

# PLAYBILL®

May River Theatre  
Ulmer Auditorium  
Bluffton, SC

MAY RIVER THEATRE  
PRESENTS



## The Addams Family


A NEW MUSICAL  
COMEDY

MUSIC & LYRICS  
BY  
ANDREW LIPPA

BOOK BY  
MARSHALL BRICKMAN  
& RICK ELICE

ORCHESTRATIONS  
BY  
LARRY HOCHMAN

BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY CHARLES ADDAMS



Directed by Travis Hornsby  
Music Directed by Karri Kearns  
Choreography by Kimberly Reigert



October 20th – 29th

7:30 FRIDAY & SATURDAY / 2:00 SUNDAY

# May River Theatre

PRESENTS

# THE ADDAMS FAMILY

## A New Musical Comedy

Book by MARSHALL BRICKMAN and RICK ELICE  
Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA

with

Chris Hoffer  
Ellie Friedman  
Shea Hiscock

Jared Cotton  
Elissa Horrell  
Lily Beck  
Elliot Mathias

Kyle Price  
Kay Owen  
Rhett Foster

Set Design  
Cindy Palko

Costume Design  
Elizabeth Schlieger

Light Design  
Liz McGinnes

Sound Design  
Jayme Brinson

Choreographer  
Kimberly Reigert

Director  
Travis Hornsby

Musical Director  
Karri Kearns

Stage Manager  
Lindsay Malphrus

Originally produced on Broadway by Stuart Oken, Roy Furman, Michael Leavitt, Five Cent Productions, Stephen Schuler, Decca Theatricals, Scott M. Delman, Stuart Ditsky, Terry Allen Kramer, Stephanie P. McClelland, James L. Nederlander, Eva Price, Jam Theatricals/Mary LuRoffe, Pittsburgh CLO/Gutterman-Swinsky, Vivek Tiwary/Gary Kaplan, The Weinstein Company/Clarence, LLC, Adam Zotovich/Tribe Theatricals  
By Special Arrangement with  
Elephant Eye Theatrical

*The Addams Family* is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide, 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. (866) 378-9758 [www.theatricalrights.com](http://www.theatricalrights.com)

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# SONGS

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## ACT I

Overture/Prologue	Orchestra, Ancestral Voices
When You're An Addams	The Addams Family, Ancestors
Fester's Manifesto	Fester
Two Things	Gomez
Wednesday's Growing Up	Gomez
Trapped	Gomez
Pulled	Wednesday, Pugsley
One Normal Night	Company
But Love (Reprise)	Fester, Ancestors
Secrets	Morticia, Alice, Female Ancestors
Gomez's What If	Gomez
What If	Pugsley, Grandma
Full Disclosure	Company
Waiting	Alice, Ancestors
Full Disclosure (Part 2)	Company

## ACT II

Just Around the Corner	Morticia, Ancestors
The Moon and Me	Fester, Female Ancestors
Happy/Sad	Gomez
Crazier Than You	Wednesday, Lucas, Mal, Alice
Not Today	Gomez
Let's Live Before We Die	Gomez, Morticia
Tango de Amor	Gomez, Morticia, Ancestors
Move Towards the Darkness	Company

## SYNOPSIS

"Hundreds of years ago, the Addams family ancestors came from the old country and settled on a plot of land in what is now New York's Central Park. This was, of course, long before it was a park, when it was still wilderness. The family flourished for many generations, and eventually, a huge house was built where a great Spanish oak, the Addams Family Tree, had been planted to protect the ancestral graves from such annoyances as sunlight and tourists." ([theatricalrights.com](http://theatricalrights.com))

And thus, our show begins...

