

Chicago Cast, Crew, and Musician Biographies



Lea Abou Alaiwa (Pit member) Lea is delighted to be a part of the pit this year! Although she won't actually be under the stage for this show, she is excited nonetheless. She has powered through learning the music and hopes that you will enjoy the show (and hopes that she won't make mistakes :)



Saif Albasri (Pit) Saif is a jazz music enthusiast who loves anything and everything jazzy. This is his first year committing to the theater west program, with special thanks to friends of his who encouraged him to join the pit for the upcoming production.



Olivia Anderson (Costume Crew) Olivia is a Senior who loves to sew. This will be her 5th show helping make costumes at Theater west. She is very excited to continue to make costumes in the future.



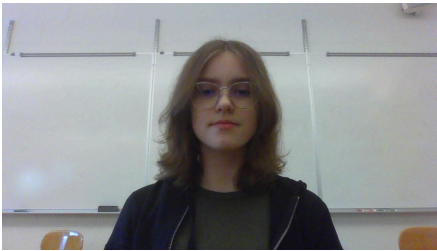
Neema Ash (Ensemble) This is Neema's third year being a performer at theatre west, starting her first show in sophomore year with Beauty and the Beast, she fell in love with the art that was expressed here at West High. Neema has utilized her love of acting outside of school by creating her own short films and screenwriting.



Eli Asper (Amos Hart) This is Eli's senior year and his 5th show at Theater West, and he's super excited to perform Chicago! He's excited to portray Amos, and hopes you enjoy the show!



Sedef Bayman (Makeup Crew) Sedef is a freshman at West High, participating in makeup. This is her first year in tech department, but she's always liked art and how it ties into makeup. She's also always been very interested in plays, and has seen many Broadway shows.



Freya Bevan (Props Crew) Freya has never done crew before. However she is good at crafting a variety of different things and painting. She is always happy to be a part of the team and will always participate.



Nyla Breheny (Costume Crew) Nyla is a senior this year, and this is her first time doing costumes for theater west. she has always enjoyed watching musicals, so she's excited to be working on one.



Nathan Butler (Harry/ensemble) Nathan is a sophomore, and this is his first year in Theatre West. His first theater production was in SPIT 2024, which encouraged him to audition for Chicago. He also participates in show choir, and enjoys dancing and singing. He would like to thank the SPIT directors of last year for encouraging him to join Theatre West.



Isabel Ceynar (Pit) This is Isabel's seventh show with Theatre West and has been in both props and pit crew



CC Chisolm (Ensemble) CC started theatre in 2014 at the George Daily Auditorium in Oskaloosa IA. She learned all her knowledge from Andy and Alison McGuire, Jason Tipword, and Brant Boweman. This is her first year in West High and Iowa city, and she excited to join all the local theatre shows.



Eric Clark (Crew) Ever since a kid Eric has been obsessed with makeup, drag queens, and fashion designers. Now that he's older he realizes he was just obsessed with drag queens in different fonts.



Norah Connolly (Production) This is Norah's 2nd year in Theater west. She wants to thank her friends and family for the support and hopes for another great year.



Kiera Crowe (Costumes Crew Member) Kiera is a junior and this is her third year of being on costumes.



Sasha Cruce (props member) Sasha is a senior and this is her sixth show, and third show on props. She would like to thank the members of props and set who work hard to help create a spectacular performance.



Waad Dafalla (Make up crew) This is Waad's first year in Theater West. She enjoys listening to musical tracks. Her favorites are Hamilton and Hairspray.



Nicholas Davis (Assistant Stage Manager) Nicholas Davis is a senior and this is his third show with Theatre West. This is his first time in the role as ASM and he's very excited to be able to do Chicago. He'd like to thank the other stage managers for their help, the directors, and his mother for her support.



Haley DeMeulenaere (Go-To-Hell-Kitty / Ensemble) Haley DeMeulenaere is a Freshman, and this is her first production with Theatre West! Haley is beyond excited to be involved in this production. Haley's previous theatre experience includes performing in Young Footlites over the years, and she is looking forward to joining future productions over the next four years with Theatre West!



