

APOLLOBILL

APOLLO YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS

THE LION KING JR



©Disney

Book by
Roger Allers, Irene Mecchi

Music and Lyrics by
Tim Rice, Elton John

Additional Music & Lyrics by
Will Van Dyke, Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Ray Rifkin

Based on the Broadway Production Directed by
Julie Taymor

April 25, 2025 - 7:30pm
April 26, 2025 - 7:30pm
April 27, 2025 - 2:30pm

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APRIL 25, 26 & 27, 2025

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The Apollo Civic Theatre is a non-profit 501(c)3 Corporation, partially funded by the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. Your contributions are tax-deductible to the extent the law allows, and are always appreciated.

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THE JOURNAL

A note from our Executive Director

Hi there,

We are so happy to see you here at The Apollo!

As the new Executive Director, I am excited to share my vision for our theatre as we embark on a journey of growth and transformation. Our community deserves a vibrant cultural hub that not only showcases talent but also fosters creativity, inclusivity, and connection.

At the Apollo Civic Theatre, we believe that the arts should be accessible to everyone. We are committed to creating a safe and welcoming space where individuals of all backgrounds can express themselves, collaborate, and find joy in the performing arts. This vision includes expanding our programming to ensure that every member of our community feels represented and valued.

One of our primary goals is to enhance our offerings for youth. We understand that engaging young people in the arts can inspire creativity and confidence, and we are eager to develop new programs tailored to their interests and needs. From workshops and mentorships to full-scale productions, we want to empower the next generation of artists and audience members.

To achieve these goals, we invite your support and collaboration. We believe that by working together with local organizations, schools, and community leaders, we can create a rich tapestry of programming that reflects the diverse voices of our community. Whether through partnerships, sponsorships, or volunteer opportunities, your involvement can make a significant impact.

I am eager to hear your thoughts and explore how we can collaborate to enhance our offerings. Please feel free to reach out to me directly at aubrey@apollocivictheatre.org



I look forward to the possibility of working together to cultivate a thriving artistic environment in our community.

Thank you for visiting us. Together, let's make our beautiful Apollo be a beacon of creativity, inspiration, inclusivity, and joy for all.

I hope our paths cross again soon,
Aubrey M. Ervin



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-GEORGE WASHINGTON

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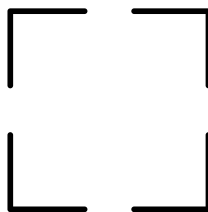
SCAN



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Production Team

Director.....Amanda Hartman
Music Director/Stage Manager.....Paige Herold
Assistant Stage Manager.....Rivers Jenkins
Youth Program Director.....Megan Baldwin
Producer.....Lilly Tillman
Choreography.....Delaney Grace Herold
Scenic & Costume Design.....Amanda Hartman
Technical Director LightingJae Smitherman
Technical Director Sound.....Nathan Shockey
Construction Design and LeadNathan Shockey
Assistant Construction Design and Lead.....Jae Smitherman
Costumes- Amanda Hartman, Lilly Tillman, Tania Kirkman,
Chloe Loudan, Paige Herold, Thad Reid, Andrea Simms, Angela Tsiatsos,
Melody Soukup, Lindsey McCarron, Maria Tsiatsos, Lillian Held, Michelle
Held, Pam McNaughton
Lioness Headdresses - Alayah Dozier
Props - Emlyn Shaw, Lilly Tillman, Tania Kirkman, Delaney Herold, Henry
Simms, Michelle Held, Lillian Held, Connor Loudan
Set Building - Mr. Simms, Robin Soukup, Steve Jarabeck, Hannah
Jarabeck, Ripley Loudan, Carah & Caius McCarron
Set Painting - Brandon Tillman, Brailyn Tillman, Emlyn Shaw
The Sun - The Cast of Lion King Jr.



