open up your eyes and inspire you to make a difference after you leave the theatre today. We have all worked incredibly hard and we can not wait for you to see the show. Enjoy!

- Kendyl Morrison



Cast List

Triple Cast Breakdown & Performance Schedule

	RED CAST	BLUE CAST	YELLOW CAST
WENDLA	Heather Kirshner	Mia Ehrlich	Ellie Johnson
ILSE	Starr Ruben	Lilly McKinnon	Ellie Parks
MARTHA	Madelyn Fox	Sitare Sadeghi	Thalia Eyles
MELCHIOR	Jonah Schwartz	Angelo Harrington II	Jack Rosenberg
MORITZ	Beau Scott	Ian Coursey	Sam Salem

RED CAST	Thursday, December 5 at 7:30pm and Friday, December 6 at 7:30p
BLUE CAST	Saturday, December 7 at 2:00pm and Saturday, December 7 at 7:30pm
YELLOW CAST	Sunday, December 8 at 10:00am and Sunday, December 8 at 1:00pm

Double Cast Breakdown & Performance Schedule

	RED CAST	BLUE CAST
THEA	Raina Weinberg	Thalia Peters
ANNA	Eva Salins	Maddie Rohan
MELITTA	Kendyl Morrison	Iris Postovit
HANSCHEN	Austin Rose	Daniel Seligman
ERNST	David Klos	Henry Baratz
GEORG	Jayden Armour	Matthew Rubin
OTTO	Paul Ruff	Max Miller
FRAU BERGMAN	Jordan Kelberg	Grace Corbett
FRAU GABOR	Aja Cooke	Mia Rohan

RED CAST	Thursday, December 5 at 7:30pm, Friday, December 6 at 7:30pm and Saturday, December 7 at 2:00pm
BLUE CAST	Saturday, December 7 at 7:30pm, Sunday, December 8 at 10:00am and Sunday, December 8 at 1:00pm

The Following Roles Perform In Every Performance

HERR SONNENSTICH/HERR KNOCHENBRUCH	Brendan Hylton
HERR STIEFEL/ FATHER KAULBACH	Cole Chalfant
FRAULEIN KNUPPELDICK	Blakely Masse
FRAULEIN GROSSEBUSTENHALTER	Anna Heron
HERR RILOW/ HERR NEUMANN	Miles Carr
FRAU BESSELL/ FRAU SCHMIDT	Eliana Posin
DOCTOR VON BRAUSEPULVER	Shayna Kolter

CORE DANCERS

Grace Corbett, Thalia Eyles, Madelyn Fox, Jordan Kelberg, Cassidy Kepner, Sitare Sadeghi, Emily Thompson, Mikayla Reich, Tori Shemer

Production Staff

Producing Artistic Director	Darnell Patrick Morris
Managing Director.....	Morgan Fannon
Associate Artistic Director.....	Theresa Cunningham
Artistic Associate/Music Supervisor	Mayumi Griffie
Music Director	Valerie A Higgs
Choreographer	Morgan Christina Thomas
Stage Manager	Jenna Ballard
Light Design	Steven Barker
Sound Design	Isaac Craig
Scenic Design/Master Carpenter	James Raymond
Scenic Paint Charge.....	Jordan Stocksdale
Set Builders	Cayden Raff, Jack Rosenberg, Matthew Rubin and Cole Shankle
Student Interns.....	Cayden Raff, Matthew Rubin and Cole Shankle
Costume Design	Darnell Patrick Morris
Dance Captains.....	Jordan Kelberg and Tori Shemer
Videographer.....	Joel Richon
Season Photographer	Traci J Brooks of Lock & Company
Season Graphic Designer	Drama Queen Graphics

Special Thanks to JCC Kreeger Staff, WVU Theatre department, Ginger of Gene's Costumes, Arielle Bayer, Linda Swann and Eleanor Dicks

Band

Conductor/Keyboard	Valerie A. Higgs
Violin	Audrey Chang
Viola.....	Tasha Pulvermacher
Cello	Joe Ichnowski
Guitar.....	Rick Peralta
Bass.....	Tony Aragon
Drums	Jim Hofmann

Musical Numbers

ACT 1

Mama Who Bore Me.....	Wendla
Mama Who Bore Me (Reprise).....	Wendla and Women
All That's Known	Melchior and Men
The Bitch of Living.....	Men
My Junk.....	Full Company
Touch Me.....	Melchior, Moritz & Company
The Word of Your Body	Wendla and Melchior
The Dark I Know Well.....	Martha, Isle and Company
The Word of Your Body (Reprise)	Full Company
And Then There Were None.....	Moritz and Company
The Mirror- Blue Night.....	Melchior and Company
I Believe.....	Full Company

There will be a brief 15 minute intermission

ACT 2

The Guilty Ones	Wendla, Melchior & Company
Don't Do Sadness.....	Mortiz
Blue Wind.....	Ilse
Don't Do Sadness/Blue Wind	Mortiz and Ilse
Left Behind.....	Melchior and Company
Totally Fucked.....	Full Company
The Word of Your Body (Reprise 2)	Hanschen and Ernst
Whispering.....	Wendla
Those You've Known.....	Melchior, Wendla & Moritz
The Song of Purple Summer	Ilse and Company