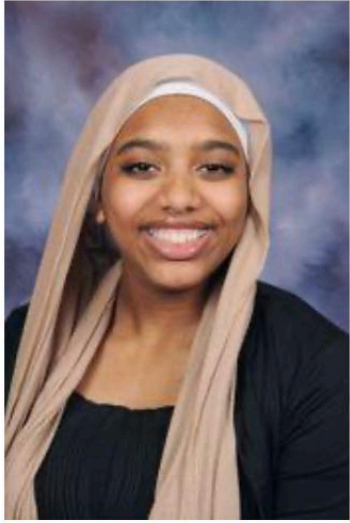
Abrianna Derry (Makeup crew) Bri has experience with makeup, and has been doing it for years. Makeup is a fun hobby of theirs, and they find joy in being part of such a huge task by just doing something they love.



Derick Doresca (Drummer in the Pit Orchestra) This is Derick's first time in a Theatre West production, but he has many years of experience as a drummer.



Kade Eilderts (Set) kade is very excited to be doing their 4th show with theater west. they love their set crew and can't wait to make more memories with them



Lamar Eltayeb (Costumes) Has really enjoyed being a part of costumes



Eva Esch (Props Head) This is Eva's third year and final year with Theatre West. She is so proud of everyone and is very grateful for the community she has found through this program.



Lydia Evans (Violin in pit orchestra)

Lydia is a junior and this is her second theater west show she's been involved in and her first time being in pit. She's so excited to see how the show will come together and loves to see everyone's incredible talent!



Fern Fraer (Set Head) This is Fern's fourth show with theatre west, and they are excited to get back into things; building and lurking backstage. They would like to give a dedication to the hidden stash of fruit snacks in the shop.

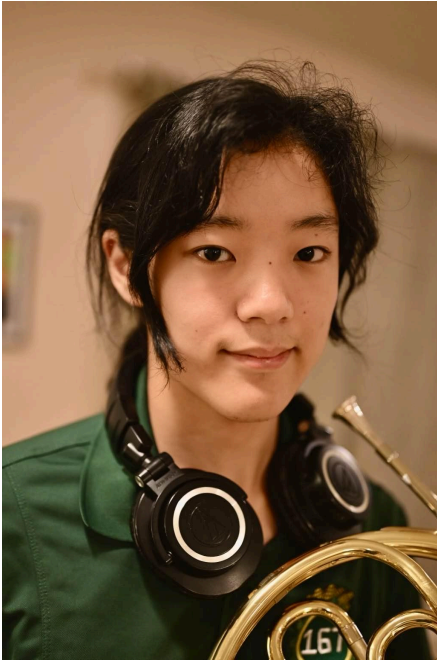


Alexander Gibson (Pit) Alexander is a freshman and this is his first Theater West show. He participates in cross country, track, and band here at West.



Thomas Gibson (Pit:Drums/aux percussion) This is Thomas' second show in the pit. He is excited to drum with the amazing musicians and actors at west.

Alice Gooblar-Perovic (Sound crew) This is Alice's first time being a part of sound crew, and she's so excited for the show to sound absolutely awesome! When she's not doing theater, she loves playing trombone, spending time with her sister, and reading books. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Tadamichi Goto (Set crew) Tadamichi Goto is a junior at West, making computer models of the set to provide measurements and visualizations for set and props. He has previously been in the pit orchestras for Beauty and the Beast and The Secret Garden, playing the French Horn in both productions. He is an avid programmer for FIRST Tech Challenge Team 8696 Trobotix, and FIRST Robotics Competition Team 167 Children of the Corn.



Fiona Graber (Production Crew)



Etta Graber (Makeup Artist) Etta Graber is a freshman at West High School, and in her free time she enjoys volleyball, singing, and participating in theater. She is very excited to be in crew for this production.



Anna Greenlee (Lights co-head) Anna Greenlee is a junior in her fourth production with Theatre West. She's enjoyed lights, even though she burns herself on the spotlights too often. She would like to thank her co-head, Evelyn, and her car blanket for making long nights in the booth bearable.



Mary Danielle Gross (Roxie) Mary Danielle Gross is a senior and has done theater at West for all four years. She grew up competitively dancing at Nolte Academy and also participates in the school's varsity show choir. Her passion is to perform and she loves being on stage whether she's dancing, singing, or acting.



Elsie Gross (set and sound) Elsie is excited to be apart of her 3rd theater west production. She is a sophomore and is currently doing set and sounds crew for theater.