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Musical Numbers

Circle of Life with Nants'

Ingonyama

Grasslands Chant

The Lioness Hunt

I Just Can't Wait to Be King

Be Prepared

They Live in You

The Stampede

The Mourning

Hakuna Matata (Part 1)

Hakuna Matata (Part 2)

Shadowland

Can You Feel the Love Tonight

He Lives in You

Luau Hawaiian Treat

Finale

Bows

Cast List

Rafiki - Haley Johnson
Zazu - Sophie Simms
Mufasa - Rachel Beall
Scar - Nevaeh Phillips
Young Simba - Kieran Soukup
Simba - Athan Tsiatsos
Young Nala - Brailyn Tillman
Nala - Alayah Dozier
Timon - Miles McKay
Pumbaa - Nathaniel Kirkman
Sarabi - Michelle Held
Sarafina - Lillian Held
Lioness - Azlyn Gainey, Ripley Loudan, Lydia Keifer, Selah Bushue, Kaitlynn
Ellenbecker
Shenzi - Hayden Ford
Banzai - Freya Kemp
Ed - Connor Loudan
Hyenas - Meriwether Hall, Ellie Johnson, Casen Johnson
Gazelles - Kylan Westberry, Clara Bushue
Bird Flock - Naomi Henry, Emilia Ruiz-Honaker, Hannah Jarabeck, Kassadi
McNaughton
Cheetah - Madeline Bushue
Ostrich - Carah McCarron

MEET THE CAST



Rachel Beall (Mufasa)

Rachel is 16 years old and in the 11th grade. She very much enjoys acting and staying active. In her free time, you can catch her reading a book or outside tanning (if there's sun). She is honored and very excited to be playing the role Mufasa, as this is her first show.



Madeline Bushue (Cheetah)

Madeline is 13 years old and in the 7th grade. She really enjoys playing the violin, crafting, playing Roblox, and doing the Apollo. She plays soccer and is really enjoying it. She has about 30 animals and lives on a miniature farm! She hopes you enjoy the show!



Carah Bushue (Gazelle)

Carah is 6 years old and is homeschooled. She loves to sing, dance, play soccer, and gymnastics! She love cats. She really loves being a big sister to her brother. She loves anything sparkly, glittery and pink! Carah hopes to be on Broadway one day!



Selah Bushue (Lioness)

Selah is 9 years old and in the 4th grade. She enjoys singing, dancing, and playing outside!



Alayah Dozier (Nala)

Alayah is 12 years old and in the 6th grade. She is a business owner and currently ships her custom masks all over the world. She is a 4-H member and has won Rabbit Showmanship 3 years in a row. Alayah dances at a local dance studio, plays rec volleyball, and volunteers at the Berkeley County Humane Society. She enjoys reading, singing, dancing, and watching anime shows. She is very excited to perform in her first show as adult Nala. She hopes everyone enjoys the show!



Kaitlynn Ellenbecker (Lioness)

Kaitlynn is 10 years old and in the 5th grade. In her free time, she loves playing with her dog named, Fred. She is really good at archery!



Hayden Ford (Shenzi)

Hayden is 14 years old and in the 8th grade. She has been doing theatre since she was 6.5 years old and this will be her 17th show. She most recently played Rooster in Annie, jr. which has been her favorite role! She hopes you enjoy the show!

MEET THE CAST



Azlyn Gainey (Lioness)

Azlyn is 9 years old and in the 3rd grade. She loves playing with slime and playing Minecraft. This will be her first show and is excited to do more in the future!



Meriwether Hall (Hyena)

Meriwether is 7 years old and in the 2nd grade. He likes armadillos, video games, and pinball. He recently played Lucky in 101 Dalmatians, kids. He enjoys pizza and pasta salad as his favorite foods. He has a hairless guinea pig, a quaker parrot, a sun conure, a hairless cat, and two ferrets!



Michelle Held (Sarabi)

Michelle is 18 years old and in the 12th grade. She loves to dance and has an upcoming senior hip hop solo in a dance recital! This will be her 12th show and some of her favorite roles she's played are Silena Beauregard in Percy Jackson the musical and a star camper in Camp Rock. She also loves to sing and make clay figures for her growing business. Michelle has a twin sister and she hopes to one day be on Broadway!



Lillian Held (Sarafina)

Lillian is 18 years old and in the 12th grade. This will be her 7th show, but her first at the Apollo. Some of her favorite roles has been Thalia in the Percy Jackson the Musical and a hidden folk in Frozen. She likes playing video games with her twin sister and has a gaming YouTube channel. She is very excited to be playing Sarafina in this show!



Naomi Henry (Bird Flock)

Naomi is 7 years old and in the 1st grade. She likes to play with her puppy and her cat. She enjoys listening to music, especially pop music! This will be her 3rd show.



Hannah Jarabeck (Bird Flock)

Hannah is 8 years old and in the 2nd grade. She loves playing outside with friends at Earth 'n Root, dancing (especially tap), and is so excited to be in her second production at the Apollo.