Production Bios

Darnell Patrick Morris (Director & Producing Artistic Director), Founder & Producing Artistic Director of OVATIONS, has been a Director, Choreographer and Theatre Educator in the Washington, DC area for the past decade. His students have been seen on Broadway, as well as many local professional stages including Signature Theatre, Arena Stage, Olney Theatre Centre, ATMTC, Woolly Mammoth and Ford's Theatre. Select Directing Credits – OVATIONS: *Next To Normal*, *Hair*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Mary Poppins Jr*, *Les Miserables: School Edition*, *Carrie*, *Andrew Lippa's The Wild Party*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid JR*, *The Addams Family Young@Part*, *Parade*, *Heathers*, *Hairspray JR*, *Sunday in The Park With George*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR*, *Spring Awakening*, *Rent*, *Into The Woods JR*, *Sweeney Todd and Seussical JR*. Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre: *In The Heights*, *Into the Woods*, *Avenue Q*, *Hairspray*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Stillpointe Theatre: *Caroline or Change*. Kensington Arts Theatre: *Les Miserables*, *Ragtime*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *The Rocky Horror Show*. Awards: 2018 Ruby Griffith Award for *In The Heights*, City Paper 2015 Best Musical: *Caroline, Or Change*, 2014 Ruby Griffith Award for *Les Miserables*, 2013 Ruby Griffith Award for *Avenue Q*, 2012 Ruby Griffith Award for *Hairspray*, 2011 Ruby Griffith Award for *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, 2009 Ruby Griffith Award for *Pippin*, 2014 WATCH Awards for Best Choreography and Best Musical for *Ragtime*, 2014 Best Community Theatre Production of a Musical in DC on broadwayworld.com. In 2017 Darnell was selected as one of 6 up-and-coming DC area directors to participate in Signature Theatre's Musical Theatre Young Directors' Workshop. In 2017 Mr.Morris was chosen as one of 6 up-and-coming DC area directors to participate in Signature Theatre's Musical Theatre Young Directors' Workshop.

Theresa Cunningham (Associate Artistic Director) has taught theatre with varied populations: public and private school students, residential psychiatric patients, homeless families, incarcerated teenage girls, "at-risk" youth, preschoolers, and the elderly. Baltimore-born Theresa Cunningham is an actor, singer, pianist, poet, playwright, musical director and teacher. She attended Syracuse University where she studied musical theatre. She moved to Atlanta to perform and teach, before moving back to the DMV in 2012. Select DC area roles include: Arena Stage: *Nina Simone: Four Women*(Sarah); Round House Theatre: *School Girls or the African Mean Girls Play* (Headmistress Francis), *Caroline or Change*(Washing Machine); Imagination Stage: *Wiley and the Hairy Man*(Mama); Stillpointe Theatre: *Caroline or Change*(Caroline); Compass Rose Theatre: *A Raisin in the Sun*(Lena); Olney Theatre Center: *Once On This Island*(Asaka); Riverside Center: *Ain't Misbehavin'*(Armelia); Toby's Dinner Theatre: *Les Miserables*(Mme. Thenardier). Theresa won the 2013 Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Supporting Actress, Resident Musical for her portrayal of Sofia in Toby's Dinner Theatre's production of *The Color Purple*.

Valerie A. Higgs (Music Director, Conductor) returns to OVATIONS after Music Directing HEATHERS:The Musical in 2017. She has music directed in New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia - most notably: The TADA! Youth Theater; James Joyce's *The Dead* with Quotidian Theatre, for which she was chosen by DCMTA as "Best of 2012 Musical Direction"; *Jekyll & Hyde* with KAT, for which she was co-nominated for WATCH's Outstanding Musical Direction; and the 1996 Philadelphia world premiere of *The Three Willies*, a work conceived by the late jazz violinist and composer, Leroy Jenkins, produced by Temple University in collaboration with the late multimedia performance artist/poet Homer Jenkins, and choreographer/dancer Rennie Harris. She accompanies for local and state competitions, such as the Young Artists Competition of Gaithersburg, and is a pianist in three local tango ensembles. As always, thanks to APS.

Production Bios

Mayumi Baker Griffie (Associate Music Director) has studied and performed music for over 30 years and music directed shows for over 15 years and loves every minute of it. One of her great pleasures in life is composing, creating, and sharing that appreciation of music. She has had the pleasure performing many wonderful pieces with the UM Symphonic Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra, and the University of Maryland Jazz Band. Music director credits include: *Sunday in the Park with George* and *Sweeney Todd* with OVATIONS; *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Ragtime* with Howard Community College; *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *Wizard of Oz* with KAT 2nd Stage; *Rocky Horror Show*, *Jekyll & Hyde* (co-nominated for Outstanding Musical Direction) *Ragtime* (won WATCH award for Outstanding Musical Direction) with Kensington Art Theatre; *And the World Goes Round*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor DreamCoat*, *High School Musical*, *High School Musical 2*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Annie*, *Grease*, *My Fair Lady*, *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *A Chorus Line*, *42nd Street* with Academy of the Holy Cross. Performance credits: *In the Heights* (Daniella), *Into the woods* (Florida) and *Hairspray* (Cindy Watkins/Dynamite) with Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre; *Seussical* with GAC (Sour Kangaroo); *Rent* with Kensington Arts Theatre (ensemble) and with Laurel Mill Playhouse (ensemble/Joann understudy performed). Director credits: *Footloose* with Academy of the Holy Cross Summer Stock Productions, *Annie* with KAT 2nd Stage. She thanks to this cast for making this an invigorating experience, to Darnell for the chance to perfect her craft, and as always, she is thankful to her husband, Daniel, for supporting her and being by her side for better or worse...and the silly.

Morgan Thomas (Choreographer) is thrilled to be back after serving last season as a Mentor Artist in their Senior Company production of *Parade*. This season Morgan also joined OVATIONS as the Choreographer for Standing_O Performance Ensemble. Morgan is a licensed attorney in Maryland who moonlights as a performer and teaching artist. She has been dancing for 24 years and was trained in the disciplines of ballet, tap, jazz, modern and African dance. After four years on Severna Park's Dance Company, Morgan took a new course during her undergraduate career at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) by joining the Cheerleading Team. She served as the Team Captain her last two years. Additionally, Morgan was a member of the UMBC hip-hop dance competition team, Major Definition. She is currently a dance company member with Dance & Bmore, a creative movement collective, in Baltimore, Maryland. Favorite past performances include Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *All Shook Up*, *The Wedding Singer*, *In The Heights*, *Parade* and her favorite role to date was as Julian Marx in Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre's production of *Bullets Over Broadway* (2018).