Aahana Gupta (Makeup Crew) Hi! This is my second show doing makeup, and I'm super excited!



Reed Hagan (Props) Reed has been doing theatre since the start of last year. Reed has been in Props the entire time.



Kaylee Hampton (Makeup crew) This is Kaylee's first year in theatre and is a freshman. She would like to thank the directors and production team for this opportunity.

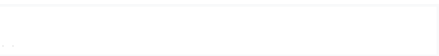


Kaevion Heidger (Sound Crew)



Aspen Hermann (set)

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Hannah Hotsenpiller (Props)



Carter Houchins-Witt (Harrison/Ensemble) Carter is so excited to be in another show with Theatre West! He has also been in Secret Garden (Lieutenant Shaw), A Christmas Carol (Boy Scrooge), and Beauty and the Beast (Shepherd Boy/Ensemble) at Theatre West. He's also been in other shows in the community such as High School Musical (James/Ensemble) with City Circle and She Kills Monsters (Chuck) with ICONN. He wants to thank Eli Asper for no particular reason



Kyla Huynh (Assistant Stage Manager) This is Kyla's second year in Theatre West. She is very excited to be back for another year of theatre! Last year as a freshman she was on set but this year Kyla is an assistant stage manager. She is ready to be back at theatre with her friends and doing what she loves!



Kenton Huynh (Pit) Kenton has been doing theater since his freshman year. The last 3 years he helped build the sets. This year he decided to join the Pit Band.



Kate Johnson (Pit Band- Trombone) It is Kate's first year in the theatre program at West High. She looks forward to participating with the theater program in the future. She would like to thank her mother and father for supporting her in everything she does.



Lilly Johnson (crew) Lilly is a junior this year. This will be their 3rd show with Theater West, 2nd time working in costumes.



Angela Kim (makeup,hair) Angela Kim is a freshman, and this is her first year being a part of Theatre West. 8 months ago, she came here from Korea, where she majored in korean traditional aria. In Chicago, she is a part of makeup and hair crew.



Olivia Kirk (Makeup) This is Olivia's 7th show with Theatre West and she is so excited to see the amazing shows Theatre West puts on!



Rhea Knight (Sound crew member) Rhea is a Senior at West High and Chicago is Rhea's seventh show with Theater West. She would like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her.



Elena Kollasch (Sound Crew)



Evelyn Kraber (Lights crew chief) Evelyn is a junior and this is their fourth show with Theatre West. When they aren't clicking buttons to make lights do things, you can find them playing cello, reading, painting or doing way too much homework.



Ian Kraske (Trumpet pit player) Ian has been a part of the pit orchestra since his sophomore year. He has played piano for beauty and the beast, and trumpet for the secret garden. He is looking forward to a great show!



Ella Krupp (Costumes Crew) Ella is excited to participate in her first show as part of the costumes crew. She loves to sew and make things with her hands in her spare time.



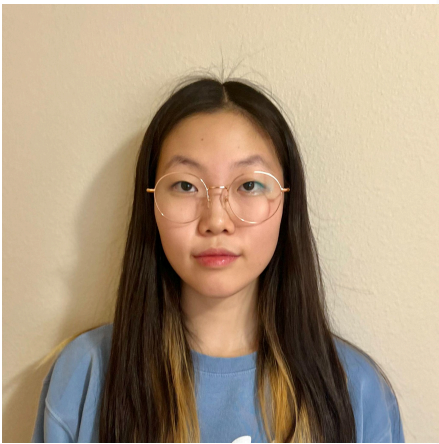
Maile Kruse (Mona) This is Maile's Senior Year at West High and she is so excited to play Mona in Chicago! In previous years Maile has been in 5 shows at West including Anastasia (Ensemble), Clue (set), Beauty and the Beast (Silly Girl), Christmas Carol (Flora) and The Secret Garden (Ensemble)! She is really excited for all of the opportunities offered in her senior year and wants to thank her parents and friends for supporting her through everything!



Emma Lai (Lighting crew) Emma Lai is a freshman at West High School. She shines both on stage and in the studio. With a passion for performing and visual arts as well as computer science, she has won multiple regional and state awards for her talents. Whether playing music, creating art, or writing code, Emma's creativity is at the heart of everything she does. Off the stage, she is a dedicated advocate for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in Iowa City, working on projects that promote diversity and inclusion. Emma is excited to bring her artistic and technical energy to this production!