Ellie Johnson (Hyena)

Ellie is 5 years old. This is her second show at The Apollo and she loves being on stage. Ellie loves baby dolls, barbies, cats, and being active and creative. She is a master Uno strategist and enjoys winning against her older siblings and parents.

MEET THE CAST



Casen Johnson (Hyena)

Casen is 11 and in 5th grade. This is his first stage show and he is very excited. Outside of theatre, he is a certified black belt in mixed martial arts and loves video games.



Haley Johnson (Rafiki)

Haley is 14 and in the 8th grade! She's very excited to be playing the role of Rafiki in this production of the Lion King. Her dream is to be an actress of any kind in the future and dedicates a lot of her time to theater and acting. Some of her hobbies are listening to music, singing, dancing, writing, and, drawing



Lydia Keifer (Lioness)

Lydia is 9 years old and in the 3th grade. She likes to sing and dance. She also enjoys hiking and biking!



Freya Kemp (Banzai)

Freya is 10 years old in the 5th grade. She really loves cats! In her free time, she enjoys crafting.



Nathaniel Kirkman (Pumbaa)

Nathaniel is 9 years old and in the 3rd grade. He enjoys video games, art, and reading. He has several pets that include 7 cats and 1 dog.



Connor Loudan (Ed)

Connor is 8 years old and in the 3rd grade. He likes playing Minecraft. He has two cats named Fred and Chandler.



Ripley Loudan (Lioness)

Ripley is 11 years old and in the 6th grade. In her free time, she likes to do crafts, ride her bike, watch tv, and play with slime. She enjoys playing with her brother, Connor, who is also in the show!

MEET THE CAST



Carah McCarron (Ostrich)

Carah is 6 years old and is homeschooled. She loves to sing, dance, play soccer, and gymnastics! She love cats. She really loves being a big sister to her brother. She loves anything sparkly, glittery and pink! Carah hopes to be on Broadway one day!



Miles McKay (Timon)

Miles is 8 years and in the 3rd grade. He enjoys playing Minecraft and doing Legos. He has a cat name Lulu and a dog name Pally.



Kassadi McNaughton (Bird Flock)

Kassadi is 14 years old and in the 9th grade. She enjoys video games like Sonic The Hedgehog! Her favorites are tails and shadow. She loves stars and used to own chameleons. Her favorite movies are Sonic The Hedgehog 3, Jurassic Park and Anastasia.



Neveah Phillips (Scar)

Neveah is 14 years old and in the 7th grade. She has been doing theatre for 4 years. She enjoys violin and volleyball. Neveah will be playing Scar, which is one of the biggest roles she's had since starting theatre. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Emilia Ruiz-Honaker (Bird Flock)

Emilia loves to sing and dance! She likes cats and dogs and would like to have one or both one day. She loves ice cream!



Emlyn Shaw (Tech)

Emlyn is 15 years old and in the 9th grade. Her hobbies include drawing and crafting. She also enjoys being part of the shows at the Apollo. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Sophie Simms (Zazu)

Sophie is 17 years old and in the 11th grade. This is her first show at the Apollo! She has done 7 shows at the Black Box Theatre in Shepherdstown. Her favorite show has been The Snow Queen. She loves writing, mixed media art, and her lovely friends and family. She is thankful for her cast and crew, and she hopes you enjoy the show!

MEET THE CAST



Kieran Soukup (Young Simba)

Kieran is 9 years old and in the 3rd grade. He enjoys terminator and transformers. He also likes to read books.



Brailyn Tillman (Young Nala)

Brailyn is 11 years old and in the 5th grade. She enjoys the arts, but she likes acting the best. Her favorite role that she has played at the Apollo has been Cruella De Vil in 101 Dalmatians. She recently won an award for her artwork, and it will be hanging on a banner in downtown Winchester. She loves to make people laugh, so be sure not to hold back all of your giggles! Brailyn is extremely excited to be playing the role of Young Nala. She hopes you enjoy her acting as much as she enjoys doing it!



Athan Tsiatsos (Simba)

Athan is 11 years old and in the 5th grade at Mountain Ridge Intermediate. This is his first show but hopefully not his last. He enjoys collecting sealed Lego sets. He loves the Apollo Theatre and will be signing playbills after the show.



Kylan Westberry (Gazelle)

Kylan is 10 years old and in the 6th grade. She loves to dance and has been doing it for almost 9 years! She has 4 dogs and 2 cats, so her house can get crazy! Her best and most liked subject in school is science. The most amazing thing that she loves more than anything is her new baby nephew, Adler!