James Raymond (Resident Scenic Designer) Earned his M.F.A. in Scenic Design and Technology as a graduate teaching assistant at West Virginia University this past May. He received his B.A. in Theater Technology and Design at DeSales University in Center Valley, PA in 2013. He has had many opportunities to work with all ages in both educational and professional theater settings. James worked in Steamboat Springs, Colorado the summer of 2013 as the Scenic Designer at the Perry-Mansfield Performing Arts School and Camp. He also worked as the scenic artist for The Linny Fowler WillPower Tour's production of *Macbeth*, along with scenic designer, six-time Emmy award winning Production Designer of *Sesame Street*, Bob Phillips. James had the opportunity to work with the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, which is a professional Equity Lort C theatre company for two seasons. Last summer at West Virginia Public Theatre, he set designed *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* and was the scenic artist for the past two seasons. Past credits: *Three Sisters* (set design, WVU), *In The Heights* (set design, ASGT), *The Pirates Of Penzance* (set design, WVU) *The Trojan Women* (set design, WVU), *The Arabian Nights* (set design, WVU), *White Christmas* (set design, LMP), *Comedy of Errors* (set design, LMP), *Chess* (set design, KAT), *Underground* (set design, Perry M.), *Failure: A Love Story* (set design, Perry M.), *I Love A Piano* (set design, DSU), *39 Steps* (scenic artist intern, PSF) starring Steve Burns (Blues Clues), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (set design, LMP), Andrew Lippa's *The Wild Party* (set design/ Oscar, LMP), *45 Seconds From Broadway* (set design, LMP), *No Exit* (set design, Highwood Theatre), *Sweeney Todd* (props intern, PSF) starring Dee Roscioli (*Wicked*) and many others. www.jamesraymond.com

Cast Bios



Jayden Armour (Georg) is a Freshman at Quince Orchard High School. Past credits include OVATIONS: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip), *Mary Poppins Jr* (Mr Banks), *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Grimsby), *The Addams Family* (Gomez), *Shrek Jr* (Shrek), *Hairspray Jr* (Edna), *Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr* (Lumiere); ISTAGE: *Aladdin* (Aladdin), *Once On This Island* (Daniel), *Seussical* (Sour Kangaroo). Jayden was part of the 2018/2019 STANDING_O Performance Ensemble. Jayden wants to give a special shout out to his voice coaches, Jeff and Jouli Webb, to Darnell & the OVATIONS Family for inspiring him in his art. He is honored to perform in this relevant and powerful show.

Henry Baratz (Ernst) a sophomore at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School is thrilled to be a part of this powerful production. Past credits include WASHINGTON NATIONAL OPERA: *The Little Prince in The Little Prince*; FORDS: *Ragtime (Little Boy)*; SHAKESPEARE THEATRE: *The Secret Garden (Colin Craven)* as well as a company member of *Young Artists of America*. He would like to thank his family for being so supportive throughout his performing endeavors.



Miles Carr (Ensemble) is a Senior at Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda Maryland. In his free time, he enjoys working out, Acting, Singing songwriting, and youth activism. He is excited to start off his last season of OVATIONS with his favorite show, *Spring Awakening*; being his 7th OVATIONS Production.

Cole Chalfant (Herr Steifel/Father Kaulbach) is a senior at Georgetown Preparatory School. Past credits include OVATIONS THEATRE: *Hair (Tribe)*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (Mr Mushnik), *The Wild Party* (Oscar), *Gypsy* (Angie), *Parade* (Detective Starnes), *Heathers* (Kurt's Dad), *Shrek the Musical Jr.* (Lord Farquaad), *Hairspray Jr.* (Wilbur), *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (Cogsworth), *Seussical Jr* (Horton); ST. JANE DE CHANTAL: *The Little Mermaid Jr* (Scuttle). Cole is thrilled to perform in this show, and he would like to thank Darnell, his family, friends, and all the people who came to see the show.



Aja Cooke (Frau Gabor) a Sophomore at Atholton High School, is thrilled to be doing her first performance at OVATIONS! Recent credits include YAA: *Les Misérables* (Ensemble) 13- *The Musical* (Ensemble); ATHOLTON HS: *Shrek* (Elf/Rat Tap Dancer). Additionally, Aja has performed in productions with The Drama Learning Center and Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts. She takes voice with Helen Strine and took dance at Studio Dans.

Ian Coursey (Moritz) is a senior at Good Counsel High School and is going to be pursuing musical theatre in college! Ian is thrilled to be performing in this incredible show! This is Ian's fourth show with OVATIONS Theatre, past credits include OVATIONS: *Next To Normal*(Gabe), *Hair* (George Berger), *Les Misérables* (Jean Valjean); YAA: *Parade* (Leo Frank), *Ragtime* (Tateh), *Les Misérables* (Jean Valjean). Ian would like to thank his vocal coach Rolando Sanz, the entire staff of OVATIONS THEATRE and all of his friends and family for their support!



Cast Bios

Grace Corbett (Frau Bergman) is a sophomore at Walt Whitman High School. She is ecstatic to be in her fifth show with OVATIONS Theatre! Selected credits include: OVATIONS: *Hair* (Ensemble), *Mary Poppins Jr* (Winifred Banks), *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr*(Flotsam), *Hairspray Jr* (Ensemble); THEATRE UNLIMITED: *The Lion King Jr* (Gazelle); PYLE MIDDLE SCHOOL: *Game of Tiaras*(Cinderella). Grace studies voice with Simon Diesenhaus. She would like to thank her family, friends, cast, and Darnell for supporting her! "Break legs to the cast and crew and enjoy the show!"



Mia Ehrlich (Wendla) a senior at River Hill High School, is extremely excited and thankful to be in her first SENIOR COMPANY production with OVATIONS, especially with it being a show with such an important message. Past credits include OVATIONS: *Next to Normal* (Doctor Madden); YAA: *13 -The Musical* (Patrice); RHHS: *Chicago* (Roxie Hart) and *Anne of Green Gables* (Anne Shirley). She wants to thank Darnell and the OVATIONS team for this amazing experience.

