## ARTSTREAM'S ALEXANDRIA INCLUSIVE THEATRE COMPANIES PRESENT:

## ONE SMALL STEP THE HAUNTING AT **ROSECLIFF MANOR**

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021 | 7:30PM
THE ALEXANDRIA DRIVE-IN THEATRE | 5001 EISENHOWER AVE, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22304

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2021 | 7:30PM

























Theathe for an Inclusive World

## About **ArtStream**

ArtStream's classes, workshops, and performing companies fuel each student's imagination, creativity, and focus. And that's not all. Students improve communication and social skills and develop friendships. Newly discovered talents and capabilities improve self-esteem, poise, and confidence that extends into their daily lives. All ArtStreamers are valued for their creative contributions. ArtStream's demanding and very entertaining process encourages ArtStreamers to find their voices, discover their creativity and strengths, and perform with confidence!

"My son has many challenges with social situations, and making new friends is very difficult. I see a really positive change in him since he began this ArtStream class! He looks forward to the class and feels comfortable with the teachers. They are fabulous."

- Parent of a 20-year-old who's been an ArtStream student since 2019

# Take a **Performing Class**

ArtStream offers performing arts classes for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs) — including autism. You do not need to have any acting experience to take a class.

Learn about our current classes or register for an upcoming class today.

Classes: www.art-stream.org/take-a-class

# Join Our Monthly **Super Social Saturdays**

Practice being your best self in a group event setting. Show your skills, be silly, express yourself, practice positive social experiences, and dance!

# Attend a Show



## 2021 **PERFORMANCES**

## **Winter 2021**

Maryland Cabaret - Winter Company

- Monday, Jan. 25, 2021
- ① 7:30 pm
- Zoom

## **Spring 2021**

**Alexandria Inclusive Theatre** Companies

- Friday, March 19, 2021
- (¹) 7:30 pm

**Gaithersburg Inclusive Theatre** Companies

- Friday, May 7, 2021
- ① 7:30 pm

Maryland Cabaret - Spring Company

- Monday, May 17, 2021
- © 7:30 pm

Virginia Cabaret - Spring Company

- Monday, April 5, 2021
- (1) 7:30 pm
- Zoom

Silver Spring Inclusive Theatre Companies

- Friday, June 18, 2021
- ( 7:30 pm
- Zoom

Get tickets by going to "Buy Tickets" at www.art-stream.org



Get Involved with Art Stream Perform with

**ArtStream** 

Auditions for the Inclusive Theatre Companies occur in the fall for shows the following spring. Cabaret Companies hold auditions in the fall and winter.

## **Inclusive Theatre Companies**

Actors develop and perform an original musical. The company votes on a theme, creates original characters, and improvises scenes. Scenes are then scripted to become an original one-act musical. Each performance presents two of these musicals in a double bill before a live audience.

## **Cabaret Companies**

Actors agree on a theme for ensemble music and dance performances, and then each actor works with the choreographer and music director to develop solo and small-group music, dance, or drama performances.

## Requirements to perform

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Have participated in at least 8 weeks of ArtStream classes in the past 2 years

## Reserve your spot

on the audition list by calling ArtStream at (301) 565-4567.

When there is space in the company, we will invite you to join us for an audition.

# Support Avt Stream



## **Donate**

Tuition and ticket sales cover less than half (46%) of the cost of ArtStream's programs. Your donations make it possible for actors with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs) — including autism — to perform on stage, feel empowered and respected, and actively engage in our communities.

- $\sqrt{\phantom{a}}$  \$75 funds a full costume for one actor in an Inclusive Theatre Company show.
- \$300 underwrites a public speaking workshop for self-advocacy and pre-employment skills.
- \$1,000 sponsors an eight-week class in Broadway Song & Dance, Shakespeare, or Directing & Design.

Donate: www.art-stream.org/donate or mail a check to: ArtStream | PO Box 75090 | Chicago, IL 60675-5090

## Volunteer

Volunteers ages 13+ are needed to help in classes, backstage, and onstage.

Volunteers are eligible for Student Service Learning hours, and ArtStream looks great on college applications!

Groups and families are welcome.

Volunteer: www.art-stream.org/who-we-serve/volunteer/

## **Advertise**

To include your ad in our programs, please contact ArtStream.

Advertise: www.art-stream.org/advertise-with-artstream

# ONE SMALL STEP Director's Note

What a year this has been! When the ArtStream Inclusive Companies decided to rehearse and perform virtually, I decided that this was the year to do something completely different. Something completely outside of the box, something that would be difficult to do onstage. This approach would not only shift the way in which we work but also open the possibilities to work with staff and mentors from all over the USA!