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TO OUR SWEET LITTLE PUMBAA, HAKUNA MATATA!
WITH ALL OUR LOVE, PAPA AND MAMA**



Kieran,

we are so proud of you and your cheerful enthusiasm in taking on this brand new challenge. Its exciting to see you using the gifts God's given you to bring joy to others. We're cheering you on!

Sophie,

*From the first time you stepped on stage as the tiniest orphan in the role of Tessie in Annie Jr, to your current role as the hilarious Zazu, we have always loved watching you shine. Your performances have made us laugh, cry, and smile over the past 10 years and we couldn't be more proud of you.
Love, Mom, Dad, and Henry*



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Even your loose change can make a difference.

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Your Apollo Civic Theatre Thanks You!

Bravo, Miles! We are so proud of you for taking on new challenges! Keep shining, keep learning, and keep inspiring—your adventure is just beginning!

Love Mom, Dad, and Sylvia



**BREAK A LEG,
MERIWETHER!
WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU,
AND WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE
YOU LAUGH IT UP AS A HYENA!
LOVE,
MOM & DAD**

DEAR EM,
WE ARE SO EXCITED TO WATCH YOU ON STAGE AND ARE SO BEYOND PROUD OF YOU.
YOU'RE THE SUNSHINE ON THE BRIGHTEST DAYS AND THE MOONLIGHT IN THE
DARKEST NIGHTS. WE LOVE YOU SO SO MUCH. YOU'RE THE #1 BIRD IN OUR
BIRD-FLOCK.

LOVE: MOMMY, DADDY, QUEEQUEE, & OBIE



**HAKUNA MATATA,
HAVE A GREAT THEATRICAL DEBUT AS SIMBA! ATHAN,
WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU FOR GIVING IT YOUR ALL.
LOVE, DAD, MOM & MARIA**



Brailyn,

**You are amazing
and we are so
proud of all
your hard work
on and off stage!
Keep reaching
for the stars and
all your dreams
will come true!
We love you!
Mommy and
Daddy**



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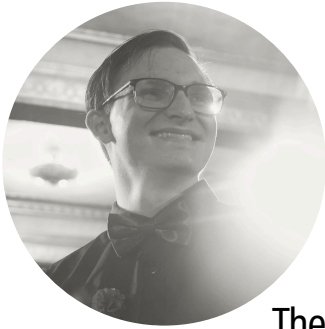
jess@beallteam.com

beallteam.com

Jae is a senior at MHS, in his free time enjoys playing trumpet and saxophone. Jae is planning on attending school for Music education: choral and instrumental and a minor in Theatre: Stage Production!



Jae Smitherman
Technical Director: Sound



Nathan Shockey
Technical Director: Lights

Nathan is a senior at MuHS and has spent the past several years expanding his knowledge in technical theatre. Over the summer, he competed at the International Thespian Festival with a lighting design project. Nathan is planning to attend college for a degree in technical theatre.

Delaney Herold (Choreographer) Delaney, a 25-year-old mother of one, is a familiar face at the Apollo Civic Theatre. Most recently, she was seen portraying Cheshire in Queen of Wonderland, and she also directed and choreographed Mamma Mia! in May of 2022. Delaney's passion for musical theatre and dance began at a young age and has flourished over the past two decades, with extensive experience performing throughout the region. She is excited to share her knowledge and love of theatre with the next generation, enriching the local community. Some of her favorite roles include: Sour Kangaroo in Seussical JR, Cha Cha in Grease, and Annie in Annie JR. Delaney is so proud of the cast, crew, and families of The Lion King JR, whose support, dedication, and hard work were a key part of making our dream a reality!



Delaney Herold
Stage Manager

Lilly's involvement at the Apollo began in early 2023 when her daughter performed in her first show.

Since then she has assisted with supervision, costumes, and set builds.

She is honored to be part of the very first homeschooling production.

Thank you to all the parents and volunteers for all your help.

To the cast, I am so proud of all your hard work and dedication!