Thalia Eyles (Martha) a junior at Winston Churchill High School, is so excited to be in this energetic, complex and relevant show! Some of her favorite past credits include OVATIONS: *Hair*, *The Wild Party*; CHURCHILL HS: *Cinderella* (Charlotte); YAA: *Once Upon a Mattress* (Storyteller), HOOVER MS: *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel). Thalia takes voice with Diane Atherton.



Madelyn Fox (Martha) is a senior at Quince Orchard High School. Recent performances include OVATIONS: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Chiffon), *Hair* (Sheila); QO HS: *Anything Goes* (Hope Harcourt). She would like to thank everyone who has supported her and she can't wait to share the stage with her best friends!

Angelo Harrington II (Mechior) a senior at Reservoir High School, is so excited to be a part of this thought-provoking musical. Past credits include RESERVOIR HS: *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Chairman/Sapsea), *Newsies* (Crutchie), *The Curious Incident of the Dog In The Nighttime* (Christopher Boone); YAA: *13-The Musical* (Brett). Angelo takes voice lessons with Montel Butler. Angelo would like to thank Darnell and the team at OVATIONS for giving him this amazing opportunity and his family/friends for their endless support.



Anna Heron (Ensemble) is a junior at Bethesda Chevy-Chase High School. She has been in many productions with Darnell since third grade and is so excited to be in *Spring Awakening!* Her credits include OVATIONS THEATRE: *Hair* (Tribe), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Mrs Mushnik), *Les Misérables* (Ensemble), *Gypsy* (Ensemble), *Parade* (Nurse), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Ensemble), *Hairspray Jr* (Velma), *Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr* (Madame de le Grande Bouche), *Seussical Jr* (Mrs Mayor). In addition to musical theatre, she enjoys spending time with friends. She would like to thank Darnell and the OVATIONS team for putting on this amazing show!

Cast Bios



Brendan Hylton (Herr Sonnenstich/Herr Knochenbruch) a senior at Oakdale HS in Frederick County, is thrilled to be working with OVATIONS for the first time. Previous credits include MET: *Sherlock! The Musical* (Baker Street Gang/Orphan), *The Island of Dr. Moreau* (Beast Folk), *Young Camelot* (Hector); OAKDALE HS: *Grease* (Ensemble), *Shrek the Musical* (Guard/Ensemble), and *Cinderella* (Coachman/Knight). Brendan takes voice with Thom Huenger, Music Director at MET, and also is the lead vocalist for a rock band with the Let There Be Rock School in Frederick. He would like to thank his parents for supporting him!

Ellie Johnson (Wendla) is a senior at Marriotts Ridge High School and is so excited to be doing her first OVATIONS production and such an incredible show. Ellie's past credits include YAA: *Les Miserables* (Fantine), *13 -The Musical* (Kendra), *Parade* (Mary Phagan), *Annie Get Your Gun in Concert* (Annie); MARRIOTT'S RIDGE HS: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Janet van de Graaph) TYA JR CO: *The Addams Family* (Wednesday Addams), *Mary Poppins* (Mary Poppins). Ellie dances at Studiodans and studies voice with Colleen Daly.



Jordan Kelberg (Frau Bergman/Dance Captain) is a junior at Walter Johnson High School. Jordan is thrilled to be in her third production with OVATIONS. Credit include OVATIONS: *Hair*, *Little Shop of Horrors*. ISTAGE: *Zombie Prom* (Romana), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Conrad Birdie), *Once Upon A Mattress* (Wizard), *Big Fish* (Witch Ensemble/Featured Dancer), *The Addams Family* (Ancestor); NBMS: *Aladdin Jr.* (Genie), *The Lion King Jr* (Pumbaa), *The Little Mermaid* (choreographer/Chef Louis). Jordan is a graduate of the Musical Theatre Conservatory at Imagination Stage and is a member of the Young Artists of America

at Strathmore. She has made so many wonderful friends at OVATIONS and will cherish all of the memories made with her incredibly talented cast mates and artistic staff.

Kassidy Kepner (Ensemble) is a sophomore at Rockville High School and is very excited to be a part of this production of *Spring Awakening*. Past credits include OVATIONS: *Hair* (Ensemble), *Gypsy* (Young Louise); BLAKE STAGE CO: *Hairspray Jr* (Ensemble). ROCKVILLE HS: *West Side Story* (Roslina). Kassidy takes voice lessons with Mollie Weikert. She would like to thank all of her family and friends for supporting her.



Heather Kirschner (Wendla) a junior, is thrilled to return to her first role with OVATIONS of Wendla which she performed in the 2016 production. Recent credits include OVATIONS: *Hair* (Dion), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey), *The Wild Party* (Queenie); CHURCHILL HS: *Cinderella* (Cinderella); YOUNG ARTISTS OF AMERICA: *Parade* (Lucille Frank), *Ragtime* (Evelyn Nesbit); STAGEDOOR MANOR: *Singin' in the Rain* (Lina Lamont).

David Klos (Ernst) is a junior at Oakdale High School. Theatre credits include OVATIONS: *Hair* (Hud), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Ensemble), *Les Miserables* (Enjolras & Bishop); OAKDALE HS: *Grease* (Teen Angel), *Cinderella* (Lord Pinkleton), *Shrek* (Ensemble). MET: *Shrek* (Ensemble). David takes voice with Thom Huenger, Music Director at MET. "Thanks to the Frederick Carpool Crew, the audience and the production team for their support".



