

Directed by: Bertha Cortes Assistant Directed by: Joshua Huggins June 22nd - June 30th, 2023 Tempe Center for the Arts

## Youth Ensemble Theatre Inc Presents

Puffs, or: Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magcic



## Written by:

Matt Cox

#### **Directed by:**

Bertha Cortes
Joshua Huggins

with

Annabelle Reveles Bella Johnson Charlie Hendrix Ella Kenney

Finn Wisdom KC Rawlings Morgan Dos Santos Mya Blackshear Olive Pearson Palmer Bowen Rourke Nance

**Sound Design**Alexis Nomorosa
Palmer Bowen

Props & Scenic Thomas Underdal Brianna Fallon Kinley Rawlings Joshua Huggins Costumes & Makeup Masani Lee Ella Kenney

Fern White

**Lighting Design** 

Nik Good Dylan Prentis Kenleigh Drake **Dialect Coach**Rachel McCabe

**Crew**Joshua Huggins
Asher Johnston

Julia Johnson Dorry Bailes

**Stage Manager** Sam Updegraff **As. Stage Manager** Kenleigh Drake

Originally Produced Off Broadway by Tilted Windmills Theatricals

(John Arthur Pinckard / David Carpenter)

PUFFS was Developed in Part During a Residency with the University of Florida School of Theatre + Dance, Jerry Dickey, School Director

Originally Produced Off-Off Broadway by Stephen Stout and Colin Waitt

## A note from the director...



A hero. That is what a certain boy who attended a certain school of magic and magic has been to me all these years. As a kid, I, too, wished that an owl would bring a letter telling me I was a wizard and needed to go to school in England. I could spend hours writing about that, but this note is not about him. It's about the Puffs.

I LOVE this play because it reminds us there is more to every story. It pokes fun at the plot holes, at our favorite characters and allows us to get to know the House of students who were often forgotten. We know the Puffs are odd and quirky; their common room is near the kitchens, and they are sweet and loyal friends. With Wayne, we learn that Puffs can be brave, smart and that they can be heroes. Wayne knew he was destined for greatness but almost let someone else's greatness outshine him.

The thing is, we can all be great. Being great, being a hero, doesn't have to be this grand feat. It can be as simple as showing up for the people who love you, existing, and being who you are meant to be. That takes bravery, smarts, and loyalty.

Like a Certain Headmaster tells Wayne, "We are all important, and we are all unimportant." What we should strive for is to be the best that we can be, to love those around us for who they are and for what they teach us. We should embrace the odd things about us instead of pushing them away. I hope you enjoy this hilarious story. Laugh, cry, and leave this theatre knowing there is a little bit of a Puff in you too, which is pretty cool.

#### Bertha A. Cortes

A Smart but a Puff on a good day

Run Time: Approximately 110 Minutes
There will be a brief 10 minute intermission

### - SCENE BREAKDOWN -

Prologue

Year 1: Welcome to the Puffs

Studies

The Feast!

Back in the Common Room

A Trio is Born;

Wayne and Cedric

Sports!

The End of the Year

Year 2

Dueling Club & Harry Wants to Kill Everybody

More Terror in the Common Room

The Heir of Snakes

End of Year Again Year 3: Letters

Year 3

Electives; A Great Hall Slumber Party

FIELD TRIP!

Letters, Again

Year 4

Goblets. Fires

Not Forgivable Curses

Before the First Task

The First Task

Dates for the Ball

A Bathroom

The Yule-Tide Ball

The Second Task & the Subtleties of Lake Watching

Wayne and Cedric

The Third Task

#### INTERMISSION

#### Year 5

Letters Again

Welcome Back

Hopkins, Potter, & Emotions

The Rest of Year Five

#### Year 6

The Dark Lord

Snogging 101

Later, in the Hallway

Perks of Love

Mummv

End of Year Six Where nothing Major Happens

#### Year 7

A Funeral & Instant Messaging

The End Begins

A Great Hall Again; The Battle

A Very White Room

Nineteen Years Later - Blah, Blah. An Epilogue

## - CAST -

Susie Bones and Others	Annabelle Reveles
Harry, Colin, Hermeoone #2, Ric Gryff, Myrtle, Death Buddy	
Sally Perks and Others	Bella Johnson
Hermeoone, Blondo Malfoy, Rowena, Rita Scooter, Bippy, Death Buddy	
Leanne and Others	Charlie Hendrix
Ginny, Helga, Frenchy, Death Buddy	
Megan Jones and Death Buddy	Ella Kenny
Oliver Jones and Death Buddy	Finn Wisdom
Cedric, Mr. Voldy, and Death Buddy	KC Rawlings
Hannah and Others	Morgan Dos Santos
First Headmaster, Professor McG, Professor Sproutty, Xavia Jones,	
Professor Lanny, Runes Teach, Ms. Babble, Death Buddy	
Ernie Mac and Others	Mya Blackshear
A Very Tall Man, Seamus, A Certain Potions Teacher, Professor Turban,	
Ghost History Teach, Professor, Locky, Mr. Nick, Sal, Second Headmaster,	
Real Mr. Moody, Death Buddy	
J. Finch Fletchley and Others	Olive Pearson
Uncle Dave, Goyle, A Fat Friar, Clumsy Longbottom, Hermeoone #3,	
Viktor, Mr. Bagman, Zach Smith, Death Buddy	
Wayne Hopkins and Death Buddy	Palmer Bowen
Narrator	Rourke Nance
CDEW	