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# CAST

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## Cast Members

Gomez	Jared Cotton
Morticia	Elissa Horrell
Wednesday	Lily Beck
Fester	Kyle Price
Pugsley	Elliot Mathis
Lucas	Shea Hiscock
Mal	Chris Hoffer
Alice	Ellie Friedman
Grandma	Kay Owen
Lurch	Rhett Foster
Cousin It / Ancestor	Adalyn Aebersold
Ancestor	Allison Manning
Ancestor	Ashley Bruno
Ancestor	Koi Manning
Ancestor	Peyton Dobbs
Ancestor	Annalee Hunter
Ancestor	Christa Fortney
Ancestor	Haden Gonsowski
Ancestor	Noah Housey
Ancestor	Edward Ober
Ancestor	Kirtus Miller

## Production / Creative

Director/Props/Wig Master	Travis Hornsby
Choreographer	Kimberly Reigert
Music Director	Karri Kearns
Assistant Music Director	Isabel Hart
Stage Manager	Lyndsay Malphrus
Assistant Stage Manager	Heather Bell
Set Design	Cindy Palko

# CAST

## Production / Creative (continued)

Costume Design ..... Elizabeth Schlieger  
Sound Design/Board Operator ..... Jayme Brinson  
Light Design ..... Liz McGinnes

## Crew Members

Light Board Operator ..... Aiden Bucklaw  
Spot Light Operator ..... Shaylee Kroegh  
Spot Light Operator ..... Luke Haro  
Makeup ..... Ashley Keaney  
Makeup ..... Emma Rhodes  
Makeup ..... Denise Philippi  
Props Team ..... Tanya Abersold, Rita Conrad, Cindy Palko Lyndsay Malphrus

GET INVOLVED  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

*May River*  
THEATRE COMPANY

JOIN OUR FAMILY!  
FORM AVAILABLE



VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE MAGIC HAPPEN! Crew, tech and front of house opportunities available for our 2024 Season

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# WHO'S WHO

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## Jared Cotton

*as Gomez*

This is Jared's second show with May River Theater, previously playing Benny in *RENT*, and couldn't be more excited to act a fool on stage. He's been in the Navy for four and a half years and happy that he is able to serve his country and still do the hobbies that make him smile. Lots of love and lots of laughs to all!!!!



## Elissa Horrell

*as Morticia*

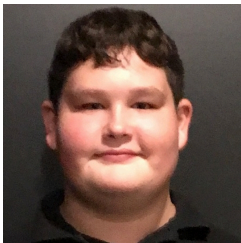
Elissa is an educator, actor, singer and lover of the theatre arts. She has been working in the theatre for over twenty years, and has received her BFA in Theatre Performance and Masters in Theatre Education. Elissa is new to the Bluffton area, but is enjoying becoming part of the thriving theatre community. Currently, Elissa teaches theatre at May River High School. Formerly, she was the Director of Education at South of Broadway Theatre Company. Some of her favorite roles over the years have been Eva Peron in *Evita*, Rosie in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Janet Van De Graaff in *The Drowsy Chaperone*.



## Lily Beck

*as Wednesday*

Lily Beck is a senior at BLHS. This is her tenth onstage appearance at MRT. Previous roles include: Stoner Chick-*Heathers*; Ensemble-*All Together Now*; Molly U/S-*Annie*; Tracy-*Hairspray*; Nikki-*Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*; Belle-*A Christmas Carol*. Many thanks to Travis for this opportunity!



## Elliot Mathis

*as Pugsley*

Elliot is excited to be making his first stage appearance and you would normally see him out in the hallway selling snacks but he's very excited to be on the stage he's formally from Austin, Texas and is new to bluffton

# WHO'S WHO



## Kyle Price

*as Fester*

Kyle Price is proud to be in his 3rd show at MRT... but he is invoking his 5th & 6th amendment rights. The rights that state that anything he says in a community theatre playbill can and will be used against him in a court of law. He's seen way too much Law & Order to fall for that... again ;)



## Kay Owen

*as Grandma*

Kay Owen is thrilled to be part of her second show this May River Theater season. She loves the variety of shows offered & was honored to play the iconic Amanda Wingfield in Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie* earlier this year. What fun to now play the 102 year old irrepressible Grandma with a talented young cast!



## Shea Hiscock

*as Lucas*

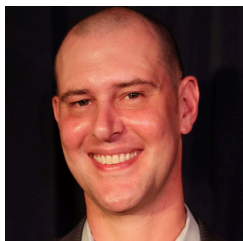
This is Shea's second show with MRT, previously he was in the *Heather's* ensemble. Shea is a local performer who has had recent rolls in *The Wedding Singer* and *Footloose*. He hopes you enjoy the show.