Cast Bios



Shayna Kotler (Dr. Von Brausepulver), a sophomore at Thomas S. Wootton High School, is delighted to be making her seventh stage performance with OVATIONS Theatre. Her recent credits include OVATIONS: *The Wizard of Oz* (Aunt Em), *Mary Poppins Jr* (Ms Andrews), *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr* (Arista), *The Addams Family Young@Part* (Ensemble & Soloist), *Hairspray Jr* (Prison Matron), *Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr* (Silly Girl); WOOTTON HS: *High School Musical* (Cyndra), *Spamalot* (Ensemble). Shayna takes voice lessons with Cheryl Stafford at Stafford Studios. Shayna is extremely grateful to her parents, brother Benny and OVATIONS Theatre Company for all of their love and support.

Blakely Massey (Fraulein Knuppelick) is a freshman at Governor Thomas Johnson High School. She is very excited to be in her first OVATIONS show. She is an apprentice for the Academy for the Fine Arts with the Advanced Theatre Studies focus in Frederick County. Past credits include MET: *Shrek Jr* (Dragon); URBANA MS: *Frozen Jr* (Oaken); BISFA SUMMER INSTITUTE: *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. Blakely would like to thank you for coming to the show and her friends and family for their constant love and support!



Lilly McKinnon (Ilse) a senior at The Academy Of The Holy Cross, is thrilled to be in *Spring Awakening* with OVATIONS again! Selected credits include OVATIONS: *Next to Normal* (Diana), *Les Misérables* (Fantine), *Carrie* (Chris), *GYPSY* (Tessie Tura), *Parade* (Essie), *Heathers* (Heather Duke), *Hairspray JR* (Tracy) and *Spring Awakening* (Ensemble). A huge thank you to Jeff and Jouli Webb, Darnell, Theresa, and my friends and family who came to see *Spring Awakening*!

this incredible musical. Past credits include STAGEDOOR MANOR: *First Date* (Gabe); PYLE MIDDLE SCHOOL: *All Shook Up* (Dean), *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Robin Starveling), *The Music Man Jr* (Traveling Salesman). Max was a member of Imagination Stage Musical Theater Conservatory and Pre-Professional Company at Adventure Theater. He takes voice lessons with Deborah Benner.

Max Miller (Otto) a freshman at Walt Whitman HS, is thrilled to be a part of



Kendyl Rose Morrison (Melitta) a senior at Oakdale High School is thrilled to be in another fantastic production with OVATIONS. Past credits include OVATIONS: *HAIR* (1000 Year Old Monk), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Ensemble), and *Les Misérables* (Ensemble). Kendyl studies voice with Polly Baldrige and enjoys playing the ukulele and the drums. "A huge thank you to Darnell and the artistic team for giving her this opportunity and to her friends and family for their love and support."

year. Ellie is elated to be in her second OVATIONS show! Favorite credits include OVATIONS: *Les Misérables* (Eponine); YAA: *Merrily We Roll Along* (Gussie Carnegie); MRHS: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Drowsy); DLC: *Heathers* (Heather Chandler). She takes voice lessons with Colleen Daly and dances at Studio Dans. She'd like to thank her loving family, Darnell for his endless support, and the amazing OVATIONS staff!

Ellie Parks (Ilse) is a senior at Marriotts Ridge High School and will be auditioning for musical theatre college programs this



Cast Bios

Thalia Peters (Thea) a senior at Richard Montgomery HS, is totally stoked to be back for round two of one of her favorite shows of all time. Select OVATIONS credits include *Next to Normal* (Dr. Madden), *Les Misérables* (Cosette), *Hair* (Crissy), *Parade* (Iola), *Spring Awakening*, *Sweeney Todd* (Beggar Woman). She is also a member of RM's Madrigals choir and leader of the all-female a cappella group Resonance.



Eliana Posin (Frau Bessel/Frau Schmidt) is a sophomore at Walt Whitman High School and is thrilled to join OVATIONS for her first performance. She has participated in many productions as well as a member of the Pre-Professional Broadway Program with ATMTC. She loves tap dancing and is currently a member of the Jam Youth Project.

Iris Postovit (Melitta) a sophomore at Richard Montgomery High School, is an energetic musician and actress born in New Orleans, LA. When she is not at rehearsal, she enjoys playing volleyball and softball, and hanging out with her friends. Past credits include OVATIONS: *Next to Normal*, *Hair*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Les Misérables*, *Carrie*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.* "Without the support I had from my family and friends, I wouldn't be here today, thank you!"



Mikayla Reich (Ensemble, Core Dancer) a sophomore at Richard Montgomery High School, is excited to be part of this production of *Spring Awakening*. Select past credits include: OVATIONS THEATRE: *Hair* (Tribe), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Ensemble), *Les Misérables* (Ensemble), *The Addams Family Young@Part* (Wednesday), *Hairspray Jr* (Brenda), *Suessical Jr* (Bird Girl); BALLET PETITE: *Shrek Jr* (Lord Farquaad), *Legally Blonde Jr* (Margot), *The Little Mermaid Jr* (Flotsam), *Guys and Dolls Jr* (Angie the Ox). Mikayla studies voice with Jeff and Joui Webb and dance at Impact. Mikayla would like to thank Darnell for this opportunity, and her family and friends for their love and support!

Maddie Rohan (Anna) a junior at Sherwood High School, is thrilled to be a part of this production of *Spring Awakening*. Some of her past credits include OVATIONS: *Next To Normal* (Natalie), *The Wild Party* (Nadine); SHERWOOD HS: *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy), *Clue* (Miss Scarlet), *The Addams Family* (Alice Beineke); BLAKE SUMMER THEATRE INSTITUTE: *Hairspray* (Velma); BRAVO: *Legally Blonde Jr* (Vivienne). Maddie studies voice with Dorothy Miller and would like to thank her for a wonderful year. She would also like to thank Darnell and the OVATIONS family for this amazing experience and her friends and family for love and support through it all!