Our usual process is to vote on a theme and do a series of improvisations, then the team and I write a script inspired by the improvisations. But this year, most of the show was improvised. There was no formal script. Each week the actors were given prompts, and their reactions are what we filmed. What you are about to see is the most devised show that I have ever done. The basic structure of the show is inspired by the musical *A Chorus Line*, a show centered on a group of performers auditioning for a Broadway show. Some make it, and some don't. Our characters are "auditioning" to be the first cohort going to Mars. Tune in to see who gets chosen.

I want to thank the actors for putting themselves out there and going for it! I want to thank the entire team of staff and mentors for sharing your talents, your willingness to try something new, and your patience as we explore this new medium. To Barbara for her wonderful music and for all the hours outside of rehearsal she spent in the editing room. I especially want to thank Sarah for her guidance and dedication as our main editor (and patience as I learned Zoom). Special thanks to everyone who supports our actors on and off screen, the entire Alexandria Company A team, my fellow co-founders, the staff and board of ArtStream, especially Sarah Sandifer, Luke Warren, and Melissa Wallace.

Please enjoy One Small Step.

Patricia Woolsey, Director

## **Tonight's Performance**

Song 1: Outer Space is Calling Me

Things We Won't/Will Miss Song 2:

Who'd Have Guessed Song 3:

## **Production Team**

**Director:** Patricia Woolsey

**Assistant Directors:** Claire Alrich. James Lex, and Bailey Nassetta

Music Director, Composer, Lyricist:

Barbara Schelstrate

Mentors: Allison Bozniak. Paige Coffey, Jenny Rae Goldman, Lucy Livingston, Audrey O'Donnell, McKenna O'Donnell, and Shaun Stronach

Stage Manager: Danyel Reid

Video Editors: Robert Lodge, Patricia Woolsey, and Sarah Sandifer

**Theatre and Events Manager:** 

Sarah Sandifer

#### Cast

Claire Alrich\* as Fanny Fitness Allison Bozniak\* as Madison Trudeau Paige Coffey\* as Vivian DuBois Kelly DeRoy as Mary R. Gilmore Christie DiPlacido as Chef Kitty Jenny Rae Goldman\* as Dr. Doofenschmirtz Tammy Kiser as Sasha the Magician Ricky Kuron as Sean Spenstarr James Lex\* as J.D. Wells Lucy Livingston\* as Toby Falcon Chelsea Murray as Bonnie Body Bailey Nassetta\* as Haris Pilton Josef Newton as Eugene Scruggs Kerry O'Brien as Bethany Hamilton Audrey O'Donnell\* as Tara Shortstrong McKenna O'Donnell\* as Jess Blezos Laurie Pippenger as Dr. Hannah Pete Scampavia as Billy the Plumber Shaun Stronach\* as Jester the Joking Clown Laura Sullivan as Kokoro (Koko) Karma \*Indicates Mentor

## THE HAUNTING AT ROSECLIFF MANOR Director's Note

The last year has been a difficult chapter for many of us, to say the least. However, with true ArtStream spirit, our actors have pulled off what many of us thought would not be possible. Who would've thought we would be able to create an original musical across three states, one district, and let's go ahead and throw Mexico in there!

If one good thing came from this pandemic, I must say, it was Zoom. The professionalism and patience these actors demonstrated was incredible. Our directing and mentor team was primarily new to Company B as well, but you would never have guessed it. The sense of camaraderie was instantaneous. This year was a team effort more than ever. Hats off to you all!

Congrats to our wonderful cast, and enjoy seeing yourselves on the "big screen!" Now sit back, relax, and join us for a ghostly good time!

~Elizabeth Cronin, Director

## **Tonight's Performance**

Scene 1: The Inheritance

"Traveling"

Scene 2: Arriving at Rosecliff Manor

Scene 3: Let's Have a Look Around "Tour of the Mansion"

Scene 4: Those Portraits Look

Very Realistic

Scene 5: We'll Be Rich, Rich, Rich!

"The Decorator Is Bad

News"

Scene 6A: Pizza? What's Pizza?

"What Is Happening?"

Scene 6B: Not Right Now, Kids (Part 1)

"Family Doesn't Listen"

Scene 6C: Not Right Now, Kids (Part 2)

"Auction, for Sale"

Scene 6D: We'll Save Ourselves

"We Can Fix This"

Scene 7: Preliminary Designs

"Blues Plans"

Scene 8: It's Crooked Again

Scene 9: Pretty Cool

Scene 10: The Secret Tip

Scene 11: The House Is Haunted

Scene 12: Meet the Family

Epilogue: Knead the Dough,

Like This "Moving In"

