

# OUR REVOLTINGLY TALENTED CAST!

## YEAR FOUR: SENIORS

### GRACIE CONN (Matilda)

An impressive resume: **2022:** *Chicago* - Roxie Hart; *Beauty & the Beast* - Lumiere; **2021:** *Something Rotten!* - ensemble (JCC Summerstage); *Little Shop of Horrors* - Audrey (OFC Creations); **2020:** *The Drowsy Chaperone* - Kitty; *High School Musical* - Cheerleader; **2019:** *The Incomplete Works of Shakespeare* - Fairy. Gracie grew up participating in Brighton Summer Arts, 2012-2019. Her training includes: Voice lessons with Susanna Adams; Dance with Linda Goebel; and the Eastman Community Music School choir. This past summer, Gracie attended the Performing Arts Project Musical Theatre Intensive this past summer. At BHS, Gracie is a member of the Bruinettes, a treble acapella group; Dance captain of BHS's show choir, A Choired Taste; a member of Bella Voce, a select treble choir. She played the lead (Sam) in a student film, *Relics of an Empty Shell* (2022). Gracie was recognized at last year's RBTL Stars of Tomorrow with an "Excellence in Performance Award," and was a semi-finalist in their Stars of Tomorrow Competition for the coveted Jimmy Awards — a high honor, indeed! Special thanks to the entire cast, crew, and directors of Matilda! Thank you for all you've done to make this production incredible. Gracie thanks Mrs. Staebell, Mrs. Padilla, Susanna Adams, Linda Goebel for how much they've done for her onstage and off. Finally, she thanks her family and friends for their endless support. Gracie will pursue musical theatre in college. See you on Broadway, Gracie!

### ZOE DALE (Eric)

Zoe is familiar to Brighton audiences. At BHS, credits include *High School Musical* (Jock), *Drowsy Chaperone* (Ensemble), *Chicago* (Ensemble), and as the lovable Cogsworth in last year's *Beauty and the Beast*. Other achievements include four years in the BHS show choir: *A Choired Taste*; two years working as a volunteer with Artists Unlimited for *The Lion King, Jr* and *Willy Wonka*. Thank you to her family and friends, and Mrs. Padilla, for always being there for her on and off stage. Zoe has committed to the University of Rochester and will major in Biology, to eventually pursue a career in dentistry. All the best, Zoe!

### LILY FITZPATRICK (Amanda Tripp)

Lily has been in many Brighton productions: *Chicago*, Kitty/Ensemble; *Beauty and the Beast*, Babette/Enchantress; *High School Musical*, Cheerleader; *Mamma Mia*, Ali. Outside of school she was seen as Hela in the world premiere of *RISE, a Rock Musical* with JCC Summerstage. In school she is a senior director for Bruinettes, also in *A Choired Taste*, and president of Mock Trial. She enjoys songwriting and performs with the Eastman Youth Chamber Singers. Lily is so grateful for these last four years in Brighton's performing arts program! At college she will be studying psychology, philosophy, and/or English while continuing to pursue passions in performing arts. We wish you great success, Lily!

### SOPHIE HILGER (Lavender)

Sophie is an active and talented member of our theatre department. Her work includes *The Incomplete Works of Shakespeare* - Maria (2019); *High School Musical* - cheerleader and *The Drowsy Chaperone* - ensemble (2020); *Something Rotten* (JCC Summerstage)- Snug (2021) and last school year: *Beauty and the Beast*- Belle; and *Chicago*- Liz. Brighton Summer arts shows (2016-2019). Her training includes: Voice Lessons with Hannah Harrow; Dance with Linda Goebel; the Eastman Community Music School Honors Diploma recipient, and the highly acclaimed Geva Summer Academy. School groups include: Director of Bruinettes (BHS acapella group); Member of Vocal Jazz, Bella Voce, and A Choired Taste (BHS). Thanks to the cast and crew for their kindness and hard work!! Thank you Mrs. Staebell, Mrs. Padilla and my family and friends for their endless support on and off stage. Sophie is pursuing musical theatre in college! Break a leg, Sophie!

