

MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL STATESMEN THEATRE PRESENTS

LEGALLY *Blonde* *the musical*



April 25 - May 4, 2024

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**Marshall High School's
Statesmen Theatre Company**

presents

**LEGALLY
BLONDE**

The Musical.

Book by Heather Hach Music & Lyrics by
Laurence O'Keefe & Nell Benjamin

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown
and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Original Production by Hal Luftig, Fox Theatricals, Dori Berinstein, James L. Nederlander, Independent Presenters Network, Roy Furman, Amanda Lipitz, Broadway Asia, Barbara Whitman, FWPM Group, Hendel/Wiesenfeld, Goldberg/Binder, Stern/Meyer, Lane/Comley, Bartner-Jenkins/Nocciolino and Warren Trepp; produced in association with MGM Onstage, Darcie Denkert and Dean Stolber

Legally Blonde is presented through special arrangement
with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com

**Any video and/or audio recording of
this production is strictly prohibited.**

Cast (in order of scene appearance):

Margot	Sophia Shelton
Serena	Sharon Cho
Pilar	Sofia Kadkhodai
Gaelen	Ella Greher
Kate	Dena Talebnejad
Leilani	Audrey Miller
Bruiser	Daisy
Elle Woods	Sophia Welch
Courtney (Saleswoman)	Maya Pedan
Store Manager	Lydia Kraft
Warner Huntington III	Keegan Rhyu
Elle's Mom	Kiele Armstrong
Elle's Dad	Kai Perley
Grandmaster Chad	George Owino
Winthrop	Sara Moharerrzadeh
Lowell	Graham Poteat
Pforzheimer	Connor Tremblay
Emmett	Jacob Lee
Aaron	Hong-An Pho
Sundeep	Shahrad Valizadeh
Enid	Zoe Mazur
Vivienne	Saniya Desai
Professor Callahan	Omar Falki
Paulette	Kate Butterworth
Whitney	Addi Reeves
Dewey	Graham Poteat
Rufus	Tally
Brooke Wyndham	Evie Richardson
Kyle, UPS Guy	Connor Tremblay
Kiki	Ivanna Stefanova
D.A. Joyce Riley	Sara Moharerrzadeh
Carlos	Anson DeVinney
Nikos	George Owino
Chutney	Maya Pedan
Judge	Sophia Alexander

Ensemble: Sophia Alexander, Kiele Armstrong, Pauline Bong, Kate Borysenko, Josh Bouie, Alaia Cross, Jasper Deighton, Anson DeVinney, Saph Djukic, Julia Friefeld, Dahlia Gibson, Anna Gray, Mia Hanna, Kadyn Kalb, Lydia Kraft, Ava Krasner, Adalyn Latortue, Sofia Liskey, Lizzie McCreesh, George Owino, Aurelia Parr, Maya Pedan, Kai Perley, Graham Poteat, Addi Reeves, Dani Rothman, Ivanna Stefanova, Connor Tremblay, Shahrad Valizadeh, Jenna Walker

Creative Team

DirectorBernie DeLeo
Musical DirectorTiffany Powell
Co-DirectorOlivia Tate
Band DirectorPaul Vesilind
Choreographer..... Ahmad Maaty
Student Choreographers Jenna Walker, Celina Zaccack
Irish Dance Choreographer Martin Garfield-Levine

Production Crew

Stage ManagersEmmie Baldwin, Katie Myers, Jaya Nath
Lights Maddie Schoepf, Alex Kincaid
Spotlights Ash Wise, Henry Pride
SoundMaddie Schoepf, Rachel Neuman, Nova Chien
CurtainsWinter Gerbracht, Kyle Ratner
Backstage Crew Rodrigo Ardaya Velarde, Elliott Boon,
Oliver Davenport, Russell Hartge,
Nigel Sim, Ivanna Stefanova
Props Crew.....Allison Petersen, Ashley Chocon Flores,
Sophia Fienberg, Alyssa Fredericks, Zander Kime
Costumes..... Natasha Dormont, Pressley Stevens,
Sofia Baldeon Masturzo, Jonathan Brough,
Lune Cotto-Rivera, Cora Gardner, Ella Jaskot,
Kieran Mertz, Gisele Nunez-Vaca
Hair/Makeup Crew.....Jenna Walker, Kieran Mertz,
Gisele Nunez-Vaca, Abigail Yeboah
Dog Wranglers Ella Jaskot, Luciana Linares
Publicity CrewSara Moharerrzadeh, Natasha Dormont, Ella Greher,
Dani Rothman, Polina Anfilofyev, Ayla Catarino-Reyes
Set Painters..... Han Nguyen, Angelica Capito, Izel Alaydrus,
Lily Lin, Jessica Luo
Set Construction.....6th & 8th Period Tech classes
House Manager Maya Washington

Adult Production Support

Light/Sound SupportScott Wahl/Alex Thrasher
Seamstress/Costumes..... Barb Cressman
PhotographerBill DeVinney
Headshots.....Erin Gardner
Graphic Design Andy Saffron
T-Shirts Stan Darke/DMV Tees

Pit Orchestra

Erika Kennedy.....	Keyboard 1
Robbie Taylor	Keyboard 2
Kristal Cutler	Keyboard 3
Chris Horton	Guitar
Gabe Ravel	Bass
Ethan Bong	Drums
Lee Vanstory.....	Percussion
Ashley Thompson	Flute
Lydia Wilder.....	Flute
Luke Wilder	Alto Sax
Luke Viskupic.....	Clarinet
Sean Alfaro	Clarinet, Baritone Sax
Sophia Khattak.....	Trumpet
Noah Spinnici.....	Trumpet
Holly Kim	Violin

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Songs & Scenes

Act One

Scene 1: Delta Nu House (UCLA), Mall Store

"Omigod You Guys!" _____ Elle, Delta Nus, Store Manager, Courtney

Scene 2: Restaurant

"Serious" _____ Elle & Warner

Scene 3: Delta Nu House, Golf Course

"Daughter of Delta Nu" _____ Delta Nus

"What You Want—Part 1" _____ Elle, Delta Nus, Elle's Mom & Dad,
Grandmaster Chad, Frat Boyz