## **Production Team**

**Director:** Elizabeth Cronin

Assistant Directors: Amy Creamer

and Mary Beth Levrio

Music Director, Composer, Lyricist,

Choreographer: Leah Kocsis

Mentors: Kristhy Gutierrez, Haley Hubbard, and Peter Kehoe

Stage Manager: Kia Folsom

Video Editors: Robert Lodge

and Sarah Sandifer

#### Cast

Suzan Basoglu as Myrtle Wentworth Merry Casillas as Josephine Wentworth Annie Coffman\* as the Courier Amy Creamer\* as Zelda Wentworth Savannah Dennison\* as Marge Kristhy Gutierrez\* as Betsy Wentworth Jennifer Holden as Titan<u>ia Wentworth</u> Greg Hoppe as Balthazar Haley Hubbard\* as Lucy Wentworth Laurie Ann Kehoe as Wendy Wentworth Peter Kehoe\* as Reginald Pickwick Nicholas Kramp as Tony Wentworth Mary Beth Levrio\* as Matilda Bingsley Alexandra Martel as Phyllis Wentworth RJ Martin as Randy Wentworth Lukas McCormick as Mr. Smith/Captain Scuttle Amy Merrell as Mavis Wentworth Frank Stephens as John Wentworth William Ward as Giovanni Bonorelli \*Indicates Mentor

## One Small Step



Claire Alrich (Fanny Fitness, Assistant Director)
Claire Alrich is a freelance dance artist, costume designer, and educator living in Washington, DC. In addition to working with the lovely folks of ArtStream, Claire is one-third of the performance collective Area Woman, Site Coordinator for The Field/DC, and the Director of Programs and Operations for the Friends of the U.S. Botanic Garden. Claire is a 2018 and 2020 recipient of an Artist Fellowship through the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.



Allison Bozniak (Madison Trudeau, Mentor) Allison Bozniak is in her second year as a mentor with ArtStream, though she has been a longtime fan of the shows and has attended many ArtStream Galas. She currently serves as the associate director for Corporate and Regional Communications at the international nonprofit FHI 360. She supports the organization's global portfolio, promoting the nonprofit's work across health, education, economic livelihood, agriculture, and environmental sectors. She is the mother of two great kids. Siena and Shaun.



Paige Coffey (Vivian DuBois, Mentor)
Paige Coffey is a native of Virginia, currently living in sunny Florida. Paige has had the honor of working with ArtStream from 2008 to 2010. She was an active cast member of the Alexandria Company, Development Director, and Teacher. She is thrilled to have been asked back as a cast member, compliments of Zoom and her friend and mentor, Patti Woolsey. Paige's life has been filled with theatre and the Arts as well as being Pookie Bear's wife and Chloe's mom. Her hobbies include surfing, dancing, and befriending critters like racoons and possums. Paige wants to thank the cast for accepting her with virtual open arms.



## Kelly DeRoy (Mary R. Gilmore)

Kelly DeRoy is an actor from Arlington, Virginia, and has been with ArtStream for 11 years. She has loved performing on stage since she was very young. In a normal year, she enjoys going out with her friends at L'Arche and traveling with her parents. Her pre-pandemic hobbies include bowling, softball, and working on the computer. During the pandemic she has been keeping busy with online classes like art, dance, yoga, and ArtStream. She looks forward to being back on the physical stage again next season and thanks her friends and family for their continued support during this difficult year. "Your supportive emails and cards are as precious as flowers to me."



## Christie DiPlacido (Chef Kitty)

Christie DiPlacido is a 38-year-old actor from Arlington, Virginia. She is a graduate of the Mason LIFE Program at George Mason University. Christie started taking classes with ArtStream in 2008 and is appearing in her fifth show with the Alexandria Inclusive Theatre Company! She works at Safeway. Christie is a very creative artist. She creates paintings that are often sold at auction to benefit various charities. "Love to all my ArtStream friends, and thanks to my mom for always helping me."



## **Jenny Rae Goldman** (Dr. Doofenschmirtz, Mentor)

Jenny Rae Goldman is a graduate student at George Washington University in Washington, DC, and is currently applying to medical school. She joined ArtStream this past September and has been loving every moment since! She has previously worked in musical theatre in high school and studied theatre while living for a year in France. She hopes to finally meet everyone in person someday very soon!



#### Tammy Kiser (Sasha the Magician)

Tammy Kiser is a 28-year-old actor from Lorton, Virginia. She has been acting with ArtStream for 11 years. She has also performed with Center Stage competition teams and continues to perform with an adult tap class. Tammy works at Kingstown Safeway, and she enjoys Special Olympics sports. "Best wishes to all my cast friends."



## Ricky Kuron (Sean Spenstarr)

Ricky Kuron is a 29-year-old actor living in Lake Ridge. Virginia. He has been in ArtStream for three years, starting with ArtStream's Improv Comedy class where he met his friends Dave and Jaxson. Other than exercising and playing video games at home. Ricky does chores, writes poetry, and spends some quality time with his family. He graduated from Tarboro High School in 2011. He moved to Virginia three years later and worked at the Fort Belvoir North Post Exchange Express. He won an award for Service Source's Job Placement Employee of the Year and volunteered at the Mount Vernon adult health day care center. At his church in Springfield, he is a Knight of Columbus doing charities for people with disabilities. Once a month on the weekends, he and his friends go to see Nova Pro Wrestling in Fairfax and Annandale, "I want to thank ArtStream for getting aspiring actors like myself to achieve and excel in their goals and dreams. I also want to thank my family and friends for supporting me in everything I do."