Claire Lawler (Piano) Claire Lawler (Piano 1) is thrilled to be playing piano once again in the pit. She has been involved with multiple Theatre West productions before, including pit in Footloose, Anastasia, and Secret Garden, sound in Christmas Carol, as well as performing onstage in Clue (Cook) and Beauty and the Beast (Ensemble). She hopes you enjoy the show!



Abigail Lee (Ensemble) This is Abigail Lee's first year in West theatre, she's a dancer at Nolte academy and has been for the past 13 years and is a part of West's varsity show choir, Good Time Company. In this year's production, Chicago, she is a part of the ensemble.



Hyunsuh Lee (set construction) It's Hyunsuh's first year of being set head and third year of being a part of Theatre West, and they're thrilled to be here. He loves using the jigsaw and inhaling copious amounts of saw dust especially.



Alexa Leist (Hair) She'd like to thank her parents for supporting her and her brother for giving her the idea to be in Theatre West. She wants to thank her cousin Emma for being her day 1 and sister through heart.



Tiff Lieberman (Pit Orchestra Member (Mallets/Auxiliary Percussion)) Tiff is a senior and this is her third year in Theatre West as a member of the pit orchestra where she plays Percussion. In addition to pit, she plays percussion in concert band, marching band, and jazz band.



Addison Long (Props) Addison is very excited for her final year at Theatre West! It's been an amazing three years and she loves this program so much. They'd like to thank all their friends for making their time here so much fun.



William Lyons (Makeup Crew) Will has been involved with three previous productions and enjoys the social aspect and creativity of everything.



Jalani Mack (Crew member) Being a part of Theatre West has shown me what it feels like to be welcomed with open arms.



Aseel Matar (hair crew) This is Aseel Matar and she is doing hair for the first time. This will be her first year as part of theater but she's very excited to try something new!



Lucy Maxwell (Makeup) This is Lucy's 6th show in makeup with theatre west, she loves the community and how caring everyone is of each other. Lucy is also in BPA at west, works at maggie's pizza, and loves hanging out with her friends.



Sophie Mellecker (Props) Sophie is happy to be part of the theater community again this year because of the new and exciting experiences and people that she has gotten to meet and become friends with these past few years. Her aunt and uncle both really enjoyed the theater experiences at West high when they went to school which helped inspire her to also join herself, her mom and other family have been very supportive of what she does too.



Sawyer Miller (Set Crew) He has started theatre with this showing of Chicago, but is excited to build the set for an amazing show. Thank you Mrs. Nahra for starting my interest in theatre.



Oliver Miller (Sergeant Fogarty) Oliver is a senior at West High and is extremely excited to be a part of another Theatre West show. This will be his third show with Theatre West. He has also performed in Young Footlites and City Circle shows with his last show being My Son Pinocchio (Geppetto) Oliver would like to thank the directors, cast, and crew for everything they've done to put on this amazing show.



Miela Miller-Jacobs (Props Co-Head) This is Miela's 9th show with Theatre West. They're so grateful for their friends, family, and the community theatre has provided. They're so excited for this year's productions; enjoy the show!



Leonel Morales (Props) Leonel Morales is a 10th grader who loves to make things, so being on props felt like a good fit.



Noah Mothershed (Pit Orchestra) Noah Mothershed is a sophomore trumpet player. This is his first year being in theater and is excited to try something new!



Maya Mueller (Production) Maya is a junior participating in her third production with Theatre West. She would like to thank her car for having fast heating on late nights. She has enjoyed her time in production and looks forward to more shows with Theatre West.



Anika Nguyen (Set Crew) Anika is so excited to get back into theater, Chicago being their seventh show with Theatre West. They love their set family and can't wait to start building again.



Ashley Niemiec (Hair crew) Ashley has enjoyed her time on the theater West hair crew for the past 3 years! Ashley wants to thank everyone in hair crew for being the best crew!



Katie Nodia (crew) Katie is a senior this year and it is her 4th Theatre West production. She would like to thank everyone who made this possible, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



Mackenzie Oberbroeckling (Production Crew Chief) This is Mackenzie's 4th year and 6th show with Theatre West. She loves being a part of such an inclusive and creative community!