Scene 4: Harvard Admissions Office

"What You Want—Part 2" _____ Elle, Winthrop, Lowell, Pforzheimer, Ensemble

Scene 5: Harvard Yard, Harvard Law Classroom

"Harvard Variations" _____ Aaron, Sundeep, Enid, Harvard Ensemble

"Blood in the Water" _____ Callahan, Elle, Vivienne, Aaron, Enid, Harvard Ensemble

Scene 6: Harvard Yard

"Positive" _____ Elle, Warner, Vivienne, Delta Nus

Scene 7: Hair Affair salon

"Ireland / Ireland Reprise" _____ Paulette, Celtic Voice

Scene 8: Harvard Yard, Elle's Dorm, Harvard Law Classroom

"Chip on My Shoulder" _____ Emmett, Elle, Delta Nus, Callahan, Harvard Ensemble

Scene 9: Trailer Park

Scene 10: Harvard Law Hallway

"So Much Better" _____ Elle, Emmett, Warner, Delta Nus, Harvard Ensemble

Act Two:

Scene 1: Law firm conference room; Prison

"Whipped Into Shape" _____ Brooke, Callahan, Elle, Video / Prison Ensemble

Scene 2: Department Store

"Take It Like a Man: _____ Elle, Emmett, Department Store ensemble

Scene 3: Hair Affair (salon)

"Bend and Snap" _____ Elle, Paulette, Kiki, Kyle, Delta Nus, Salon Ensemble

Scene 4: Courtroom

"Gay or European" _____ Elle, Callahan, Vivienne, Warner, Emmett, Nikos, Carlos,
Judge, Courtroom Ensemble

Scene 5: Law Firm Conference Room / Outside Elle's dorm

"Legally Blonde" _____ Elle, Emmett

Scene 6: Hair Affair into Courtroom

"Legally Blonde Remix" _____ Vivienne, Elle, Paulette, Enid, Kyle, Callahan, Ensemble

Scene 7: Courtroom / Mansion bathroom

"Scene of the Crime" _____ Elle, Emmett, Delta Nus, Courtroom Ensemble

Scene 8: Harvard Graduation

"Find My Way/Finale" _____ Paulette, Elle, Emmett, Entire Company

Sophia Welch

Feel the power of pink as you play your dream role in your final Statesmen Theatre production! We are incredibly proud and wish you endless success and happiness as you move on to college and beyond. With much love - Mom, Dad, Grandma, & Mr. David



Cast & Crew Head Bios



Sophia Alexander (*Judge, Ensemble*), a senior, is in her 11th and final show with Statesmen Theatre and has loved every part of it. Recently, she was Omi in *User Error* and Rulon Stacey and others in *The Laramie Project*. She would like to thank Sara for being her rehearsal buddy as well as her family for their constant and overwhelming support. She also would like to thank the entire department for making her high school experience so memorable!



Kiele Armstrong (*Eile's Mom, Celtic Voice, Ensemble*) is a senior who will be studying geosciences at Virginia Tech next year. She has been in choir all four years of high school, but *Legally Blonde* is her first production with Statesmen Theatre. Kiele would like to thank her friends and family for being so encouraging throughout the entire process. She is so excited to do this surrounded by friends, and only wishes she had started sooner.



Emmie Baldwin (*Stage Manager*) is a senior who's been a part of Statesmen Theatre all four years of her high school career. *Legally Blonde* is her 11th show at Marshall and her 7th show that she has stage-managed. She feels she has had a fulfilling experience being a part of Statesmen Theatre and is thankful for everyone she's met in the department. She is so proud of the cast and crew and wishes all of them the best next year!



Pauline Bong (*Delta Nu, Ensemble*), a freshman, aspires to become a professional performer. She is new to choir and marching band, yet she is honored to play in the ensemble as a Delta Nu and part of the drumline. In her free time, Pauline enjoys songwriting and posting her progress on Spotify, Instagram and Youtube. Find "Pauline Joy" and don't forget to follow her! As Pauline works towards her future career, she is extremely grateful to have a supportive family and friends.



Kate Borysenko (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be making her high school debut as part of the ensemble in *Legally Blonde*! A freshman with a passion for theater, Kate has backstage experience as a tech crew member in middle school plays *Matilda* and *Into The Woods*. She's excited to be back onstage, bringing the musical's vibrant world to life. She's grateful for both the wonderful cast and crew and for all of the memories that came along with this production.



Joshua Bouie (*Ensemble*), a sophomore, is excited to be in another Marshall musical. During his freshman year, he was encouraged to audition for the musical *Xanadu* and really enjoyed his time performing. He hopes this will be another opportunity to showcase his abilities on stage. He is super excited to be in this show and all the others after it.

Cast & Crew Head Bios



Kate Butterworth (*Paulette*) is a senior, who's ecstatic to perform in her third Statesmen Theatre Musical! Some of her favorite credits include *A Year With Frog and Toad* (Lady Bird) and *Xanadu* (Erato). She has also had the privilege of performing in the Winter One Acts the past two years in a comedy and two dramas. She'd like to thank her family, friends, Mr. DeLeo and Mrs. Powell for pushing her to be the best actress/singer she can be.



Sharon Cho (*Serena*), a senior, is thrilled to bring spirit to her second musical production! Joining Marshall Theatre as a *Xanadu* ensemble member, she recently performed in this year's VHSL play as Aunt June. She is a member of Statesmen Singers and is a four-year Marshall cheerleader. Sharon would like to thank her family, Mr. DeLeo, and her fellow Delta Nus. Most of all, she'd like to thank her sister Sarah for pushing her to embrace her love of performing.



Ashley Chocon Flores (*Props Co-head*), a sophomore, is on her fourth show with Statesman Theatre; she is excited to be doing her first musical and first time being a crew head. She is excited to use what she has learned over the past two years within the theatre department into this new position and is grateful for everyone who has supported her especially her parents. She hopes that everyone will enjoy the show as so much work has been put into it!



Alaia Cross (*Ensemble*) is a freshman stoked to be in her first musical at Marshall. You might have seen her last year in Kilmer Middle School's *Into the Woods Jr* (Rapunzel's Prince). She loves playing her guitar and singing in her free time. She would like to thank her parents for driving her and supporting her so much. She also wants to shout out her friends for keeping her sane during rehearsals and keeping up with school.