#### James Lex (J.D. Wells, Assistant Director)

This is James' second year of assistant directing for ArtStream. James works as a director and teaching artist for Imagination Stage, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Signature Theatre, and many schools in the DC area. He is also an accomplished playwright, having written such plays as *The Flower Thieves*, *How to Escape the Sky*, *O*, *Wonder!* (Imagination Stage), *Lake Monsters* (James Madison University), *Sweethearts* (National Playwrights Conference semifinalist), and premiering this spring, *The Cyclops* (St. Paul's School).



## Lucy Livingston (Toby Falcon, Mentor)

Lucy Livingston is a Brooklyn-based performer and producer. She graduated from NYU Tisch in 2015. This is her first time working with ArtStream, and she has loved every minute. "Thanks to all involved for the opportunity to play!"



## Chelsea Murray (Bonnie Body)

Chelsea Murray is a 33-year-old actor from Great Falls, Virginia. She has been acting with the Alexandria Inclusive Theatre Company since 2010. *One Small Step* is her 11th show with ArtStream. Chelsea has always loved the theatre. She loves to act, sing, dance, and listen to music. She began her career at age 5 with Chris Collins Dance Studio, where she performed for 12 years. She acted in school plays in middle school and at Paul VI High School. Chelsea currently works at Charming Concepts in The Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, Virginia. In her spare time, she spends time with her brother, Brady; her cat, Misty; and her dog, Raffi. "Thank you ArtStream, the directors, the mentors, and my fellow actors for the opportunity to live my dream."



#### Bailey Nassetta (Haris Pilton, Assistant Director)

Bailey Nassetta is a Brooklyn-based director, administrator and teaching artist. Currently, Bailey is the director of classes at The People's Improv Theater. Her most recent directing work includes "Missing 411" (The Recovery Lounge), "Tortle & Friends" (The Nyuorican), "Birdbrains" (The Recovery Lounge, The Deep End). Bailey has been working with ArtStream as a teaching artist for the past three years.



#### Josef Newton (Eugene Scruggs)

Josef Newton is a funny, helpful, and smart 31-year-old. He grew up in Springfield, Virginia. This will be his seventh year performing with ArtStream. His favorite thing to do on stage is dance! Josef works at MVLE cleaning up the community and the environment, and making Springfield a safer place to live! He has been described as a "motivated, valuable, loyal employee" by his fellow Mobile Crew 9 team members. He enjoys playing the banjo and listening to bluegrass. His biggest inspiration comes from his favorite movie, *Cars*. "I want to thank my friends for rehearsing and performing with me. I'd especially like to thank Barbara for rehearsing my banjo parts with me."



## Kerry O'Brien (Bethany Hamilton)

Kerry O'Brien is a 29-year-old actor, born in Bethesda, Maryland. After living in California, Massachusetts, Italy, and 20 years in Annandale, Virginia, she now resides in Fairfax City, Virginia. Kerry started acting at Annandale High School and has been part of ArtStream's Alexandria Company A since 2009. This year marks her 12th show with ArtStream. Kerry loves her new job at Cameron's Coffee and Chocolates in Fairfax, singing, dancing, acting, and sports. Kerry is grateful to her parents; her sisters, Jules and Erin; her brother-in-law, Chris; her soon-to-be brother-in-law, Brandon; her feisty niece, Annabelle; and her many family members and friends across the country for all their support in life and performing.



#### McKenna O'Donnell (Jess Blezos, Mentor)

ArtStream has changed McKenna's life! She started working with ArtStream a little over five years ago and took a break to go to college. Now that she is back in the DC area working in IT consulting, she is so happy to be involved once again with such an incredible program. "ArtStream's inclusivity and celebration of self-expression has changed my life in more ways than one!"



## Audrey O'Donnell (Tara Shortstrong, Mentor)

Audrey had the pleasure of participating in an ArtStream production in 2015 and was eager to return after a college hiatus. Because Audrey had a background in musical theatre, ArtStream was a way for her to find a community and get involved with an amazing group of people who share a similar passion for the performing arts. ArtStream rehearsal every Thursday always brightens her week!