### LEA MANCARELLA (Mrs. Wormwood)

Lea has been very busy on the BHS stage and elsewhere. Last year you saw her as Velma Kelly in *Chicago*, and as Belle in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*- Junior. She was also in *Blood Relations* as "the Actress"; *High School Musical* as Sharpay. Lea also participates in the acapella groups: The Crazy Pitches and The Bruinettes. Credits include *A Christmas Story* in National Tour '14-'15, *A Christmas Carol* at Geva, *Chasing Rainbows* at Goodspeed Opera House, and at Broadway Producer's Lab, along with *RISE: a Rock Musical*, a World Premiere at JCC Summerstage. Lea would like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her, and the wonderful adults in the Brighton Performing Arts program for all of the opportunities. She wants to pursue a career in the arts.

## YEAR THREE: JUNIORS

### AURORA CABRAL (Alice)

Aurora is becoming a familiar presence on the Brighton stage, having been in *Beauty and the Beast*, *Chicago*, and *Puffs*. She is a Director of Bruinettes, and in *Bella Voce*, *A Choired Taste*, *Vocal Jazz*, and *Drama Club*. “I want to thank Mrs. Padilla, Mrs. Parent, and Mrs. Staebell supporting me and helping me grow.”

### CALLAN COMEAU (Mr. Wormwood)

Callan is versatile member of Brighton Theatre Arts. Last year we enjoyed him as Belle’s father, Maurice, in *Beauty and the Beast*. Over the summer, he captivated as Enjolras in the celebrated *Les Miserables*, directed by Brian Bohrer. For OFCreations, he’s been in *Bare: A Pop Opera* (Matt); *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip Tolentino); and *Jekyll and Hyde* (John Utterson). At school he is in *Chorus*, *Macapella*, *Crazy Pitches*, *Vocal Jazz*, and *A Choired Taste*. “Thanks to my parents and my voice teacher, Elizabeth Lind, for always supporting me and helping me with shows! Also a huge thank you to the amazing cast, crew, and creative team of *Matilda, the Musical!*”

### RENATA CORRADO-GREEN (RUDOLPHO)

Renata has been an active theatre participant, starting in the ensemble in *The Jungle Book (Kids)* in First Grade! Other credits include *Beauty and the Beast*, *Monsieur D'Arque/Villager*, *Les Miserables*, *Courfeyrac/Ensemble*; *Forbidden Broadway*, *Liza Minelli/Ensemble*; *Cinderella (Kids)*, *Fairy Godmother*; *Annie (Kids)*, *Annie*, *Shrek, Jr.*, *Ugly Duckling*; *Lion King, Jr.*, *Zazu*, *Mary Poppins*, *Nanny Andrews*, *Hairspray*, *Penny's Mom*. Renata participates in mixed choir at Brighton, as well as the youth choir and music lessons at Eastman school of music. In addition to performing onstage, they have worked behind the scenes as a member of Brighton's tech crews. Thank you to Lea Mancarella for being the most fantastic dance partner, and to Callan Comeau for being good company in downtime.

### NATALIE DERTHICK (Big Kid)

Natalie’s Brighton stage work includes *Annie*, *Pepper*; *Shrek*, *Goldilocks/Ensemble*; *Beauty and the Beast*, both 4th (Lady with Baby/Dancing Knife) and 10th grades (Bar Maid/Napkin/Ensemble), *Lion King*, *Lioness/Ensemble*; *Fame*, *Miss Sherman*; *Forbidden Broadway*, *Ensemble*, *soloist*; and *Hairspray*, *Tammy/Ensemble*. Outside of school she has participated in *Heathers*, *Heather McNamara*, with OFC Creations. She sings 1st Soprano in the Third Presbyterian Church’s Chancel Choir, led by Peter Dubois, and studies with Hannah Harrow’s Vocal Studio at Eastman Community Music School. The biggest thank you to my parents and grandparents for driving me to and from rehearsal, and Hannah Harrow, “Your help may come from the Lord, but your cues come from the conductor.”