Jasper Deighton (*Ensemble*) had never been in a musical before, but is now happy to say that he has. As a sophomore who has spent much of his time in Choir, he was encouraged by fellow singers to join this musical. His thanks extends to them and all others who made this show possible, as well as Mr. DeLeo and Ms. Powell for giving him this opportunity. Finally, Jasper's gratitude goes out to his parents, who have always supported him.



Saniya Desai (*Vivienne*), a junior, is participating in her 10th production with Statesmen Theatre! Saniya performed in *The Laramie Project* last Fall, and wrote/co-directed her play *User Error* for the Winter One Act Festival. She has trained at UCLA, Signature Theatre, and Fairfax Academy, and is attending Juilliard and Artsbridge this summer. She would like to thank Mr. DeLeo, Ms. Powell, Mr. DiCenzo, and her family, friends, and dog, Leo for their endless guidance and support!

Cast & Crew Head Bios



Anson DeVinney (*Carlos, Ensemble*) is stoked to be in *Legally Blonde* his freshmen year! He has loved theatre ever since he played one of the von Trapp kids in the *The Sound Of Music* in fourth grade at Marshall and is so glad to be back performing here again. At Kilmer he was seen as The Trunchbull in *Matilda Jr* and the Baker in *Into the Woods Jr*. He would like to thank Mr DeLeo, his friends, and family for all the love and support!



Saph Djukic (*Ensemble*), a freshman, is delighted to be part of her first musical! She'd like to blame Dena Talebnejad for her involvement, who made her do over one hundred takes of her audition. Looking back, it was worth it and she doesn't regret the torture. She'd like to thank the wonderful cast and crew for making the experience a fun one. You'll probably see her again next year thanks to Dena's insistence.



Natasha Dormont (*Costume Co-Head*), a senior, is thrilled to be a part of *Legally Blonde*! She has been a part of numerous productions and is so grateful for the opportunities that she has been given throughout her Statesmen Theatre career. She would like to thank the cast and crew for all of their hard work and dedication. She wishes all the seniors the best of luck after this year!



Omar Falki (*Professor Callahan*), a senior, is ready to give his all for Mr. DeLeo's final production at Marshall. Having been a proud Statesmen Theatre actor since *Blue Stockings*, Omar beams with pride over his roles and the fantastic plays he has been a part of. Overall, Omar hopes that the final play he's a part of for high school can be his best.



Julia Friefeld (*Ensemble*) is a sophomore and is delighted to be in her second musical here at Marshall. She has been doing theater throughout elementary and middle school and had so much fun being in *Xanadu* last year! Julia would like to thank her family for all their support and her sister for always driving her to and from rehearsal!



Dahlia Gibson (*Delta Nu, Ensemble*) is so excited and grateful to be a part of her first musical! While she has never been in a theater production before she started dancing at a very young age and started singing in elementary school! She is thrilled to be cast as a Delta Nu and perform with her friends! She would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her through her first production.

Cast & Crew Head Bios



Anna Gray (*Delta Nu, Ensemble*) is a senior who is thrilled to be a part of her first Statesmen Theatre production! Anna has been singing and dancing her way through life since she was born. She brings enthusiasm and dedication to her role and looks forward to sharing her passion for performing with the audience!



Ella Greher (*Gaelen*) has been a part of Statesmen Theatre since her arrival to Marshall in freshman year, with her favorite shows being *Over Coffee* (Juniper), *Xanadu* (Siren), and of course writing and directing her one-act *Working Title* in this past Winter's One-Act Festival. She is so excited to share the joy of this production and would like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her. Omigod you guys!



Mia Hanna (*Ensemble*) is a sophomore who is over the moon to be in her first show at Marshall! She has been dancing since a very young age and is a part of the Marshall Choir! Mia loves singing and performing! She would like to thank her family for their support, her friends for the fun rehearsal memories, and Ms. Powell for her encouragement and guidance!



Sofia Kadkhodai (*Pilar*), a junior, is excited to be in her 4th Statesmen Theatre production! Recently, she's loved performing in the Winter One Act festival as Tonya in *User Error*. Aside from Theatre, Sofia has been in Choir for 3 years, and loves performing every chance she gets. She would like to thank her parents for supporting every performance, and Mr. DeLeo and Ms. Powell for giving her this super fun opportunity!



Kady Kalb (*Delta Nu, Ensemble*) is a junior who can't wait to be performing in her first musical! She has been part of Statesmen Theatre as a tech since her Freshman year and is delighted to be on stage for the first time! Kady has been dancing for almost her whole life and she is so happy to be performing as a Delta Nu! She would like to thank her fellow cast members for making her first musical experience so amazing!



Lydia Kraft (*Store Manager, Bookish Client, Ensemble*) is a senior at GCM. This is her first high school show. She is here for the good vibes and show tunes!! She is excited to take her singing from the shower to the stage!

Congratulations Warner – Break a leg!

We love you Keegan! We're so proud of you! You have worked so hard to develop your talents and you've earned this awesome outcome. Cherish these moments.

Aidan, Umma, Appa



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Dad, Mom, & Annalise



Emmie Baldwin

Kate
SNAP! It's your final HS Musical 🎵
Bravo & We Love You!
Love, Mom & Dad



Cast & Crew Head Bios



Ava Krasner (*Ensemble*), a Freshman, is very excited to be a part of *Legally Blonde!* Ava loves acting and has been a part of two Kilmer musical productions, *Matilda Jr.* (*Matilda*) and *Into The Woods Jr.* (*Jack's Mother.*) This is her third Marshall production, after this year's earlier *Laramie Project* and *User Error*. Ava is grateful for all the opportunities she's been given, and wants to thank her family and friends who make it possible and a blast to be a part of.



Adalyn Latortue (*TV Reporter, Ensemble*) is proud to perform in *Legally Blonde* as her very first play! She is a freshman, and is taking Theatre 1 as we speak! She has met so many amazing people during production and hopes to do many more shows with Statesmen Theatre in the future! She gives a big, big, "Thank you!" to all the cast and crew for putting together such an amazing show and helping her find her way!