## Laurie Pippenger (Dr. Hannah)

Laurie will be celebrating her 45th birthday on March 29. Her hometown is Virginia Beach, but she has lived in Arlington for many years. This is her third year as an actor with ArtStream. Laurie did some dancing and acting when she lived in Holland and Norway. During the day, Laurie works at Arlington Weaves, designing weaving creations and weaving placemats, table runners, etc. As a member of Service Source, she also makes soap, candles, and many more fabulous things. Her hobbies are photography, playing games, having fun with friends, cooking, and of course, acting! Laurie loves her family for supporting her and L'Arche, who has helped a lot!



#### Danyel Reid (Stage Manager)

Danyel is a self-taught musician and plays piano, guitar, ukulele, violin, and djembe. She was born in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and joined ArtStream in 2019. She received her master's in vocal performance from James Madison University and her bachelor's in music, with a double minor in theatre and dance, from UNC Charlotte. Her vast experience in opera, musical theatre, and various dance styles has allowed her to perform in the U.S., Nova Scotia, and Germany. She enjoys ice skating, karaoke, and going out dancing. She wishes the best to her ArtStream family in all their endeavors!



#### Pete Scampavia (Billy the Plumber)

Pete Scampavia is a 32-year-old actor from Arlington, Virginia. He has acted with ArtStream since 2014 and appeared in his first show with the Alexandria Inclusive Theatre Company last spring as Dan De Miser in *Must Love Music*. Pete attended George Mason University in Fairfax. He works at Safeway and lives in his own apartment. When he's not working or acting, he likes to hang out with his friends and play with his matchbox cars. "Acting is my passion!"



## **Barbara Schelstrate** (Music Director, Composer, Lyricist)

Barbara Schelstrate began her ArtStream career with Alexandria Company A in 2014 and has been with them ever since. It's like home now! Her other music direction experience includes Gilbert & Sullivan productions and annual CHAWbarets at the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop (CHAW) in DC, as well as a dozen productions at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington. Her onstage experience includes several operas with the Washington National Opera chorus and William Inge's *Picnic* with Dominion Stage. Perhaps her favorite activity is composing music: She's written a one-act opera, *Frigga & the Mistletoe*, and a musical version of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which was performed in 2011 at UUCA and in 2017 at CHAW. She's happy to be writing for Alexandria Company A!



## **Shaun Stronach** (Jester the Joking Clown, Mentor)

Shaun Stronach is an 8th grader at Deal Middle School in Washington, DC. This is his second season volunteering with ArtStream but the first time with a real speaking part. Shaun enjoys movies and theatre and in his free time when he's not working hard at his schoolwork. He also enjoys the Art of Gaming — not just playing but also studying others who do. He is currently focused on video games but has a long-standing love of chess as well.



#### Laura Sullivan (Kokoro Karma)

Laura Sullivan is a 29-year-old actress from Alexandria, Virginia. She made her ArtStream debut as a time-traveling archaeologist in *Oh My, An Invasion!* in 2011. Laura is a summa cum laude graduate of Northern Virginia Community College with a degree in liberal arts. She enjoys the performing arts, and she is fairly fluent in Spanish. For many years, she sang with the Arlington Children's Chorus, including two productions with the Wolf Trap Opera Company. "Thank you to everyone in the cast for making this such a wonderful experience!"



## Patricia Woolsey (Director)

Patti is a co-founder and the Founding Executive Director of ArtStream. She currently works as a Master Teacher, consultant, and director for ArtStream. Patti wears several hats during the day. She currently teaches drama for the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, the Shakespeare Theatre Company, the Polite Piggy's program on Capitol Hill, and she runs a memory care class at Insight memory care through ETC. As a Registered Drama Therapist (RDT), she works privately with clients, and she also works as a professional organizer for Basic Organization (yes, the organize your closet kind). She loves directing and is very thankful for the actors, families, and everyone on the team in Alexandria Company A!

## The Haunting at Rosecliff Manor



## Suzan Basoglu (Myrtle Wentworth)

Suzan Basoglu is a 36-year-old actor from Clifton, Virginia. She has been with ArtStream for 13 years. Suzan also performed at George Mason University as Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz and as a Lion in The Lion King. Before the COVID-19 layoffs, Suzan worked at Dave and Busters as a hostess and volunteered at Fairfax City Department of Parks and Recreation. During the pandemic, she continued to participate in her book clubs, weekly exercises, and meetings with friends via Zoom. She also reads, works out, and plays video games. "All the best to my cast mates on this year's production."



## Merry Casillas (Josephine Wentworth)

Merry Jayne Casillas is a 38-year-old actor from Arlington, Virginia. Since joining ArtStream in 2007, Merry has appeared in 15 ArtStream musicals and has invited other actors to join the company, many of whom are still company members. She is happiest when the group is writing plays, rehearsing, and performing. Merry fell in love with acting while performing with the Phoenix Company at Imagination Stage. She has also appeared in church Roadshows, *The Order Is Love* with McLean Stage, and *The Music Man* at Stratford High School. Merry is a graduate of The Stratford Program. She likes to write poetry, paint, make jewelry, and have fun with her 37 nieces and nephews. "My big family and lots of friends are my cheering fans every year, and I love them!"