Mia Rohan (Frau Gabor) a freshman at Sherwood High School, is so happy to be in her first SENIOR COMPANY production at OVATIONS. Past credits include OVATIONS: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Rona), *Mary Poppins Jr* (Mary Poppins), *The Addams Family Young@Part* (Alice Beineke), *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr* (Alana); DLC: *Les Misérables* (Eponine); SHERWOOD HS: *The Wizard of Oz* (Glinda). Mia was part of the 2018/2019 STANDING_O Performance Ensemble. Mia studies voice with Dorothy Miller and would like to thank her for a great year. She would also like to thank Darnell and the OVATIONS family for this opportunity and her friends and family for always being there for her!

Cast Bios



Austin Rose (Hanschen) is a senior at Walter Johnson High School, is thrilled to be a part of this powerful, highly impactful musical. Past credits include *ISTAGE: Zombie Prom (Eddie Flagrante)*; *WALTER JOHNSON HS: Romeo & Juliet (Tybalt)*. Austin is a member of both the Madrigals Chamber Choir and Pop Fly Show Choir at Walter Johnson High School as well as three different acapella groups. Austin is additionally a member of the Tryka Film Coalition at Imagination Stage. Austin takes voice with Laquavia Alston at LaMezzo Studios. "I'd like to take the time to thank my amazing network of friends and family for supporting me through my performing arts career!"

Jack Rosenberg (Melchior) is a senior at Poolesville HS, is stoked to be in *Spring Awakening!* Past credits include OVATIONS: *Next to Normal (Dan)*, *Hair (Claude)*, *Little Shop of Horrors (Mr Mushnik)*, *Les Misérables (Javert)*, *Carrie (Tommy)*, *The Wild Party (Sam)*, *Gypsy (Tulsa)*, *Parade (Leo Frank)*, *Heathers (JD)*, *Sunday in the Park with George (Louis/Spot)*, *Hairspray Jr (Corny Collins)*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr (Lumiere)*, *Sweeney Todd (Tobias)*, *Seussical (Cat in the Hat)*, *Sherk (Peter Pan)*. Jack studies voice with J-High and J-LOW Webb. He would like to thank Darnell, Val, Morgan, and Theresa.



Matthew Rubin (Georg) is a sophomore at Quince Orchard High School. This is his 7th show with OVATIONS! Past credits include OVATIONS: *Next to Normal (Henry)*, *Hair (Berger)*, *Little Shop of Horrors (Orin)*, *Les Misérables (Enjolras)*, *The Addams Family (Gomez)* and in *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr (Prince Eric)*; *KAT 2nd Stage: Peter Pan, Guys & Dolls*; *DAMASCUS THEATRE COMPANY: Into the Woods Jr*. Matthew takes voice lessons with Jeff and Jouli Webb and Dance lessons at Joy of Motion. He is thrilled to be part of *Spring Awakening* and would like to thank the OVATIONS production team for this excellent opportunity, his fellow cast for the support, and his family for the huge amount of love they

give to him. Enjoy the show!

Paul Ruff (Otto) is a senior at Gonzaga College High School, is so excited to be in another amazing OVATIONS Theatre production. Favorite past credits include OVATIONS: *Hair*, *Blind Man in Les Misérables*, *Hairspray Jr (Link)*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr (Gaston)*, *Seussical Jr (Mr Mayor)*; *BRAVO PRODUCTIONS: The Sound of Music (Rolf)*, *Peter Pan (Chief Tiger Bamboo)*. Paul would like to thank Lilly McKinnon for being the best manager imaginable and all friends and family who came to see him in *Spring Awakening!*



Starr Ruben (Ilse) is a senior at Walter Johnson excited to be in her fourth OVATIONS production. Previous productions include OVATIONS: *Hair (Ensemble)*, *Little Shop of Horrors (Ms Luce)* and *Les Misérables (Ensemble)*; *BLAKE HS: Hairspray (Tracy)*, *Footloose (Rusty)*. Starr takes Voice with Alison Leadbetter-hines. Enjoy the show!

Sitare Sadeghi (Martha) is a junior at Winston Churchill High School, is thrilled to be a part of this impactful, meaningful musical.

Past credits include OVATIONS: *Hair (Dionne)*; *YAA: Les Misérables (Gavroche)*, *13- The Musical (Cassie)*; *CHURCHILL HS: Legally Blonde (Brooke Wyndham)*, *Cinderella (Fairy Godmother/Marie)*. She takes voice with Colleen Daly and Dance with CityDance at Strathmore. "A huge thank you to my amazing family!!"



Cast Bios



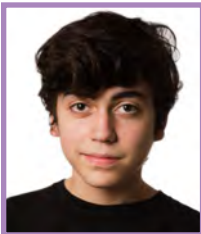
Sam Salem (Moritz) a junior at Quince Orchard High School, feels fortunate to work with this cast and crew again. Past credits include OVATIONS: *Next to Normal*, *Hair*, *Lil Shop of Horrors*, *Les Misérables*, *Carrie*, *Wild Party*, *Gypsy*, *Parade*, *Heathers*, *Hairspray*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Spring Awakening* and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* Last, but not least, *The Wizard of Oz* (KAT JR) where it all began. A huge thank you to Theresa, Val and Darnell for all their help, love and support! Having once been the nasty father, it is an honor to portray Moritz for my family and friends.

Eva Salins (Anna) is a senior at James Hubert Blake High School. OVATIONS credits include *Hair* (Chrissy), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Mrs. Mushnik), *Les Misérables* (Ensemble), *The Wild Party* (Featured Dancer), *Gypsy* (Ensemble), *Parade* (Essie), *Hairspray Jr.* (Lou Ann/Dance Captain), *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* (Madame de la Grande Bouche), *Into the Woods Jr.* (Baker's Wife), *Suessical Jr.* (Gertrude), *Shrek* (Teen Fiona). Eva is the sound manager for the Blake High School Stage Company with credits including *1940's Radio Hour* and *Godspell*. She loves all aspects of theater on and off the stage. Eva is the Assistant Drum Major of her marching band at Blake HS. She thanks her friends and family for their support!