Jacob Lee (*Emmett*) still hasn't slept since 1998 (even though he was born in 2007) and has been working his butt off, making the show the best it can be. This is the first musical production, but he has done choir since freshman year. Playing Emmett has been the most fun and heartwarming experience he has ever had! Jacob gives special thanks to his family especially his sister, Sophia, who has been supporting him since his journey began. Thanks, Sophie!



Sofia Liskey (*Ensemble*) is a junior who is very excited to be participating in her very first Marshall musical! Sofia has been dancing since she was little and was thrilled to hear that one of her favorite movies/musicals *Legally Blonde* was being performed this spring. Sofia would like to thank her family for all their support and she would like to thank her friends for the wonderful memories. Don't forget to practice your Bend and Snap!



Zoe Mazur (*Erid*) is in their final year with Statesmen Theatre. This year they performed multiple roles in *The Laramie Project* and as Becca in Ella Greher's silly-billy (amazing! fantastic!) *Working Title*. Zoe has loved every second of every role these past 4 years, no matter the size, and is excited to do Erid justice. Zoe would like to thank Mr DeLeo for supporting them through all their raving lunacy, and would especially like to shout HI MS POWELL to Ms Powell.



Lizzie McCreesh (*Stenographer, Ensemble*) loves musical theatre and has been doing it for years; she has been in many shows, like *Rent*, *Matilda Jr.*, and *Into the Woods Jr.*, just to name a few. She is a freshman this year and this is her first theatre production at Marshall. She hopes that the show will help you to "Keep it positive"!

Cast & Crew Head Bios



Audrey Miller (*Leifani*) is a junior at Marshall who is so excited for her first high school musical production. While you might have seen her as Alice #5 in *Alice in Wonderland*, Mrs Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* or any of her other glorious performances, she is truly excited to be in this year's *Legally Blonde: the Musical!*



Sara Moharerrzadeh (*Winthrop, D.A. Riley, Ensemble*) is in her third year at Statesmen Theatre. In addition to her multiple roles in *The Laramie Project* and *Ammamma* in *User Error*, she has enjoyed being the Publicity Head in ITS. She is proud for this musical to be her 11th production in Statesmen Theatre. She would like to thank Mr. DeLeo for his guidance, Sophia & Ivanna for being her rehearsal buddies, and Mom for her constant support!



Katie Myers (*Stage Manager*), a senior, has stage-managed three musicals now, and co-produced this year's Winter One-Act Festival. She's had so much fun working with Statesmen Theatre! She is thankful for all of the wonderful people she has met and all of the great experiences she has had. She is so proud of all of the cast and crew for their hard work!



Jaya Nath (*Stage Manager*), a senior, is so excited to be doing her ninth and final show with Statesmen Theatre! She is so proud of all the hard work the cast and crew have put into the show, and is thrilled to see how it has paid off. She knows they are all going to kill it, break legs everybody!



George R. Owino (*Nikos, Grandmaster Chad, Ensemble*), a sophomore at Marshall, is glad to be a part of *Legally Blonde*, his seventh Statesmen Theatre production. His favorite roles to play so far were Lucas in *Murder Murder* and Daryl in *Working Title*. He'd like to thank his mom for supporting him, the cast and crew for all their hard work and dedication, and Ms. Powell and Mr. DeLeo for giving him this opportunity. Huzzah!



Aurelia Parr (*Delta Nu, Ensemble*) is a sophomore who is very excited to be doing *Legally Blonde*, her third Statesmen Theatre production. She was Taylor in *Dating Blind* for the 2023 Winter One Acts and Ensemble for *Xanadu*. She would like to thank her family for always supporting her, and her friends for always pushing her to be her best. She can't wait to be in future productions at Marshall, even though it is quite sad to see Mr. DeLeo leave.



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Cast & Crew Head Bios



Maya Pedan (*Courtney, Chutney, Ensemble*) is a freshman and she is so grateful to be a part of Statesmen Theatre! She was previously in this year's VHSL play *It Doesn't End In Nebraska* (Aunt Nini) by the fantabulous Han Nguyen, and Kilmer's *Into the Woods Jr.* (Baker's Wife) and *Matilda Jr.* (Big Kid #3!!!). She would like to thank Ms. Kozik and Mr. DeLeo for making her experience in theater very meaningful and for giving her so many amazing opportunities.



Kai Perley (*Elle's Dad, Ensemble*), a Freshman, is very proud of his daughter and wife for getting "what they want!" He is very enthusiastic about acting, especially after being a part of *Matilda Jr.*, *Into the Woods Jr.*, and a few *Voices of Now* plays at Arena Stage. Kai is overjoyed to be part of the team making *Legally Blonde* a success. He wants to thank his poor overworked parents and the friends he forced to come see the show.



Allison Petersen (*Props Co-Head*) a senior, has been in Technical Theatre for 3 years, and this is her final show. She has been a Prop Head in several productions before this and she would like to thank her family and friends for coming to her shows. She would also like to give a special thanks to Mr. DeLeo, who has been the theatre teacher for all her years at Marshall. We hope you enjoy his final show *Legally Blonde*.



Hong-An Pho (*Aaron, Ensemble*) is more than excited to be playing in this year's musical while not losing that much sleep! You may have seen him in the numerous choir shows as a part of *Noteworthy* and *Statesmen* ensemble. This, being his first musical, has been one of the best experiences of his junior year. Hong-An would like to thank all the cast, crew, and directors, especially the pookie passengers, for all of their love and support.



Graham Poteat (*Lowell, Dewey, Ensemble*), a junior, is very excited to be in *Legally Blonde*, his first musical! This year he was in *The Laramie Project* and our VHSL play (a runner up at States)! He hopes his singing and dancing is at least passable, but nevertheless is very excited to be contributing to and helping the success of *Legally Blonde*. He would like to thank his friends and especially family for supporting him and hopes to continue acting much into the future.



Addi Reeves (*Whitney, Ensemble*) is proud to be blonde. She's a freshman and has been in several performances including the Winter One-Act Festival (*Ava in Circle of Pain*) at Marshall and *Into the Woods Jr.* (*Rapunzel*), and *Matilda Jr.* (*Mrs. Wormwood*) at Kilmer MS. She would like to thank her cast for their unflinching support, her friends for making her laugh so hard she cries, and her family for encouraging her to always follow her delusions. She hopes to continue performing in the future.