## Amy Creamer (Zelda Wentworth, Assistant Director)

Amy is a retired Georgia middle school theatre, music, and broadcasting teacher. A graduate of the Ithaca College Theatre Department, she also received a music teaching certificate from Georgia State University. Amy ran her own theatre production company for several years before moving to DC where she has worked with Encore Stage & Studio and Chamber Dance and is delighted to be a part of the amazing ArtStream community.



## Elizabeth Cronin (Director)

Elizabeth is a graduate of Indiana University with a major in music and vocal performance, with an outside field in theatre. After a few years in the world of NYC theatre, she moved to the DC area, where she was introduced to ArtStream by her then roommate in 2009. She began as a choreographer, moved to assistant director, and now is lucky enough to direct the wonderful Company B. She feels blessed to be able to combine her love of musical theatre and her love for this community. She is proud to call our ArtStreamers not only friends, but family as well!



## Savannah Dennison (Marge, Mentor)

Savannah is a senior at George Mason University pursuing a career in special education. This is her first year and performance with ArtStream's Alexandria B and Gaithersburg A Companies. She is thankful for the ability to learn from outstanding teachers and talented actors. She looks forward to continuing with ArtStream in the future.



## Kia Folsom (Stage Manager)

Kia Folsom is a 36-year-old stage manager, originally from Cincinnati, Ohio. She joined ArtStream in 2018. Before ArtStream, she ran her own theatre nonprofit for 10 years as a director, choreographer, and fundraiser. During the day, she works for the federal government in public affairs. In her spare time, she likes to sing, dance, and write, and she is also a videographer and editor. "Live each day as if it is your last!"



#### Kristhy Gutierrez (Betsy Wentworth, Mentor)

Kristhy Gutiérrez is a 25-year-old mentor who lives in Mexico. In her country, she was part of musical theatre productions, such as *The Sound of Music* and *Fame* at Anahuac Mayab University. Her passion is working with people with special needs, and she enjoys helping them to bring out their best. Kristhy's second passion is the arts. She enjoys singing, dancing, and acting. Kristhy's dream is starting to become real by being the director of an inclusive arts school where she can merge her two passions. This year will be her second performance with ArtStream, and she cannot wait for it! "Thank you, ArtStream, for letting me live my dreams and for being my inclusive and musical family at a distance!"



## Jennifer Holden (Titania Wentworth)

Jennifer (Jenny) Holden is a 32-year-old actress from Springfield, Virginia, who's been with ArtStream since 2009. In 2019, she even performed a scene with ArtStream at the Kennedy Center! Jenny loves musical theatre and acted in Anything Goes and The Boyfriend at Paul VI Catholic High School. She works as a preschool teacher's aide, and she volunteers for Best Buddies, writing and illustrating letters to contributors. In her free time, Jenny advocates for people with disabilities. She loves sports, drawing, reading, and getting together with friends. "Thanks to Elizabeth, the mentors, and my mom and dad for believing in me."



#### Greg Hoppe (Balthazar)

Greg Hoppe, 30, lives in Fairfax, Virginia. Greg discovered a love of performing at age 3. His first mainstage production was in 8th grade at Lake Braddock Secondary, where he received the 8th grade Outstanding Drama Student Award. At Paul VI High School, he acted in musicals all four years, earning a Cappies Director's Commendation and membership in the International Thespians Society, and returned for seven more musicals as a guest alumni actor. Greg took ArtStream classes on the GMU campus for several years and joined Alexandria Company B in 2013. In summer 2018, he helped launch Heart House Inclusive Productions (Woodbridge, Virginia). appearing in its first show. How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Greg works at Home Goods in Fairfax and enjoys voga, dance, biking, live theatre, movies, and "Jeopardy!" He is grateful for his director, mentors, and all the people who make ArtStream his favorite night of the week. "On with the show!"



## Haley Hubbard (Lucy Wentworth, Mentor)

Haley Hubbard is a 23-year-old mentor, originally from the Big Island of Hawaii. She now resides in Gaithersburg, Maryland, with her fiancé, Rye, and their cat, Gretl. Haley has been involved with theatre since preschool, participating in every school play and even a few shows with the local community theatre. This is her first season with ArtStream, and she already can't wait for the fall!



## Laurie Ann Kehoe (Wendy Wentworth)

Laurie Ann is appearing in her 13th ArtStream musical. Her characters have ranged from being a singing "alley cat" to to an evil alien to a trusty sidekick, through which she brought her quiet joy to each production. Before the pandemic, weekends for Laurie Ann were frequently filled with Special Olympics practices and tournaments in snowshoeing, basketball, soccer, softball, and golf skills. A highlight for her and her family was being included on the Virginia Special Olympics golf team in 2010 for the Special Olympics National Games in Lincoln, Nebraska, at which she won a silver medal in the golf skills competition. Laurie Ann attended school in Arlington, Virginia and can't wait to return to her workdays at MVLE in Springfield, Virginia.