## Ellie Friedman

*as Alice*

Ellie Friedman has been involved in local theatre since 1995. Favorite roles include: Molly-*Annie Warbucks*; Narrator- *Joseph...*; Mary Jane-*Big River*; Rizzo-*Grease*; Baker's Wife-*Into the Woods*; Gertrude-*Seussical*; Lily St. Regis-*Annie*; The Witch-*Big Fish*; Mrs. Fleming-*Heathers*; LV-*Little Voice*. She is excited to share the stage with her daughter, Lily, once again!

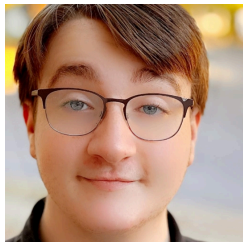


## Chris Hoffer

*as Mal*

Chris is beyond thrilled to be appearing on the MRT stage for the third time this year, after previously performing in *RENT* and *The Universal Language*. Some of his favorite past roles include Rooster in *Annie*, Mike in *A Chorus Line*, and Paul in *Moon Over Buffalo*. Chris would like to thank all of the members of the May River Theatre community for welcoming him with such open arms. He would also like to thank his wife, Lauren, and daughter, Emma, for their love and support as he pursues his passion for the stage.

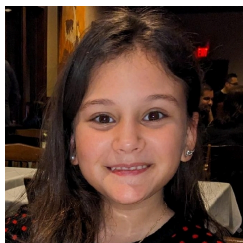
# WHO'S WHO



## Rhett Foster

*as Lurch*

Rhett is a senior at May River High School. He is very excited to be a part of this cast as it is his first time at May River Theatre. His previous shows include *SpongeBob The Musical* and *Footloose*. He is super excited for his MRT debut with these amazing actors/actresses!



## Adalyn Aebersold

*as Cousin It / Ancestor*

Adalyn Aebersold (Cousin It) is a fifth grader at Hilton Head Prep. Last spring, she was Flounder with Beaufort Children's Theatre. This is her second show with MRT and after being Fannie in *A Christmas Carol* and *Hauntingly Good Victorian Comedy*, she was excited to return to first theater family.



## Ashley Bruno

*as Ancestor*

Ashley is a Freshman at TCL. Her dream is to be a professional actress. Past shows she has done include *The Wedding Singer*, *Guys and Dolls Jr.*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *The Cross and the Switchblade*. She is excited to debut at May River Theatre and hopes everyone enjoys the show.



## Peyton Dobbs

*as Ancestor*

Peyton has been in productions her whole life, but this is her debut at May River Theatre. Off the stage, you may see Peyton performing live music at venues all over the Low Country. Peyton wants to thank everyone in the cast and crew for working so hard to make this such a fantastic show!



## Christa Fortney

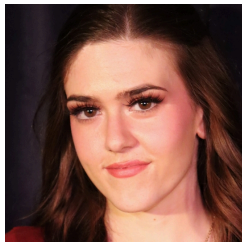
Christa Fortney has been a part of the Lowcountry community theatre scene since 2015. She is VP of MRT & recent production include *Steel Magnolias* asst. director (MRT) and onstage in *Footloose* (MainStage). Away from the stage, Christa is a residential designer, wife, and dog mom.



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# WHO'S WHO

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## Allison Manning

*as Ancestor*

Allison Manning is a bridal stylist with a passion for singing and performing. She has been seen in May River Theatre's productions of *The Universal Language* as Dawn, *RENT* in ensemble, and *Heathers the Musical* as Heather McNamara. She is so excited to continue making new friends and memories with this amazing cast!



## Koi Manning

*as Ancestor*

Koi is new to the Bluffton area, and aspires to be a spiritual healer. Outside of their work, you can find Koi skating or practicing ukulele. This is Koi's very first out-of-school performance, so they are very excited to share this experience with such a talented and entertaining cast!