Cast & Crew Head Bios



Keegan Rhyu (*Warner*) is excited to basically play himself for his final show with Statesmen Theatre. Although he's constantly telling people to be serious he's so excited to be in *Legally Blonde*. He has played in *Xanadu* and *Working* in high school and you might've also seen him in choir shows the past 4 years. He would like to thank his family who has always pushed him to be the best in everything he does.



Evie Richardson (*Brooke Wyndham*) is thrilled to be getting Whipped Into Shape in *Legally Blonde* this year! You may have previously seen her as Euterpe in *Xanadu* last year, or singing her heart out in one of the numerous choir shows! Evie would like to send out her gratitude to her parents who have always supported and pushed her to do what she enjoys, as well as her friends who always give her rides home after rehearsal!



Dani Rothman (*Delta Nu, Ensemble*) is a sophomore and is excited to be in her second musical at Marshall. She was in *Xanadu* (*Skater/Ensemble*) last year and has appeared in *The Little Mermaid* (*Aina*) and *Matilda Jr.* (*Hortensia/Dance Captain*). When she's not performing she participates on Marshall's Cheer and Dive teams. Dani wants to thank her friends for giving her rides to and from rehearsals, her parents, her sister, Rebecca, and her dog, Piper, for their support.



Maddie Schoepf (*Sound/Lights Head*) is thrilled to be a part of *Legally Blonde* this year! She has spent time in a broad range of roles with Statesmen Theater, mainly focusing on lights and sound. This is Maddie's 12th show with Statesmen Theatre, and one of her favorites thus far. She looks forward to seeing everyone's hard work pay off, especially her crew who has learned an incredible amount in a short time!



Sophia Shelton (*Margot*) is one of the SEVEN Sophia/Sofias in this show (she's the one who keeps it positive)! She is thrilled to be back with FCPS after two years in Michigan, where she played Ares in *The Lightning Thief* and Farrah in *She Kills Monsters* at her prior school. Sophia would like to give a shoutout to her fellow Delta Nus, Omigod you guys are the best! Sophia would also like to thank her family, especially her sister Caroline, her friends at Marshall and in Michigan.



Ivanna Stefanova (*Kiki, Ensemble*), a senior on the brink of waving goodbye to Statesmen Theatre, could not be more excited to share this final show with y'all! She's sending a huge THANKS! to her family for supporting her theatre adventures these past years, all the freshmen and sophomores she's come to love spending time with, Sara and Sophia A for being her emotional support humans and Mr. DeLeo for making Statesmen Theatre a great place to spend the past four years!

Sophia Alexander

We are so excited to see your last performance on the GCM stage. Can't wait to see what the next stage brings. The sky's the limit!

Love, Mom, Dad and Lilly (your biggest fans) ❤️❤️



Cast & Crew Head Bios



Pressley Stevens (*Costumes Co-Head*) is excited to be working on their eighth show for Statesmen Theater! While working backstage will lead to the inevitable laughing fits and tears, they wouldn't have it any other way. They'd like to thank their friends both online and in person, and their family for being so supportive of everything. They will desperately miss the seniors when they graduate but are so proud of them and everyone else for all the effort they've put into this!



Dena Talebnejad (*Kate*) is a 9th grader at Marshall HS. Perhaps you've seen her in choir shows (since 5th grade) or last year at Kilmer Middle School as the Witch (*Into The Woods Jr*) or at Marshall in this year's VHSL play *It Doesn't End in Nebraska* by Han Nguyen, her Statesmen Theatre debut. She's happy to have a role as a freshman in this year's musical. She SERIOUSLY hopes that the sleep she sacrificed will make for a great show!



Connor Tremblay (*Kyle, Pforzheimer*) is a senior who is excited to perform in first production here at Marshall. Given that this will also be his last he is excited to go out with a bang. He would like to thank his friends for convincing him to give theater a shot, and his parents for encouraging him. Next year, he'll be attending McGill University for Food Science.



Shahrads Valizadeh (*Sundeeep, Ensemble*) is a Freshman, and is thrilled to be playing in his favorite Musical, as well as his first musical in Marshall! He started theatre as the Steward in *Into the Woods Jr* at Kilmer and in this year's VHSL play *It Doesn't End in Nebraska* at Marshall. He is also a part of Statesmen Choir. He would like to thank all of his fellow cast members for being amazing people and helping him along the way!



Sophia Welch (*Elle Woods*) is a senior and is thrilled to participate in *Legally Blonde*, her 12th and final production at Marshall. She most recently performed as Kira/Clio in *Xanadu* and Reggie Fluty & others in *The Laramie Project*. Being in Statesmen Theatre has been the highlight of the past four years and she has loved every minute. She would like to thank Mr. DeLeo for being an amazing mentor & teacher and her parents for their never-ending love and support.

The Creative Team



Bernie DeLeo (*Director*) is in his 6th & Final year as Marshall's Theatre Director. His 19th year in FCPS, he taught special education at Marshall Road ES (3 yrs) & drama at Thoreau MS (4 yrs) (both in Vienna), then at West Springfield HS (6 yrs) before coming to Marshall in 2018. His students have performed in Scotland, New York City, and before British Royalty. In his 12 years of high school, he has won a State VHSL title for the annual one-act competition, been to States thrice, and advanced to the Regional round 10 out of 12 years. He is especially proud of this year's VHSL state contender *It Doesn't End in Nebraska* by Han Nguyen.

Prior to teaching, Mr. DeLeo spent 20+ years working on stage & screen (large & small), as an actor, playwright, sitcom / screenwriter, and independent film producer in New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Washington DC and Sydney, Australia. He was a producer on the 2000 Sundance Award-winning film *Two Family House*, and he has worked for ABC-Disney, HBO, Broadway's Circle in the Square Theatre, and taught playwriting / screenwriting at Rutgers University & The Writers Center in Bethesda. He is a graduate of Catholic University (BFA, Acting), Rutgers University (MFA, Playwriting) and George Washington University (MS, Special Education).