**Peter Kehoe** (Reginald Pickwick, Mentor)
Peter is the proud parent of actor Laurie Ann Kehoe and was thrilled to be asked to join Company B.



**Leah Kocsis** (Music Director, Composer, Lyricist, Choreographer)

Leah Kocsis started loving and playing the piano at age 8. As a pianist and conductor, she has been performing, teaching, and collaborating ever since. She is passionate about teaching and sharing music with children. She received her bachelor's in music from the University of Rochester and its Fastman School of Music and her master's in music education from the Peabody Conservatory. Since moving to the DC area in 2000, Leah has taught classroom general music and has founded and taught a beginning strings program and choral and handbell ensembles. While living in Maryland, she had a private piano studio for 10 years. She builds communities through song in her work as a song leader, playing guitar and singing while while encouraging children and families into exploring music and their musical voices. Leah has served as music director for numerous musical theatre ensembles. including Kensington Arts Theatre, The Arlington Players, The Little Theater of Alexandria, and Rockville Musical Theater. She has also worked with area community and youth orchestras as music director, assistant conductor, and pianist. Leah has three young music makers of her own — Alexandra, Charlotte, and Elizabeth — who can often be found singing, dancing, and making music of their own.



## Nick Kramp (Tony Wentworth)

Nick Kramp is a 33-year-old actor from Vienna, Virginia. Nick starred as the Big Bad Wolf in his first ArtStream play, *Happily Ever After*, in 2011. This performance was a real life-changer for Nick. Acting with ArtStream has become a big focus of his time each year as he concentrates on learning the lines, songs, and dances. Nick works at Wildflour Bakery during the day, and in his off time, he enjoys seeing movies with his friends and swimming. Nick hopes the cast will have a great time this year.



## Mary Beth Levrio (Matilda Bingsley, Assistant Director)

Mary Beth Levrio has been with ArtStream since 2015 as a teacher, assistant director, and director. Mary Beth has a master's in theatre from The American University, with a focus on directing and education. She has worked as a director and teacher for companies in the DMV area, including Montgomery Playhouse, Upcounty Theatre, Kentlands Community Players, Children's Theatre of Arlington, Round House Theatre, Imagination Stage, Potomac Community Theatre, and Thomas S. Wootton High School. Pittsburgh is her new home, but thanks to Zoom, she is still with ArtStream. She would like to thank the wonderful people at ArtStream, especially everyone with Alexandria Company B, for giving her the opportunity to stay connected. "ArtStream is my happy place."



#### Alexandra Martel (Phyllis Wentworth)

Alexandra (Xandra) Martel is a 44-year-old who has been acting since she was 15. Xandra has been an ArtStream actor since the very beginning at Imagination Stage. This is her 15th show with ArtStream. During the day, she attends the Challenge Program at Montgomery College. She has a dog named Maisy, who will be 4 on August 18; two brothers, Peter and Michael; and her niece, Cecelia Jane, who just turned 3! Xandra is a poet and a dog-lover. "Thanks to my whole family for their support — my brothers, Peter and Michael; my sister-in-law, Katie; my new baby sister, Rosemary; my mom and stepdad; and my dad!"



## RJ Martin (Randy Wentworth)

Richard James Martin, better known to us all as RJ, is one of the original members of the Alexandria Inclusive Theatre Company. He is 41 years old and lives in Bethesda, Maryland. He attended H.B. Woodlawn. RJ is retired from working at the Arlington Central Library. The coronavirus outbreak has curtailed many of his activities. He looks forward to family visits and the Special Olympics next year. Meanwhile, he enjoys playing bingo on Zoom and beating his father at the card game war. Leisure activities include listening to music, watching sports, and working out at the gym. RJ is a Facebook aficionado — keeping in touch! "Good luck to my fellow actors!"



## Lukas Antony McCormick (Mr. Smith/Captain Scuttle)

This is Lukas' 10th year performing in an ArtStream production. Lukas' favorite musical is *The Pirates of Penzance*. After watching this Gilbert & Sullivan classic, Lukas knew he wanted to be a singer and dancer on the stage. He was cast in *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Chicago* when he was a student at T.C. Williams High School. With the support of his mother, Lukas is able to learn his lines, scenes, and songs. When Lukas is onstage, he feels a bit nervous yet completely confident that the show will be wonderful. Lukas would like to thank his family and friends for all their love over these years and his Cool Aspies family of friends who have come to every ArtStream performance. In the words of Captain Scuttle, "Will you be serving Birch Beer with your savory pizza pie?"