### HOPE GALLOWAY (Miss Honey)

Hope’s Brighton credits include: *Chicago*, *Matron “Mama” Morton*; *Les Miserables*, *Eponine*; *Beauty and the Beast*, *Mrs. Potts*. Other credits include: *Head Over Heels*, *Princess Pamela*; *Forbidden Broadway*, *Ethel Merman/Idina Menzel*; *Newsies*, *Medda Larkin*. Hope is also a council member for the BHS Drama Club.

### KAYLA HARVEY (Mrs. Phelps)

This year has been one of my best years of my life. Last year I did the musical *Beauty and the Beast*, then at the start of this year I was in our fall production of *puffs*. It was so fun I got to play a dragon, a lovely herbology teacher, and many more roles. Then up now is *Matilda!* I’m playing my first non-ensemble role. My character is Mrs. Phelps, she is a librarian. I’m so glad I started doing theater- it is one of my favorite things to do! It combines both of my favorite things: acting and singing. This show has come together in a way I have never seen. Everyone is working together like a family which is how theater is supposed to be.

### DELANEY MCGOWAN (Escapologist/Big Kid/Parent/“Loud” Salsa Dancer)

In second grade Delaney was a baby ape in *Tarzan* at the high school; in seventh grade, in the ensemble for *Hairspray Jr.* When a conflict would take Delaney out of the performances for *Beauty and the Beast*, Mrs. Shomper asked her to be the student director. She was also in the ensemble for *Chicago* last year. This year, Delaney was again invited to be the student director for the TCMS production of *Into the Woods Jr.* She’s very excited to be playing multiple roles in *Matilda*. Delaney is also a committed member of Link Crew, Girl Scouts, Drama Club, the Morning Show, HOSA, and a very dedicated dance student and instructor at Dance Connection.

### QUINN QUINLAN (Big Kid/Parent)

Quinn is happy to be making his Brighton theatre debut with *Matilda*, and we look forward to many more of his performances. He's part of Macapella, BHS's highly entertaining and revered all tenor, baritone, and bass acapella group. "Thanks for coming to see our performance!"

### IONNA "IVY" VAUGH (Tommy)

Ionna began capturing notice in the ensemble of last year's *Beauty and the Beast*, and a LeAnne in *Puffs*. Active at BHS, they are a member of BSU, Drama Club, ACT, Bella Voce, and Vocal Jazz. "Thank you for coming to see our show, and to my fellow cast members, thank you for the amazing memories."

### AUBREY WILBANKS (Big Kid/Nurse/Italian Dialect Coach)

Busy in performing arts at BHS, Aubrey has been a member of A Choired Taste, the Student As Creator Project, and in the ensemble (Sausage Curl Girl) for *Beauty and the Beast*. Aubrey also played young Cosette in *Les Miserables* (2022) with Brighton Summer Arts. This past fall, Aubrey played Susie Bones in the hilarious Potter send-up of *Puffs*. Aubrey is a member of Vocal Jazz, Bella Voce, Drama Club, and the President of Christian Student Union. I have also done various plays with the theatre company I Sognambuli in Florence, Italy where I lived for several years, and how I first started acting. "I hope you enjoy *Matilda* and always remember that even if you're little, you can do a lot!"

## YEAR TWO: SOPHOMORES

### SAMUELA BOTWEY (Big Kid/"Loud" Salsa Dancer)

"*Matilda the Musical* is the first production that I've ever been involved in. In this show, I play the roles of a Big Kid, a Parent, and a Salsa dancer. At BHS, I'm a part of Show Choir, and during the spring I do Track & Field. I hope that next year I can join more music groups at BHS. Thank you for coming to see the show, and I hope you enjoy it!"