Lilly Tillman
Producer

Paige Herold (Music Director, Stage Manager) For more than a decade, Paige has been a fixture backstage and onstage at The Apollo. Her technical theater credits include Sweeney Todd, Chicago, Nunsense, The Play That Goes Wrong, & The Diary of Anne Frank (Apollo Civic Theatre) and onstage credits include

Rocky Horror, Sherlock Holmes: Curiouser & Curiouser, & The Laramie Project (Apollo Civic Theatre)

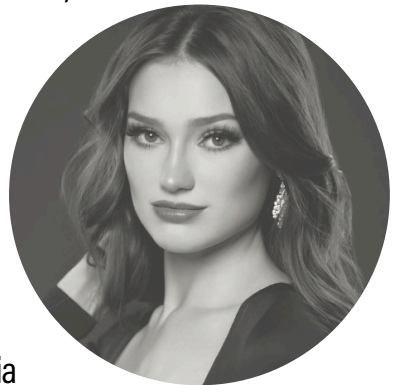
Paige is the director of The Rocky Horror Picture Show Shadowcast which will return this year in October for its 30 year Apollo Anniversary.

Paige serves her community as Miss Jefferson County,

where she volunteers throughout the eastern panhandle and advocates for arts education and funding for arts programs.

She will compete for the title of Miss West Virginia in June.

Paige works as a freelance photographer, is an avid napper, and will be signing playbills after the show.



Paige Herold
Music Director/Stage Manager



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Did you know the cost of putting on a production?

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Repairs and maintenance can cost an average of \$20,000 per year

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The Apollo Civic Theatre is a non-profit 501(C)3 Corporation, partially funded by the West Virginia Commission of Arts and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. Your contributions are tax-deductable to the extent the law allows, and are always appreciated.

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Thank you for becoming a "Friend of the Apollo" and for your continued support of the Apollo Civic Theatre!



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Director's Note

Welcome to The Lion King Jr, our first Apollo Homeschool Theater Workshop production! It is with immense pride and excitement that we bring this beloved story to life, showcasing the incredible talents of our homeschool community. This journey has been a remarkable fusion of creativity, teamwork, and dedication, all coming together to create an unforgettable experience for both our performers and audience.

Our vision for The Lion King Jr. extends beyond the iconic tale of Simba's journey. We aim to celebrate the core themes of responsibility, courage, and the circle of life, encouraging each participant to embrace their role in our theatrical community. The energy and commitment of our young actors, combined with the incredible support from parents and volunteers, have allowed us to craft a production rich in heart and soul.

In this rendition, our props, sets, and costumes play a pivotal role in immersing the audience in the vibrant world of the African savanna. Each element has been carefully designed to reflect the natural beauty and spirit of the story. Our team and cast have worked tirelessly, crafting items by hand, to ensure that every piece contributes to the magic of our performance. From the majestic Pride Rock to the lush greenery of the jungle, we invite you to let your imagination soar.

Thank you for being a part of this journey with us. Your support and enthusiasm are the lifeblood of our theater community. We hope you enjoy the show as much as we have enjoyed creating it. Hakuna Matata!

Amanda Hartman



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Mere words cannot express my gratitude for your support and dedication to the Apollo Civic Theatre. As a non-profit organization, the Apollo is supported through financial and in-kind donations by patrons and advocates like you. Your generous support allows us to continue to be a community center, a place where Martinsburg and area residents can come together to collaborate, create, and experience theatre.

To join the forces of our current donors and invest in the Apollo Civic Theatre, please visit us online at apollocivictheatre.org and select "Donate," or visit the concession stand during today's performance to make a contribution. For in-kind donations, such as costumes, lumber, or paint, call 304-263-6766. Please consider donating to help ensure the longevity and impact of Apollo Civic Theatre in our local neighborhood. Again, I thank you for your generous support.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Michael Noll

President, Apollo Civic Theatre Board of Directors



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*Rachel
Elizabeth
Beall*

We're so proud of you!
Continue to let your life
be a voice for the
King of kings, the Lion of Judah!
with love, Daddy & Mama

Good Luck



Alayah,

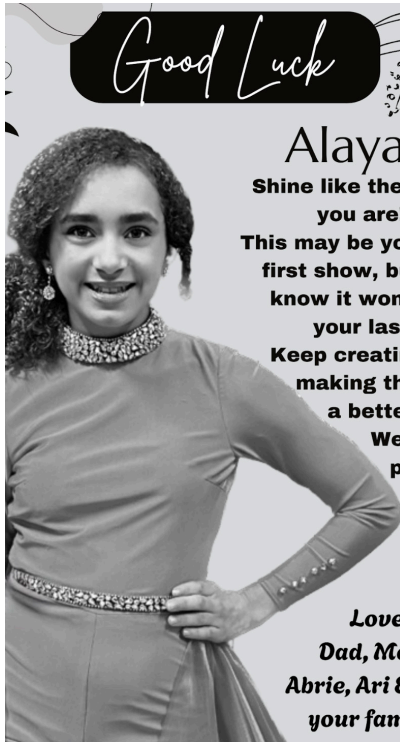
**Shine like the STAR
you are!!**

**This may be your very
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your last!**

**Keep creating and
making the world
a better place!**

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

*Love,
Dad, Mom,
Abrie, Ari & all of
your family!*



July 25, 26 & 27, 2025



Apollocivictheatre.org



THE HISTORIC
APOLLO
CIVIC THEATRE

DID YOU KNOW?