Jonah Schwartz (Melchior) is a Senior at Quince Orchard High School, and is thrilled to be playing one of his absolute dream roles. Past credits include OVATIONS: *Hair* (Claude), *Les Misérables* (Marius), *The Wild Party* (Black); ADVENTURE THEATRE: *Big River* (Huckleberry Finn); QO HS: *Anything Goes* (Evelyn Oakleigh). Jonah takes vocal lessons with Jeff and Joulie Webb, and dances at Joy of Motion. He wants to thank his grandparents for their support.

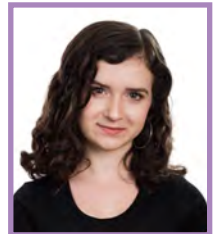
Beau Scott (Moritz) a junior at Gov. Thomas Johnson High School, is thrilled to take part in *Spring Awakening*. Past credits include OVATIONS: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour Krelborn); MET: *A Christmas Story* (Flick), *Be More Chill* (Featured Dancer); GOV THOMAS JOHNSON HS: *Sister Act* (TJ). A huge thank you to the OVATIONS staff for such a wonderful experience!



Daniel Seligman (Hänschen) a junior at Churchill, is ecstatic to be back for his second show with OVATIONS appearing in *Hair*. Other performance credits include CHURCHILL HS: *Legally Blonde* (Warner Huntington), *R&H Cinderella* (Lord Pinkleton) and *Joseph and the Amazing...* (Benjamin). Outside of OVATIONS and school Daniel has enjoyed performing in shows with YAA. Offstage Daniel enjoys writing music and acting on screen. He would like to thank his always supportive family (both Dad and Pug), his

incredible voice teacher Lisa Carrier Baker, and Darnell for giving him the opportunity to take part in this phenomenal show.

Tori Shemer (Ensemble, Dance Captain) is a sophomore currently enrolled at Oakdale High School as well as the Academy for Fine Arts at Governor Thomas Johnson High School. Previous credits include GOVERNOR THOMAS JOHNSON HS: *The Musical Murders of 1940*; OAKDALE HS: *Grease*; FREDERICKTOWNE PLAYERS: *Newsies*. Tori takes voice with Jack Perdue and Dance with Elite Feet.



Cast Bios



Emily Thompson (Core Dancer) a sophomore at Sandy Spring Friends School, is so excited to be a part of such an amazing and impactful musical. Past credits include OVATIONS: Next to Normal (Ensemble); ISTAGE: Singin' in the Rain (Kathy Selden); SANDY SPRING FRIENDS SCHOOL: Radium Girls (Katherine). She takes voice lessons at JJ Vocals and takes dance with the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD). "Thank you so much to all of my friends and family!"

Raina Weinberg (Thea) is a sophomore at Sandy Spring Friends School (SSFS), where she recently starred in the spring musical, *The Boyfriend*. Other credits

include OVATIONS: *Gypsy* (Mazeppa), *Parade* (Monteen), *Hairspray Jr* (Velma), *Into the Woods Jr* (Cinderella), *Seussical Jr* (Mayzie); FERNWOOD STAGE *Mama Mia* (Donna), *Grease* (Rizzo). Raina is an expert archer and plays the banjo. She is a screenwriter, filmmaker, and member of the Tryka Film Coalition. "Shout out to our amazing *Spring Awakening* production team and cast, and thank you to my voice teachers, Jeff and Jouli Webb!"



**Jonah,
you will
always be
our star!**

**We love
you and
are so
proud!**



**Love,
Mom, Eli
& Charlie**



**We are so proud of
you, our bright, shining
star! Keep on singing,
dancing & enjoy life.**

**Love,
Amma & Babajan**



BEAU,

**HAVE FUN
& ENJOY
THE RIDE!**

**YOU MAKE US SO
PROUD!**

WE LOVE YOU!

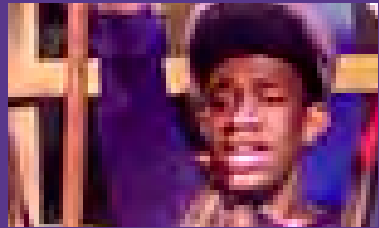


**Dear Ellie,
We are so proud of
you and hope you!
Have a blast!
Love, Dad, Mom and Jenna**



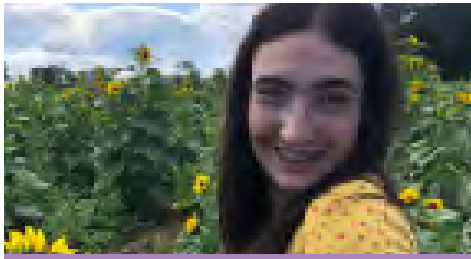
*"It seems to me: what
serves each of us
best is what serves all
of us best!"*

To the cast and
production team of
Spring Awakening,
thank you for doing
what you do and for
making a difference!
~ The Rosenbergs



**Congratulations
Angelo!**

**With each production
you soar to limitless
heights! Words cannot
express how proud we
are of you!
We see you shining!
Break a leg!
Love Mom, Myles, and Tori**



**Jordan,
Congratulations on
your third Ovations
performance! Always
follow your heart and
never stop dreaming.
You are loved
more than you will
ever know.**

**All our Love, Mom, Dad,
Madeline, and DIXIE**



**Eva,
We can't believe it is
your last year with
Ovations!
We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom and Dad**

**So proud of you and all of your
hard work ELLIE PARKS !!**

**Congrats to DARNELL
& OVATIONS Theatre
on another great show
BAL!!**



**Love you,
Mom & Dad
XOXO**





**Would say never stop
dreaming but maybe clean
up your
dreams a bit!**

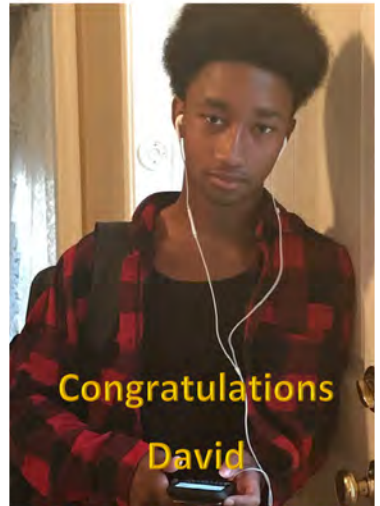
**You always fill us with
pride, Max. We love you.**

**Dad, Mom, Mark, Chica,
Freedom, Oma, Jerry, Sue,
Vince and Gpa Alan**



**Kendyl, we love watching you
perform. We are so proud of
you! Break a leg.**

Love, Mom and Dad



Congratulations

David

You are fabulous!