Mr. DeLeo discovered theatre in high school, and found it a welcoming environment where he could find out who he was, tap into his creativity and follow his dreams. He is thrilled to have come full circle as a high school drama teacher, creating the same home for students to explore their talents and make lifelong friends and memories. He looks forward to less hours working and spending more of time with his incredibly supportive wife & theatre widow, Rebecca, and his two awesome adult children, Charlie & Sophie. He is thankful for his time at Marshall and for all of the incredible students he has taught and all of the amazing colleagues he has worked with.



Tiffany Powell (*Musical Director*) is in her second year as the Choral Director at George C. Marshall High School. She is the current Performing Arts Department Chair, directs the choral ensembles, sponsors the Tri-M Music Honor Society, and serves as the music director for the spring musical.

Ms. Powell has been a music educator for over 23 years. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Music Education and Master of Music in Music Education degrees from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she performed and studied conducting under the leadership of Dr. Brady Alford. She began her teaching career in western Pennsylvania and taught for six years as a secondary choral director. While managing an active teaching career, Ms. Powell concurrently performed with the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh and maintained a part-time schedule as a private vocal instructor.

Hired by Fairfax County Public Schools in the fall of 2005, Ms. Powell served as the Choral Director at Oakton High School for 17 years before joining the staff at Marshall High School. Her choirs consistently earn Superior and Excellent ratings at the Virginia State Choral Assessment as well as in festival competitions. They have been selected to perform at the Virginia Music Educators Association State Music Conference and have also performed with Barry Manilow.

Ms. Powell is a member of the Virginia Music Educators Association and the American Choral Directors Association. She has served as an officer of the Fairfax County Choral Directors Association, Choral Representative for VMEA District XII, and continues to host and chair District events.

The Creative Team



Olivia Tate (Co-Director) currently teaches IB Anthropology & Government at Marshall High School. Olivia received a Bachelor's in History and a Master's in Social Studies Education from the University of Virginia. While at UVA, she participated in several student-run theatre organizations (First Year Players, Spectrum Theatre, and Shakespeare on the Lawn) acting, producing, directing, and assistant tech directing. Olivia grew up in the community theatre, Encore Stage and Studio, and you can usually find her camp directing with them during her summers. She recently co-directed several shows with Marshall including *The Laramie Project*, *Xanadu*, *Blue Stockings*, *A Year with Frog & Toad* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In the Spring of 2021, she also directed a devised online theatre piece for VHSL called *Edit Profile* that went to Regionals. Whenever she isn't helping with Statesmen Theatre, you can find her on the Basketball court coaching Marshall Girls' Basketball.



Ahmad Maaty (Choreographer) is an Egyptian American Actor, Dancer, Singer, and Choreographer. He has taught & performed throughout the US and internationally. Ahmad has worked with companies such as The Bats Acting Company and Les Shakespeare in NYC, and locally with Silk Road Dance Company, The Hub Theater, Workhouse Arts Center, Monumental Theater Company, Constellation Theater Company, Acting For Young People, Arlington and Fairfax County Public Schools, and many more. In addition to this he has had the privilege of being a finalist at the Actors Studio (NYC) from 2012-2013, and continues to train in various styles and forms of movement and dance.

Ahmad is proud to be a member of George Mason University's School of Theater's Performance Faculty as an Adjunct Professor. Ahmad was named 2018's Best Choreographer in a Small Professional Theater in DC by Broadway/World. He was also a Helen Hayes Nominee for best choreography in a small professional theater for his work in *Pippin* with Monumental Theatre Company. He holds a BA in Theater from George Mason University and an M.F.A. from the Actors Studio Drama School in NYC. Ahmad feels incredibly honored and privileged to have had this opportunity to return to the Statesmen Theatre Stage as a former Statesmen himself, and extends his sincerest thanks to the cast and crew for their warmth and dedication, and to Mr. DeLeo and Ms. Powell for this wonderful opportunity and experience. (www.ahmadmaaty.com)



Jenna Walker (Choreographer, Hair/Makeup Head, Ensemble) is so thankful to be a part of *Legally Blonde*. This is her 1st time participating in the tech element of a production and her 3rd year choreographing. She has previously worked on *Frog & Toad* and *Xanadu*. In her free time Jenna loves to dance and is captain of the Marshall Dance Team! She is grateful to have such amazing support from her family and friends. She would like to thank Mr. DeLeo for giving her so many opportunities and she would also like to thank Celina for being the best co-choreographer she could ever ask for!



Celina Zaccack (Choreographer) is a senior who is thrilled to be choreographing the Spring musical one last time for Statesmen Theatre! Previously, she has co-choreographed *Xanadu* and *A Year With Frog & Toad*. In addition to choreographing, Celina loves cheerleading, both with Marshall and on her allstar team, traveling, and hanging out with friends. She would like to thank her friends and family for being so supportive, Jenna for being the best co-choreographer for 3 years, and Mr. DeLeo for giving her this opportunity!

Director's Notes

For those of you I don't know or who are new to Statesmen Theatre, this is my final show at Marshall High School. I have been the theatre director here for the past 6 years, and directed shows at West Springfield & Thoreau Middle School before that. I am proud that I've done musicals that few FCPS high schools have done in my 16 years, from *Marilyn We Roll Along* to *A Year With Frog & Toad* to last year's zany *Xanadu*—all great shows that no other school has touched during my tenure. I'm equally happy I got to introduce three Rodgers & Hammerstein classics to new generations of theatregoers: *Cinderella*, *Oklahoma!* (twice) and *The Sound of Music*. I'm extremely proud that we put up the DC premiere of *Be More Chill* in my first year here before it went to Broadway. Just as cool, during the pandemic, some brilliant kids came together and made a filmed version of the musical *Working* that required all sorts of innovation and moxie. My philosophy has always been if you're a student with me for 4 years, you should have a breadth of different experiences. Check. Done.

So why then, you might ask, did I choose THIS show for my final high school show? A modern show that so many kids know backwards and forwards? I will readily admit that *Legally Blonde* was not on my bucket list. But I'd pretty much done all of the passion project shows I wanted to do. And the kids had been really good sports about me choosing material they'd never heard of. So my mind was unusually open this time.