- \$5** HELPS BUY A SCRIPT FOR AN ACTOR.
- \$10** PROVIDES MAKEUP FOR ONE PERFORMER.
- \$25** REPLACES A BROKEN PROP.
- \$50** COVERS COSTUME MATERIALS FOR A CHARACTER.
- \$75** KEEPS OUR STAGE LIGHTS SHINING FOR ONE PERFORMANCE.
- \$100** HELPS WITH SMALL THEATRE ESSENTIALS.
- \$250** BUILDS A SET PIECE FOR AN UPCOMING SHOW.
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- \$2,500** PRINTS PROGRAMS FOR THE AUDIENCE.
- \$4000-\$5000** FUNDS A FULL SET DESIGN FOR A SHOW.
- \$10,000** SPONSORS A SHOW.
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- \$25,000** SPONSORS AN ENTIRE SEASON OF COMMUNITY THEATRE OR FUNDS MAJOR RENOVATIONS OR UPGRADES.

Lilly Tillman
PHOTOGRAPHY

Lilly.
Thank you for always making our headshots look so good!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND BIG THANKS GO OUT TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE APOLLO

2024/ 2025 ACT MEMBERSHIPS

Daniel McMechan
Carl Frasch
Charlotte Frasch
Ruth Ann Alter
Lauren R. Hugg
Kathleen Bost
Rebecca Raynes
Kenny Lemaster
Kenneth Kulp
Joanne Kulp
Marissa Kulp
Kelly Kulp
Caitlyn Kulp
Jenifer Roberts
Dean McBee
Patricia Lyons
Adriana Palmer
Gary Palmer
Tiffany Leighton
Alexandra Giguët

Christy Miller
Chris Miller
Anthony Brooks
Stephanie Johnson
Crystal Prestridge
Daniel Prestridge
Shelly Billings
Karen Carr
Brian Carr
Brettney Chapman
Matt Chapman
Marianela Alberto
Dean Olack
Megan Baldwin
Hal Van Metre
Donna Van Metre
Jennifer Noll
Tony Ponton
Andrea Jenkins
Shad Jenkins

James Miller
Amanda Newsom
Karen Noll
Lilly Tillman
Jeremiah Ervin
Delia Mastromatteo
Sid Henderson
Leanna Wearing
Cathy Funk Amores
Rosemary Johnson

FOREVER ANGELS

Ralph & Margaret Burkhard
Norma Gene Butler
Hollis Copeland
Mr. & Mrs. Elwood Lane
Stephen Levi
Mildred V. Noll
Ronald Rockwell
Hubert Rolling
George Ropp

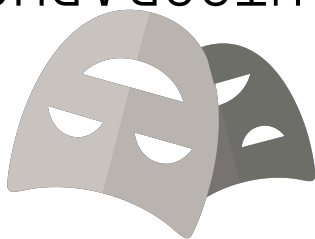
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS

Harriet Eyler
Michael Noll



THE HISTORIC
APOLLO
CIVIC THEATRE

AUTOGRAPHS



AUTOGRAPHS

BLACK & WHITE COMEDY PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
A NIGHT OF STANDUP COMEDY WITH

DAN ST. GERMAIN



JUNE 21

8PM

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AT THE APOLLO CIVIC THEATRE

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*""I am so proud of you Selah,
Madeline, Clara, and the rest of the
cast! You kids did a phenomenal job!
BRAVO! BRAVO!"*

Sonja Bushue
Realtor/Team Leader
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sonja@homesweethomewv.com

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AGES 5-12

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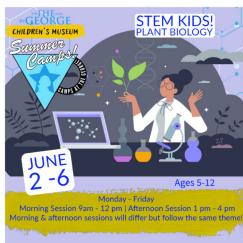
\$150/SESSION (\$125 SESSION FOR MEMBERS)

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