Maddie and Mia Rohan,

You inspire us every day and we are so happy to be able to share in this experience with you both. Love you! Congrats to you and the entire cast, crew, and directors of the Senior Company! Break Legs!



SAM SALEM

AND

**JACK
ROSENBERG**

**You've come a long way boys!
You always make us proud!
Love you both to the moon and back!!**

CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE CAST AND CREW OF
SPRING AWAKENING!!



FROM WEST END PLASTIC SURGERY
and FUTURO DE NICARAGUA

We believe in all of you and the beauty that each of you hold!!

BREAK LEGS!!



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david@baratzphoto.com

Keep performing your
heart out Matthew!

We are so proud of you!
Love, The Matt Pack

Ovations Theatre Special!
20% off headshot session
(Reference this ad)

Break a Leg Cast & Crew of Ovation's *Spring Awakening!*



**And for all your bumps,
injuries, and breaks,
Dr. Craig Miller is here
to help.**

**An expert in shoulder,
elbow, knee, and other sports
injury surgery,
treatment, and rehab.**

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**Congratulations Jayden!
It's been an honor watching you grow with Ovations!**



Love, Mom



Mikayla -

**We love watching you
shine on stage!**

Have fun up there!

Break a leg!

XO

**Mommy, Daddy,
Simon, Elliott & Kodi**



Ian Coursey

It's been a fun ride watching you enjoy what you love and pursue your dreams. Thanks and congrats to Ovations staff and everyone involved -

can't wait to see another great show.

Always with love and support - Mom, Dad, Connor and Papi!



Best wishes to the cast, crew, and directing and artistic team of *Spring Awakening*, and congratulations to the incomparable Emily. We love you and your Jazz Hands!



**Blakely,
We are so proud of you. Congratulations on your first Ovations show!**

Love, Mom, Dad, Mackenzie and Fitzy



OVATIONS
THEATRE

ENGAGE, INSPIRE, AND EMPOWER



2019-2020 Season

Spring Awakening

SENIOR COMPANY

December 6, 7 & 8, 2019

Matilda

JUNIOR COMPANY

January 17, 18 & 19, 2020

Cabaret (1998 Revival Version)

SENIOR COMPANY

March 6, 7 & 8, 2020

Frozen Jr

JUNIOR COMPANY

April 24, 25 & 26, 2020

Into The Woods Jr

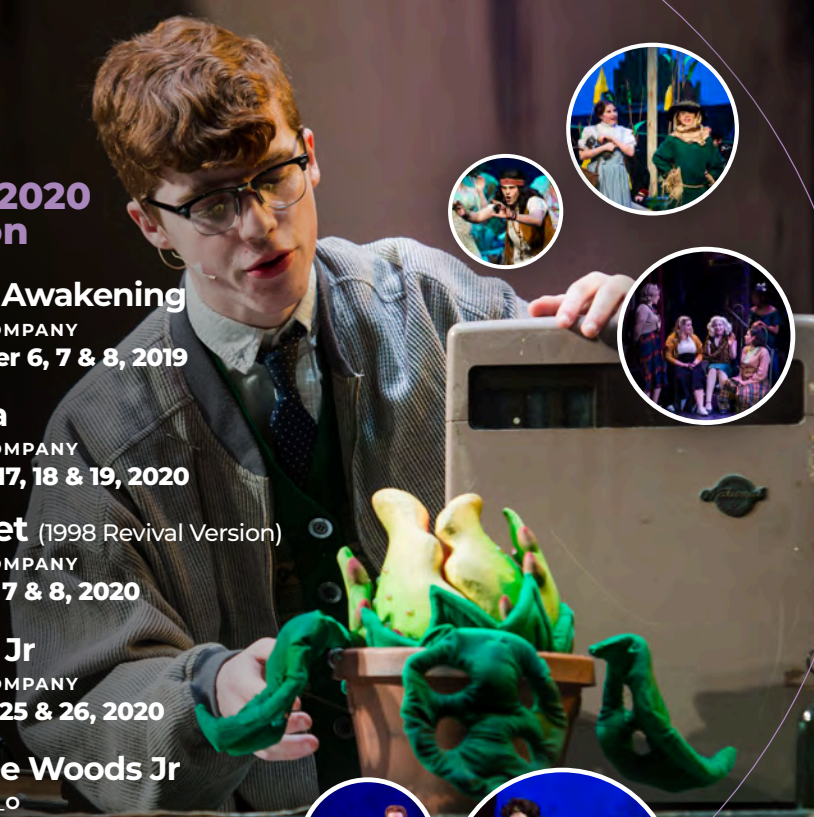
STANDING_O

May 16, 2020

Ragtime

SENIOR COMPANY

June 12, 13 & 14, 2020



OUR MISSION

OVATIONS THEATRE offers inspiring and thought-provoking educational and performance opportunities for young musical theatre artists. Our learning environment supports creativity and open-mindedness, dedication and focus, individual expression, and ensemble teamwork. Along with singing, dancing, and acting, our young people build confidence, problem-solving skills, and strong friendships. They gain the fundamentals they need to blossom on-stage and off as they work together to create memorable—and magical—experiences for themselves and their audiences.

ovationstheatre.com