### ELLIE CADY (Nigel)

Ellie's theatre credits include *Beauty and the beast* (Silly Girl); *High School Musical* (Sharpay); *Annie, Jr.* (Annie); *Snoopy!! The Musical* (Peppermint Patty); and- *The Lion King, Jr.* (Rafiki). "I love to swim and I am on the Varsity Girls Swim team (BHS). I also love to run and I am on the Varsity girls Track and Field—distance runner (BHS). I also participate in show choir and I am in Bruinettes! I also play guitar! I would like to thank everyone who made it possible for me to be in this amazing production! Thank you to the directors, Mrs. Shomper, Ben Meixell, Mr. McCarty, and especially Mrs. Padilla, for always being there for me on and off stage. Thank you to all of my friends for coming to support me, and thank you to my parents and siblings for supporting me and giving me rides to rehearsal every day."

### CASEY HOWE (Bruce Bogtrotter)

A busy actor, Casey was seen last year as Babette in *Beauty and the Beast*, and as Annie in *Chicago*. Outside of BHS she's appeared as Little Becky (*Urinetown*), Vivienne Kensington (*Legally Blonde*), and as Ellie (*Freaky Friday*). "Thanks to our directors and especially Mrs. Padilla for whipping us into shape. Thank you to Jack and all our tech crew. Thanks to Zoe Dale for driving me to rehearsal everyday - I'll miss her so much!"

### PEARL KRIEGER (Entertainer/Big Kid/"Loud" Salsa Dancer)

"This is my first production at Brighton, and I'm super excited to be a part of *Matilda the Musical*! I play the children's entertainer and a big kid. In other productions outside of school, I've played Mimi (*Rent*), Fiona (*Shrek the Musical*), and Martha Dunstock (*Heathers*). When I'm not at rehearsal, I'm probably drawing or playing guitar. Thank you so much to my family for the endless support, the directors and tech crew for making this show possible, and to our incredibly talented cast!"

### FRANCES LOVETT (Hortensia)

Excited to be back doing Brighton shows! Something Rotten MJTS (Portia), 9th grade. Frances is a director of the Crazy

Pitches, she does ballet and musical theater dance, and plays the bassoon. Frances would like to thank Cali and Mitch for all their support!!! An additional thank you to Zoe Dale for driving Frances to rehearsal every day. Hopefully Frances can pay her gas money back in love.

### PHOEBE MARTIN (Doctor/Big Kid)

Phoebe is back with a bang this year! After her starring role of a fork in last year's production of *Beauty and the Beast*, she's so excited to come back, better than ever, as the Doctor in *Matilda the Musical*! She'd like to thank her parents for always driving her to rehearsal, her directors, and her imaginary friend, Billy, for helping her practice lines. "The Doctor was a big role for me to take on, but I'm giving it my all!" - Phoebe. She hopes you enjoy the show! Brighton credits: *Puffs*-Hannah/Bippy; *Les Miz*- Army Officer/Constable 2; *Beauty and the Beast*-Fork/Bartender/Wolf/Townsperson; *The Lion King, Jr.*- Ensemble. Other credits include: *Snoopy the Musical*-Lucy; *Newsies Jr.*-Davey; *Newsies, Jr.*- Davey; *Annie, Jr.*-Pepper/Star-To-Be; *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*-Gargoyle; *Legally Blonde, Jr.*-Stylist/Ensemble; *James and the Giant Peach, Jr.*- Ensemble.

### SOPH MILLER (Russian Henchman/Judge/Parent)

I've been doing Brighton shows since I was eight! I was a villager in *Beauty and the Beast* and Feuilly in last summer's *Les Misérables*. I've also done a lot of OFC shows: I was Pirelli in *Sweeney Todd*, Mary Sunshine in *Chicago* and Grandma in *The Addams Family*. I've written and directed for the Student as Creator project. I'm also in Bella Voce, on the Drama Club council, and I volunteer in the Jewish community (Beth El, B'rith Kodesh, Sinai, and the JCC). I'm so grateful to have been in such an amazing show with so many amazing people!

### EMELY NAJERA (Cook/Parent/Judge/Ensemble)

Emely was seen in last year's *Beauty and the Beast*, and in the Summer Arts production of *Les Misérables*. She is also a member of Phoenix art club, HOSA. She is appreciative of this opportunity, and would like to thank everyone involved.