Each year I give kids the opportunity to pitch me musicals—and there are plenty of shows I will knock down right away (*Grease*, *Les Miserables*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *Mamma Mia*—NOPE, not on my watch!) I'm pretty binary in my tastes—I either really LOVE a show, or I absolutely can't stand it. Rarely do they fall in the middle. But when Sophia Welch pitched me *Legally Blonde* really hard, I listened. I actually liked the original movie a lot. When I pitched it to Ms. Powell, she had the same reaction I did: "I don't hate it." And so I gave it a hard look last summer. When I saw the *Barbie* movie with my wife & daughter (which I loved), I realized they were very similar stories with a compelling & current theme: a young woman living in a protected (and pink) bubble travels to a rough-and-tumble real world where she grows and achieves a new level of self-actualization and empowerment. And that helped to sell me on this show. I have taught & mentored so many amazing, talented young women, and it's been a thrill to watch them tackle challenges & soar. What a positive message to go out with!

I also wanted to do something for my seniors as a last show together. Confession: I wanted to leave at the end of last year. I was exhausted and completely burned out. But this senior class was special to me. They started as freshmen during that horrible online COVID year. We went through that fire together, and I just couldn't leave them. And I wanted to do something THEY wanted to do (for once). And here we are.

So thank you for attending and supporting this program over the years. The program will go on without me, and I'm excited to see the new heights that it'll reach with my successor! I will look back on my time at Marshall and with these kids quite fondly.

- Bernie DeLeo, April 2024

You bring us so much joy, both on and off the stage.
Congratulations on three years of pursuing your
passion in theatre. We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Baba & Ryan

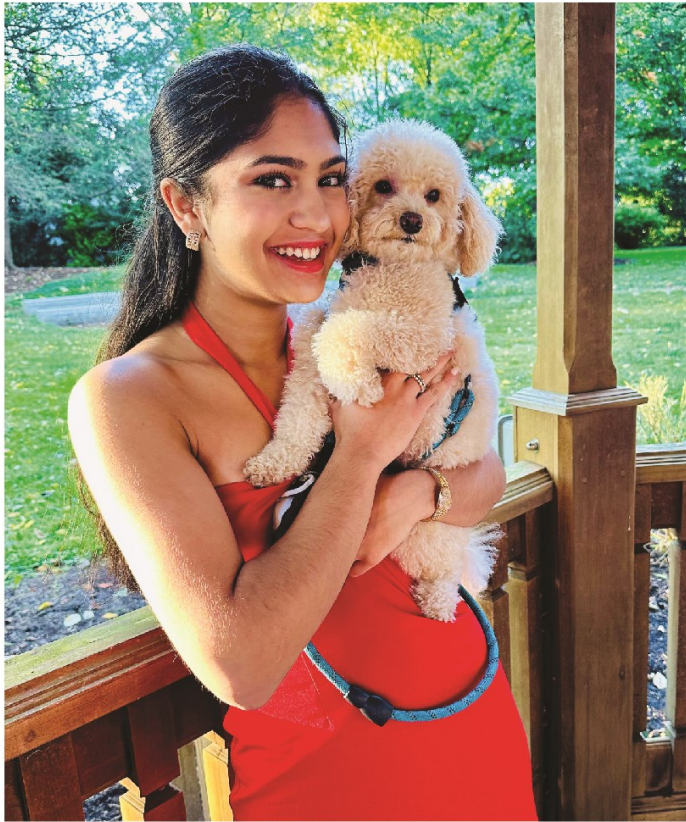


Sara Moharerrzadeh

Congrats Saniya Desai!!

Your rendition of Vivian is sure to be memorable!! Your passion for acting shows through in every performance you give. So happy you've found your calling early in life. We can't wait to see your name in lights!!

Love and Blessings... Your Fan Family!!!



Mr. DeLeo thanks one last time...

Principal Jeffrey Litz, AP Danielle Schoolcraft, DSS Cindy Blakeley and the entire admin team for supporting this play and the Statesmen Theatre program;

Joe Swarm, the Activities Office, and Finance Officer Hamdi Aly, who takes care of my \$\$ and places way too many Amazon orders for me!

Dixie Welch, Anu Anand, Negar Gohari & Chris Poteat, our stellar Statesmen Boosters Executive Board Officers (one of the best slates I've ever had)—and ALL our amazingly generous boosters! Thank you for your time, help, guidance, support and donations!

Jennifer Chu, our current ticket maven & Shirley Alexander, volunteer extraordinaire!
Paul Vesilind, our fabulous band teacher who helped out with leading our awesome band!
Rob Wagner & Andrew Redmon, tech superheroes who've bailed me out so many times!

Phil Charlwood, my loyal friend, who helped out with some key set pieces and for your tech expertise! Thank you for always being willing to drop everything to help build with us!

Erin Gardner & Bill DeVinney, for being our on-site photographers! You're both aces!

Andy Saffron, my amazing graphic designer partner since my West Springfield days!

Nikisha Kozik (my AWESOME Kilmer feeder partner), Laura Loy, Maeve Nash, Omar Cruz, Jeff Walker and my FCPS colleagues for lending costumes, props & moral support!

My best Parent Volunteer of ALL TIME Barb Cressman, who's been making costumes & guiding our costume crews the past 6 years! She's been with me since Thoreau MS (2009!) and this show would not look half as good without her patience, guidance & sewing expertise. You're the BEST!

Olivia Tate, my trusted right hand and vital sounding board! You've been such a valuable support for me since the day you marched into my office pre-pandemic and offered to help. Pleasure to have you on the team, my dear!

Tiffany Powell, who makes these musicals sound SO GOOD—and who cares as fanatically as I do about every little detail! She is truly a co-captain here and puts in so much effort and energy to make the musicals here at Marshall truly sing! LOVE U LADY!

Ahmad Maaty, our lead choreographer! You are joy and light and the consummate pro—I have been so lucky to have you as a partner. And I'm excited to see your future work!

Any parent who has ever supported our plays in any way, shape, form (and whose names I might have missed here) — thank you for all of the chauffeuring, cooking, stepping up, volunteering and for your tireless support. We truly could not pull this off without you!