## - CREW -

Director	Bertha Cortes
Assistant Director	Joashua Huggins
Stage Manager	Sam Updegraff
Assistant Stage Manager	Kenleigh Drake
Costume & Makeup Mentor	Masani Lee
Costume & Makeup Apprentice	Ella Kenney & Fern White
Lighting Design Mentor	Nik Good & Dylan Prentis
Lighting Design Apprentice	Kenleigh Drake
Scenic & Props Design Mentor	Thomas Underdal & Brianna Fallon
Scenic & Props Design Apprentice	Kinley Rawlings & Joshua Huggins
Sound Design Mentor	Alexis Nomorosa
Sound Design Apprentice	Palmer Bowen
Dialect Coach	Rachel McCabe
CrewJoashua Huggins, Asher Johnson, Julia Johnston, Dorry Bailes	
Artistic Director	Jason White

## - CAST BIOS & HEADSHOTS -



Annabelle Reveles is an upcoming 8th grader who has been involved in theater since she was only 4 and Puffs is her first performance with yeti. Her previous productions include HONK! Jr, The Wizard of Oz, and Box, among others. She is very excited to be apart of this show!



Bella Johnson (Sally and Others) is a freshman at Marcos De Niza High School in Tempe where she is enrolled in the Fine Arts Academy program. She has been involved with Childsplay classes in the past and this is her first YETI production. Bella has been seen in school productions of Annie, Lion King Jr. and Into The Woods. Most recently, she was in the ensemble of The Wizard of Oz at Marcos and a One-Act Play entitled "4 am".



Charlie (Leann and others) is no stranger to the theater, having a longtime love of seeing shows on Broadway when she was based in the New York area. After moving to Arizona in 2021 she quickly found her place in community shows, workshops, and with Childsplay. This is her first major production and she is very excited to play a fun and quirky character in "Puffs" (her actual house!). When not running lines and singing at the top of her lungs, Charlie enjoys spending time with friends and family, and wrangling her ridiculous dogs.



Ella Kenney (Megan & Death Buddy) is 14 years old and is a member of the YETI ensemble. She has been in the YETI productions of This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, and This Girl Does Nothing as Beatrix, and Almost, Maine as Glory and the Waitress. She is a Childsplay Conservatory graduate, and is very involved in theatre, dance, and choir at Marcos de Niza High School, most recently playing Scarecrow in The Wizard of Oz. She has been leads in the two main stages and has been involved in every other production so far.



Finn Wisdom (Oliver & Death Buddy) is a freshman at Corona Del Sol High School and is very excited to be Oliver Rivers in this show. He first started doing theatre in March of 2022, as a tech kid for Honk! Jr at Kyrene Middle School. This will be his second full show with YETi, and just in general, the first being Almost, Maine. He also participated in the Young Playwrights Festival. Finn is currently a part of the CDS Theatreworks club and a taking choir and is very thankful to be a part of this production.



KC Rawlings (Cedric & Voldy) joined the acting world through the Childsplay in 2017. They graduated The Conservatory Program in May of 2022 and are now working as a part of YETi (Young Ensemble Theatre Inc). Their previous productions include Ensemble in The Life Of Virginia Woolf (Childsplay), Grande Dame in The Murder Mystery (Childsplay), Ruth in Sweet Goodbyes And Bitter Hellos (Childsplay), Ginette/Marci in Almost Maine (Childsplay), Luna in The Intern and Thalia in Libby Harrison at The Young Playwrights Festival (Childsplay), Aunt Josephine/Ensemble in A Series Of Unfortunate Events (Keystone Montessori), Rhoda/Beth in A Haunting We Will Go (Keystone Montessori), and Aslan in Narnia: The Musical. Puffs is their second performance with YETi!



Morgan Dos Santos (Hannah & Others) is so excited to be apart of this play! They have been apart of tech for various productions, big and small, at school, but this will be their first time acting outside of their drama class. They are so honored to share this first with YETi! This fall, they will be entering their sophomore year at Horizon High School.



Mya Blackshear (Ernie Mac and others) is delighted to be in this year's production of Puffs.Her credits include Zazu in the musical The Lion King, Ms. Memory/Mrs. McGarrigle in the play 39 Steps, and Tessie in the musical Annie; as well as the Phoenix College production of The Tempest. This is Mya's first year working with Yeti Theatre Company.



Olive Pearson (J Finch and others) first worked with YETi for their Annual Playwrights Festival in 2023. Olive is currently in Childsplay's Musical Theater Conservatory level 4. They have also done a production of Freaky Friday with Childsplay. Olive has been attending Childsplay since they were six years old. Other productions Olive has been in include The Jungle Book at Valley Youth Theatre as well as many productions at Olive's school.



Palmer Bowen (Wayne & Death Buddy) is currently portraying the lovable and clueless Wayne Hopkins in the magical play, Puffs! Her previous experience includes performances as Jimmy and Shelly in Almost, Maine (YETi) and as Carmen in This Girl Laughs This Girl Cries This Girl Does Nothing (YETi). In addition to being part of the YETi Events and Fundraising Committee, Palmer also enjoys singing and is an active member of Kyrean Middle School Chorus and Theatre Ensemble. With her dedication and passion for the arts, Palmer is eager to improve her craft and bring her best to the stage.



Rourke Nance is so excited to be working with YETi and Childsplay for her first time! She will be playing the role of Narrator. Having only been in a handful of school productions (Rehearsal for Murder and Grease to name a few!,) Rourke is ecstatic to be working with all these new and wonderful people!"

## Thanks for coming!!

# YETi will be BACK in August for it's 8th Season!

Teens ages 14-18 are invited to apply to join our ensemble. Applications open July 1st!

childsplayaz.org/yeti

Instagram: @yetincorporated

A HUGE thank you to YETi's ensemble for all of their hard work this year. Producing theatre is a huge challenge and you all did an amazing job. Thank you for the countless hours spent planning, advertising, building, and raising funds to make this show happen!