### INNA TASIKAS (Parent/Ensemble)

Inna enjoyed being a part of last year's *Beauty and The Beast* in the unique duo of the Caryatid. This past summer she was in *Les Misérables* as Young Eponine. She looks forward to more opportunities in musical theatre.

### SCARLETT WILDER (Acrobat/Big Kid/Parent/"Loud" Salsa Dancer)

"This show is my first Brighton production. The most recent show I have been in is a production of *Newsies Jr.* at A Magical Journey Through Stages. I am currently in A Choired Taste as well as Bella Voce. I play field hockey in the fall. I hope you enjoy the show!"

## YEAR ONE: FRESHMEN

### HENRY AGER (Agatha Trunchbull/British Dialect Coach)

Henry was a real standout in last year's remarkable TCMS production of *All Together Now* (Bert and Ensemble), so much so that we invited him to join the cast of the BHS production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. He was next a part of the extraordinary cast of Brighton Summer Arts production of *Les Misérables*, Directed by Brian Bohrer. Henry played the Bishop, a Student, and joined the Ensemble. This past fall, Henry was in *Puffs* as Oliver Rivers, Directed by Colleen Parent. He is a part of Macapella, Vocal Jazz and A Choired Taste. Henry would like to thank the directors, adults, tech crew, pit, and the cast for making this show such a wonderful experience to be a part of!

### PJ FINN (Michael Wormwood)

### FIONA HUGHES (Parent/Judge/Ensemble)

### SEAN McANALLY (Big Kid/Parent)

Sean is so excited to be back to doing Brighton shows since his last show FAME (ensemble), in 2019. He is a member of Crazy Pitches, Macapella, and vocal jazz. In his free time he plays the piano and arranges original songs. Sean would like to thank Frances Lovett for teaching him how to write a bio.

### **MOLLY McINTYRE (Parent/Judge/Ensemble)**

Molly was seen in last year's stunning TCMS production of *All Together Now* as Erzulie and a narrator. This Fall she was in *Puffs*. She is a part of Friends of Rachel and plays the trumpet. "Thanks to the audience for coming and the directors for putting this amazing show together!"

### **MARIE "MeMe" MIKOLS (Obstetrics Nurse/Parent/Ensemble)**

MeMe participated in BHS Summer Arts *Les Miserables* this past summer. She also plays the viola and piano. "Thanks for watching us do this!"

### **SOPHIE PINCUS (Big Kid/Nurse)**

"I was in ensemble in *Lion King* over the summer before fifth grade, ensemble in *Fame Jr.* the summer before sixth grade, and Constable 1 and ensemble in *Les Misérables* this past summer, all with Brighton Summer Arts. I also used to do many shows in Fairport with Bravo Jr. Some of these include a mouse in *Cinderella* in first grade, the Queen of Hearts in *Alice in Wonderland* in second grade, Jasmine/ensemble in *Aladdin*, and Mrs. Potts in *Beauty and the Beast*, both in third grade. I am also currently a member of our school's show choir, A Choired Taste as well as the Phoenix Art Club and the Drama Club.

### **SAGE RINELLA (Sergei/Parent/Ensemble)**

Sage was in the ensemble of the highly acclaimed *All Together Now, 2021*, Brighton's return to theatre following the pandemic, and Summer Arts' *Moana, Jr.* (2019) as Ancestor #1. Sage also participates in Drama Club, Geology Club, and Phoenix Art Club. "Dasvidanya!"

### **MARIA SHALAEVA (Big Kid/Nurse/Russian Dialect Coach)**

We're so happy to have Maria bring her strong talents in her BHS debut, and hope there will be more shows to come! In addition to singing and dancing, she speaks fluent Russian and has helped the actors in the "Russian Mob" to speak their words of Russian dialog. Maria also works on the Morning Show, and participates in outdoor track and soccer.

### **ADIA SHETLER (Russian Henchman/Parent/Ensemble)**

Adia has been in several shows, including *All Together Now*, *Les Miserables*, *Fame, Jr.*, *Moana*, and *Tangled* at OFC. The swim team and ski club also occupy Adina's time. "Thanks so much for this opportunity."