Emre Orhon (Pit Crew Head) Emre is excited to try something new and be the head of the pit this year! In previous years he has been a part of sound and was head of the department last year during A Christmas Carol and The Secret Garden. He is thrilled for a change of scenery and be on stage this year. He hopes everyone enjoys the music!



Ellison Ortiz Broeder (hair crew) works the best they can and will always try to do more.



Jack Overholt (Member of set crew) Jack has been in set crew for Theatre West for the past three years. They have worked hard during Beauty and the Beast, A Christmas Carol, The Secret Garden and now Chicago. They look forward to doing more with Theatre West in the rest of their highschool career.



Anita Parecattil (Sound crew) Anita has done two shows on sound and she's looking forward to doing another one.



Eleanor Paulsen (ASM) Eleanor is going into her sophomore year at West and taking part in her second show. As an Assistant Stage Manager she helps out with all the different branches of theatre, right up until the closing curtain of the Saturday night show. She would like to thank Genna and Harper Ray for pushing her so hard to get to this point, and making theatre one of her favorite places.



Andres Perez Lopez (Sound Crew) Andres Perez Lopez is an 11th grader and a Splatoon player since 2017. This is his first production of theater. He is enjoying making new and familiar friends with him working as a team. He thanks Theater West and the directors for working hard on the production and making his first play and first theater career start strong.



Emily Phillips (Sound head) This is Emily's 6th show with theater west and has loved participating in crew throughout the years. She is really excited for sound this year and wants to thank her family and friends for always supporting her.



Jonathan Pierce (Production Crew) Jonathan has been in Theatre West for all four years of high school. He has contributed to productions such as Footloose, Clue, and now Chicago. He would like to thank everyone for putting on an amazing production.



Sage Pottorff (Production) This is Sage's first year in theater because she wanted to meet new people. She wants to thank her parents for supporting her in trying out new things.



Harper Ray (Set Construction) Harper is a sophomore and has been in set construction since Christmas Carol last fall. She's involved in lots of band programs. She plays percussion and is a snare on the Drumline. Harper's favorite part of set is the backstage work and she is very excited for Chicago!



Genna Ray (Stage manager, Bari sax player in pit) This is Genna's 7th show with Theatre West! She so grateful for this opportunity to be both a Stage Manager and playing bari sax in the pit like she did for her very first show freshman year. She so excited for her senior year theatre season and wants to thank all the amazing people in her life!



Luke Reimer (Billy Flynn) This is Luke's 3rd show with theater west but has been seen in other various shows in the area. He has previously been seen in A Christmas Carol (Peter Crachit) and The Secret Garden (Dr. Craven). He is extremely excited to be playing Billy Flynn, and would like to thank everyone on the production team for the opportunity to play this role.



Jack Rippentrop (Sound)



Rory Rogers (Costumes head) Rory is a Senior, this is her 5th show with Theater west. This will be her first show as costumes head.



Chloe Rogers (Hair crew chief) Chloe is the hair crew chief for the 24-25 show season and is highly involved in softball and showing cattle as well as her love for theatre west Chloe is so excited for this upcoming year and for all of the amazing talented people in these shows Chloe hopes to see amazing shows per usual and to meet everyone!



Howard Rogers (Set) This is Howard second year at theater west in set



Quincy Rose (Lights Crew member) Quincy is a Junior at West High school and participating in his second show in lights crew. He is so excited to light up the stage and assist in creating a wonderful experience to all participating!



Rana Saba (Matron Mama Morton) Rana is a senior and is very excited to be performing in this show! Rana grew up doing community theatre and this is her 7th show with Theatre West. She would like to thank all of her friends, parents, and directors for supporting her.



Jay Sainsbury (Makeup Crew Chief) Jay is a senior at West High. They have been a part of 7 shows at Theatre West and this is her second year as Makeup Crew Chief.



Josie Schwartz (Ensemble) This is Josie's fifth show with Theatre West, and second show in the cast. This is her first musical.



Ciram Shargawi (makeup crew member) This is Ciram's second year in theater. She enjoys doing make up on herself and her friends. She's excited to be a part of the crew once again!



Isun Shim (Ensemble) Haven't experienced theater yet but have experience of show choir



Momo Shinozaki (Flute, Piccolo, Violin in pit orchestra) Momo is a sophomore and this is her second year playing in the pit ensemble for Theatre West. She is so excited to be a part of another production and hopes that you enjoy the show!