## Kirtus Miller

*as Ancestor*

Kirtus is performing for his second time for May River Theater with his first production being *Christmas Carol*. He is a senior at Bluffton High School. He's also a dancer and he's glad he's able to bring that skill into the theater community.



## Annalee Hunter

*as Ancestor*

Annalee Hunter is excited to be part of May River Theater's production of *Addams Family!* This is her second show with MRT and previously performed in *RENT* this past summer. Prior to MRT, Annalee has played Ariel in *Little Mermaid* and Catherine Donohue in *These Shining Lives* at Hollins Theater, Grace Farrell in *Annie* at Mill Mountain Theater and Maria in *Twelfth Night* at Radford University. In addition to her singing and acting repertoire, Annalee has had the opportunity to perform with multiple ballet companies and dance with the Atlanta Hawks for two seasons. Annalee studied theater and voice at Radford University where she received a BS in Theatre Arts.

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# WHO'S WHO

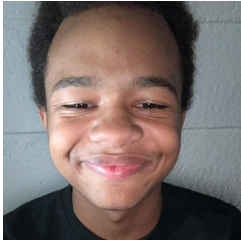
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## Haden Gonsowski

*as Ancestor*

Haden is 18 years old and a sophomore at USCB. This is Haden's seventh May River Theatre production. Haden stage managed, crewed, and acted in each full length show since *Heathers*. Can't wait to work with everybody next season!



## Noah Housey

*as Ancestor*

Noah is excited to be working with the cast of *Addams Family*. This is his first experience with May River Theatre and is ecstatic to be on the stage with his talented cast mates *FULL DISCLOSURE!* He hopes you all totally enjoy the ancestors bringing the stage *BACK TO LIFE!*



## Edward Ober

*as Ancestor*

New to MRT, Ed previously had roles as Mushnik (*Little Shop*), Harold Hill in *Music Man*, Perchik in *Fiddler*, Oliver Hix in *MM again!* and in the chorus for *Camelot* and *Flower Drum Song*. Ed also plays trombone in the Lowcountry Wind Symphony and other groups. Kudos to his wife Linda for all of her support!



## Travis Hornsby

*Director/Props/Wig Master*

Travis Hornsby (Director/Set Designer) is excited to return to the director's chair for *The Addams Family*. This marks the 5th show he has directed with May River Theatre. Previous directing credits include: *Christmas Carol: A Victorian Comedy*(2022), *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Young Frankenstein*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Great American Trailer Park Musical*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Cactus Flower* and an original adaptation of *Christmas Carol*(2013). Holding a BA in Theatre he continues to work professionally on the open seas with Norwegian Creative Studios. He would like to thank the MRT Board for the opportunity to do what he loves with folks that he continues to admire daily. As always, special thanks to his brother Brian and family. Thank you.

# WHO'S WHO



## Karri Kearns

*Music Director*

KARRI KEARNS (music director) is a Bluffton transplant from Northern Kentucky. Her full time gig is as a math teacher at May River High School, but in all the cracks and crevices of life, she is a mom/friend/granny/pianist. *Addams Family* has brought a whole new crew of incredible people into her world, and for that, she is ever so grateful.



## Lyndsay Malphrus

*Stage Manager*

Lyndsay has participated in community theatre for 11 years be it on-stage or back-stage. Her first show with MRT was *The Producers* in 2012. Lyndsay is excited to work with Travis again and would like to thank the production team for this amazing opportunity. Some of Lyndsay's favorite roles were *The Mute* in *The Fantasticks*, *Sarah* in *Company*, and *Twink* in *Christmas Belles*.



## Kimberly Reigert

*Choreographer*

Kimberly grew up in Dumont, NJ, and moved to Bluffton 10 years ago. She is the Studio Director/Dance Instructor at Bluffton School of Dance. Along with teaching children's classes at BSOD, she is also trained in Ballroom and runs a small part-time arts-infused preschool/homeschool coop, *Little Artists Academy*. She is excited to make her choreography debut with MRT and has had so much fun working with such a talented cast and crew.



# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

## Directors Note:

What is it about the macabre that fascinates us? Every Halloween season we parade about as ghosts and ghouls, witches and vampires, monsters and slutty cats. Ok, perhaps that last one isn't quite as harrowing. Well, unless you're a hairy overweight 40 year old man. No pointing kids.

Halloween has become commercially competitive with the likes of our other holidays such as Christmas, Valentine's Day, Yom Kippur- but why? Could our fascination stem from the uncontrollable factors that impact and threaten our very existence? Our décor displays tombstones, torture devices and bloody knives. This contrasting proverbial darkness around us, while prayerfully never to darken our doorstep, has intrigued the masses. This intrigue has led to the creation and development of many memorable and beloved characters from books and film. Frankenstein's Monster, Elvira, Beetlejuice, Dracula, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, to name a few. But, perhaps no one has been as intriguing as the Addams Family- whom I would dub: the first family of Halloween. Sorry Kardashians.

These characters exist in 'the darkness' and not only are they made to survive, but to THRIVE in and in spite of it. Could it be that these zany characters lighten our perception of the darkness? That perhaps, our fascination with these characters, dare I say love, offer a way of coping when our own darkness rolls in. Because ultimately, on all hallows eve or any other night of the year, when the darkness comes, we will find that we are never actually alone.

Now, snap twice and move toward the darkness with us



HELP SUPPORT THE MRT FAMILY

BECOME A SPONSOR FOR  
THE 2024 SEASON!



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# BOARD MEMBERS

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**MISSION:** May River Theatre is a nonprofit organization committed to engaging the Bluffton community through a breadth of quality theatrical performances that facilitate growth in both the production and understanding of the entire theatrical experience.

## BOARD OF DIRECTOR

**President: Elizabeth Schlieger**

**Vice-President: Christa Fortney**

**Treasurer: Jeff Corry**

**Jayme Brinson - Liz McGinnes - Ellie Friedman - Cindy Palko**

In some ways, the May River Theatre Board is like other boards, we collect data, we budget, we plan and we offer opinions. But the board members at MRT are also so much more than the typical. In the 2023 season board members have directed, designed, created and performed in every MRT production, and that is because community theatre and the family it creates runs through their veins. With this in mind I draw your attention to the very performance you are here at Ulmer Auditorium to watch. Every corner of this space has been touched by a skilled and committed board member. All you have to do is open your eyes and you will experience the magic of this board.

The set - From the shingles on the roof to the bark on the tree, to every supporting element inbetween, Cindy Palko does it all.

The lights - Liz McGinnes makes the sets dance, and sets the mood for us all as she intertwines the simple with the sublime.

The costumes - What maketh the man? Obviously a well-fit costume! Beth Schlieger makes our actors disappear into their characters' stories.

The sound - Jayme Brinson makes sure our actors are heard while balancing their voices with sound effects and the music melodiously.

The graphics and social media are at the core of our marketing, which got you all here, are carefully developed by Christa Fortney.

And on stage tonight - Ellie Friedman and Christa Fortney help bring this amazing story to life, contributing their acting and vocal skills to this amazing ensemble of performers.

We are truly blessed by each member of this board and their many gifts. Together they are ready to launch in to MRT's 2024 Season, which will not disappoint. We have already announced our kickoff production, *Calendar Girls*, and soon will announce the rest of our season. So grab your calendars (or wait for MRT's very own Calendar Girls inspired calendar) and get ready to experience some amazing theatre!

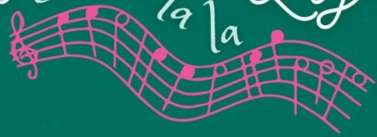
May River Theatre is a nonprofit corporation with a 501(c)(3) IRS determination. All donations are tax deductible.

Please visit our website for more information on how you can support May River Theatre and live theatre in the Bluffton Community.



# *It's a Wonderful *fa la la la* Life*

December 8th at 7:30  
& 9th at 2:00



**It's a great time to get  
involved at MRT!**

# Calendar Girls

# AUDITIONS

NOVEMBER 5 & 6

**SHOW RUNS 2/23 - 3/3**