### **LEO "BUNNY" STILSON (Parent/Russian Henchman/Big Kid)**

## **OUR YOUNG 'UNS**

### **YELENA HAEFNER-BUSZA (Big Kid) (Grade 7)**

After delighting everyone with her turn as Little Red's Granny in the TCMS fall production of *Into the Wood, Jr.*, Yelena was invited to add her talents to *Matilda's* impressive group of young actors. She juggles a very busy schedule, participating in swimming, various TCMS clubs, and the middle school's show choir, directed by Alison Cuchiarale and Jessica Padilla. She also enjoys sailing, tennis, traveling, reading, and unicycling - yes, we said UNICYCLING! "I really enjoyed getting to work with the high schoolers!" And we enjoyed getting to know Yelena!

### **KEELEY STAEBELL (Sweet Child) (Grade 3)**

Coming to us from French Road School, Keeley is experienced in all things musical; she has been a part of the theatre scene since before she was born! Her joy on stage is palpable. We're so happy to have her join us for an adorable cameo in *Matilda, the Musical*.

## THE TALENTED STUDENTS IN OUR PIT ORCHESTRA:

### EMMA HILGER (Violin)

Emma is a senior violinist. Matilda is her fourth, and last pit orchestra at Brighton High School. She is very grateful for the variety of musical experiences she's had at Brighton. Beyond pit orchestra, Emma plays in the RPYO and is the editor-in-chief of Galaxy Art and Literary Magazine. Emma would like to thank the cast, crew, and especially Mrs. Staebell for their support and hard work. Enjoy the show!

### SAMANTHA KOTZ (REEDS)

Samantha is a sophomore at Brighton High School. She studies saxophone under Brad Batz and piano under Roberts Honadle. She has performed at numerous All-Counties and All-States and was selected to be principal chair twice. Outside of music, she is also a member of the school tennis team and is a member of many school clubs. She'd like to thank Sarah Staebell for the amazing support she has provided and the rest of the pit for making the experience super fun.

### CORBAN VOGLER (TRUMPET)

Corban is a junior and has been playing trumpet for seven years. He is the principal trumpet of the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and a member of Eastman, where he studies under Patrick Corvington. He enjoys performing in pit orchestras, honor ensembles, and at recitals, as well as with the ECMS trumpet ensemble. He'd like to thank Mrs. Staebell and the other directors for bringing this show to fruition.

### JAYDEN VOGLER (REEDS)

Jayden is a junior at BHS and has been playing saxophone since fourth grade. Jayden was recently selected for the 2022 NYSSMA Conference All-State Band, which performed in December. He has played in several other regional ensembles and local honor bands. He studies under Dr. Chisato Marling at Eastman, where he also plays soprano saxophone in the sax quartet and is working towards an honors Advanced Diploma. Jayden would like to thank Mrs. Staebell and the rest of the pit for making this a great experience!

### ALINA YANG (CELLO)

Alina Ying is a junior at Brighton High School, and has been playing cello for seven years. She currently studies with Ahrim Kim, and has been in the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra for four years. She has served as principal cellist of numerous All-County and Area All-State orchestras, and plays in a scholarship piano trio at The Hochstein School of Music. Last summer, she attended the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival in Burlington, VT, where she studied with Alison Wells. Alina also volunteers at ROCmusic, where she teaches cello. She would like to thank Mrs. Staebell and her music teachers for making this possible!

## OUR INCOMPARABLE TECHIES:

This phenomenal group of students can do it all! They plan, design, build, paint, decorate, sew, sweep, mop, move, understand and employ the technology for lights and sound... most of these jobs are done in spaces that aren't big enough for everything they need to fit in! Techies must be good at Tetris...and math...and science...and physics, and Phyzzz Ed! They also begin their preparations for each performance before the actors arrive to be sure everything is clean and ready, and then they get to put it all back together again after the actors go home. And they always remember the ghost light!

Thank you to all the various crews; you're truly wonderful!