To so many longtime fans who've returned over and over to my shows through multiple schools: Ashton & Sheri Schaffer, Jeanette & Barry Astrow, John & Susan Ariale, Keith Conway & Peggy Pridemore, Pete Bergen, Vanessa Gelinis, Amy Hard, Phil Charlwood & Nancy Durso, Alison & Ellie Friesen—you don't know how thrilled I am to see you in the house year after year! Thank you for your repeat business & enduring friendships!

To all the many students I've taught now and in the past—you've filled my heart with so much joy and pride. It's been an absolute gift and pleasure to work with you all.

And finally, to my wife Rebecca, daughter Sophia & son Charlie, for putting up with my long hours away from home and tired soul—family is the bedrock, and you are the essential & elemental support that has kept me going for so long. I love you all so much!

JOIN STATESMEN THEATRE'S FUNDRAISING DRIVE!

We hope you enjoy what you see on our stage tonight. Did you know that Statesmen Theatre receives not one dime from the school or the county to put on its productions? And they don't come cheap as you no doubt see! We rely solely on box office and donations from our generous angels who enjoy good theatre and want to help provide opportunities for our talented students!

We're in the midst of an annual fundraising drive, that helps pay for equipment, lights, mics, tools, lumber, paint, costumes, make-up, salaries of outside personnel and so much more! So if like what you saw and wish to help support our program and our kids, follow the QR code below to our fundraising page and help us make sure that the shows go on! We thank you for your support!



Oliver Davenport



**Comedy or tragedy - take
your pick!**

Hey Jacob!

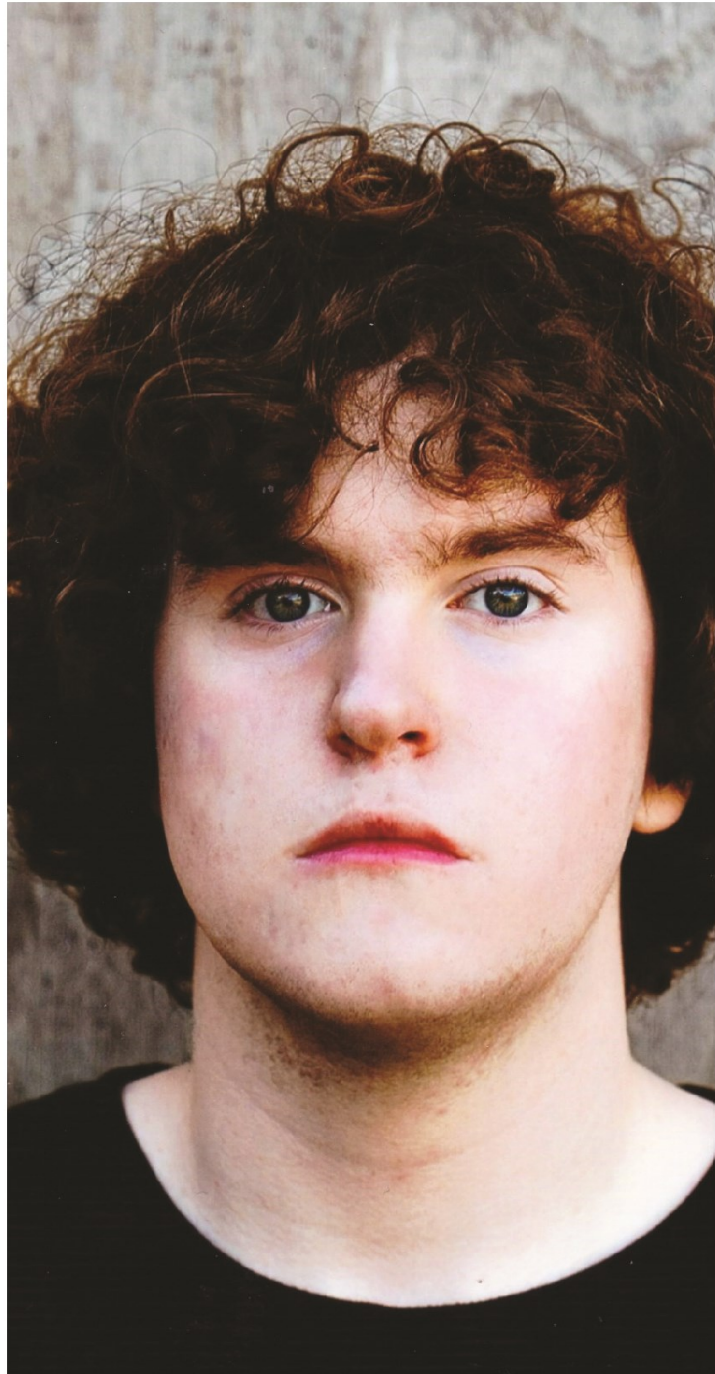
We're so beyond proud of you, and can't wait to see what you do next. Know that we'll always support you and have your back no matter what. Love you so so so much!
- Mom, Dad, Joshua, and your amazing sister Sophia



CONGRATS GRAHAM POTEAT

Graham, we are so very, very proud of you. Not only for the fine actor you've become, but also for the great person you've grown up to be. ACTING!

Love, Mom & Dad



Ava Krasner

Congratulations on another excellent performance. We are so proud!
Love, Mom, Dad, Isaac and Talia



Zoe Mazur

Living Life Vividly
We are enjoying the ride and can't wait for the next chapters!
Love, Mom and Dad



Sofia

Dance on and sing on!
Proud of you for trying something new! Your love for music/dance shines in your smile on stage!



Dani

Cheers to another successful musical!
Love, Mom, Dad, Rebecca and Piper



Pauline

You're a talented and creative artist.
Five songs to date, we are very proud of you!
Support her career by following her social media
"Pauline Joy" on Spotify, Instagram, and/or Youtube.



Dear Mayechka,
We are so very proud of
you. There is nothing
you can't do and we
know it to be true.

Love,
Mom and Dad



Anson,
we loved you in Sound of Music and can't wait to see
you in Legally Blonde.
Thank you, Mr. DeLeo for letting Anson be part of
your first and last Marshall productions.





It's been fun to watch you grow through the years!



Alex Kincaid

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