## Amy Merrell (Mavis Wentworth)

Amy Merrell is a 27-year-old actor from Vienna, Virginia. This is her third season with Alexandria Company B. Amy has previously taken improv and Shakespeare classes with ArtStream. She also does ballroom dancing with the Dancing Stars of Northern Virginia. They performed at a TED Talk at the University of Maryland in College Park and at Elegant Dancing. In addition, Amy enjoys basketball, cooking, baking, and swimming. Amy worked at Wildflour Caterers until the pandemic. During the pandemic, Amy has done lots of bike riding, hiking, reading, and cooking. She is looking forward to going back to work once the pandemic is under control. "Thanks to my parents and friends for their support and to my fellow ArtStream actors for their wonderful friendship."



## Frank Stephens (John Wentworth)

Frank Stephens lives with a thought from Mahatma Gandhi foremost in his mind: "My life is my message." That thought is at the heart of Frank's statement. "I am a man with Down syndrome, and my life is worth living." Frank describes himself as an actor, author, and advocate, and truly is all of those. He has appeared in feature films; workshopped plays in New York: developed a recurring role in the Emmywinning Born This Way; appeared in documentaries, like The R Word and Upside Down, related to intellectual disabilities: and has been a member of the ArtStream troupe since 2005. He has written op-ed pieces published all over the world. He is an articulate advocate, best known for his impassioned defense of the value of life with Down syndrome in testimony to the U.S. House Appropriations Committee and the United Nations Committee on Human Rights. Frank logged over 70,000 miles in 2018 alone, addressing audiences large and small, including students from middle school to Harvard Law School. All of Frank's acting, writing, and speaking is in furtherance of the single objective of convincing a skeptical world that individuals born with Down syndrome are fully human and are capable of full, satisfying, and worthwhile lives.



#### William Ward (Giovanni Bonorelli)

William, age 24, is a serious ArtStreamer, wanting to take everything offered. He has really enjoyed it and has grown theatrically in his first year with Alexandria Company B, with whom he acted in his first role ever as Giovanni Bonorelli "Decorator to the Stars." He is a bit shy but made great progress this season and has a lot more to give! In 2014, William graduated from Kettle Run High School (Fauquier County) and moved back to Fairfax County to attend Davis Career Center, from which he graduated in 2018. William thanks all of his teachers and mentors for their dedication to his success. William looks forward to meeting again in person with his ArtStream mates and for all the fun to come!



# **THANK YOU**

Thank you for coming to see the Alexandria Inclusive Theatre Company's performance!







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## THE BROWN FAMILY THANKS THE STAFF AND TEACHERS FOR ALL THEIR AMAZING WORK!

The Barnes family salutes
ArtStream and all of its
amazing performers!

Thank you ArtStream for all your hard work. We love the program and are so glad Chris can be a part of it!

The Pagonis Family



Alex is a proud member of the creative, collaborative ArtStream community!



Congratulations to the Alexandria Inclusive Theatre Companies for two awesome shows!

We know your talent and hard work will be rewarded with great performances.

**GO ARTSTREAMERS!** 

Megan, Mike, and Ellen Cooper

Students with intellectual and developmental disabilities — including autism — ages 16-26 may receive one free ticket for virtual performances.

Register at www.art-stream.org.



## Alex:

You're not just a great friend • •

an intrepid explorer.



a great communicator •



adorable and adored



You're definitely going places and taking us all along for the ride! Where will you and your ArtStreamers take us all this coming year? Wherever that is, we'll be right behind you.

All of you.



# THANK Y U



Thank you to all of ArtStream's Teaching Artists for their creativity and dedication!

Your hard work helps our ArtStream students find their voices and excel!

—The Bradley Family



## Congratulations to our favorite ArtStream actor!

With love from Frank, Molly, and Jane Myers



since our first show in 2007







of all ages







# Save the Date

ARTSTREAM'S CABARET COMPANY PRESENTS:

## SWEET FRIENDS OF MINE

FEATURING CHRIS FAMME, MARK JONES, STELLAROSE KALB, ERIC NIEDRINGHAUS, AND ANNA TIERNAN



MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2021 AT 7:30 PM ZOOM PERFORMANCE

# Save the Date

Gaithersburg Inclusive Theatre Company presents





FRIDAY, MAY 7, AT 7:30PM ON ZOOM

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Alexandra Martel

**RJ** Martin

Lukas McCormick

Adam McCrensky

Faith McLuckie

Matthew McMeekin

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Chelsea Murray Joe Myers

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Eric Niedringhaus Kerry O'Brien

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Charles Outlaw Chris Pagonis

Cecelia Pauley

Michael Piccone

Laurie Pippenger

Cassie Rennie

Javier Requejo

Alexander Richardson

Tory Richeson

Cynthia Ring Steve Sabia

Pete Scampavia

Danielle Silva

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Thanks four a great season!