Michael Shonrock (Set head/ Pit band/ Do whatever the directors need)

This is Michael's 4th year of Theatre West. This is his seventh show and his third show as a set head. Michael enjoys spending time backstage with all of the amazing tech crews. He hopes that everyone can enjoy putting together productions as much as he does.



Gwen Smith (Lights Crew) Gwen is a Junior and super excited to start a new year at theatre west! This will be their 6th show, but their first on lights crew. She would like to thank friends and family for being supportive of all her activities.



Jordan Smith (Set crew) Jordan is a senior at west high school and they are very excited to be a part of the theatre department once again.



Cecilia Sterba (Hair) Cecilia a junior at west highschool and she is so excited to be a part of the hair team for the first time. Outside of theater she enjoys playing softball and hanging out with her friends. She hopes everybody will enjoy the show.



Mara Strand (Set Crew) This is Mara's third year and 5th show with Theater West. She is excited for another year of sorting screws and eating snacks.



Jack Struthers (Lights) Jack Struthers is a freshman at west high school and is excited to participate in theatre west.



Sariah Stutzman (set crew) Sariah is a senior this year. This is Sariah's first year being involved with Theatre West, she is so excited to be part of the production of Chicago! She is wishing that she had joined sooner. Sariah would like to thank her family, grandparents, Bob and Melanie, her brothers, Owen and Xander, her friends and the set crew for their help, support and encouragement. She wants to thank the teachers that have made this possible, thanks, Ms. Nahra, Ms. Rocarek and Mr. Aanestad. Sariah is so glad that she joined Theatre West!



Kento Sugiyama (Pit) Kento is a sophomore and this is his first show with Theatre West. He is thrilled to collaborate with the cast and share the experience with the audience. He hopes you enjoy the show!



Ethan Tisdale (Judge) It is Ethan's 3rd year with Theatre West and he is excited to be in the show.



Jasmine Tsang (Makeup) This will be Jasmine's 3rd year on makeup crew. They are super excited for another great show!



Cassidi Tsang (Costumes) This is Cassidi's first time doing costumes and she's looking forward to spending time with friends and sewing. She enjoys trying new things and joined theater because of her sister.



Lovella Varner (Annie) Lovella Varner, a sophomore, is currently playing the role of Annie in "Chicago" with Theatre West. This marks her second production with the program. Having been involved in theatre since age 5, she is passionate about continuing her journey in the performing arts.



Sophia Vignato (Costume crew) This is her first year doing anything theater related, she hopes she can do this again next year and is looking forward to making more costumes.



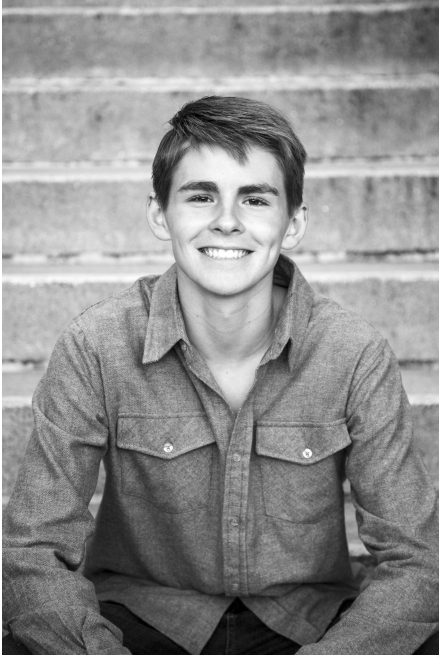
Garrett Vogt (Lights) This is Garrett's 3rd year in a theater west production



Carter Wagner (Fred Casely) Carter Wagner is a Freshman at Iowa City West. This is Carter's first show with Theater West. Carter also enjoys singing and dancing, and is so excited to be involved with Theatre West. He wants to thank everyone that helped to make this. Break a leg!



Vin Wardi (Ensemble) Vin Wardi is a sophomore at West High. This is my first theater experience, and I hope to have many more.



Colin Wehrle (Pit Orchestra - Soprano Saxophone) Colin Wehrle is a current member of the West High Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble, where he plays alto saxophone. For Chicago, he is excited to perform on both soprano and alto saxophones. This marks Colin's debut performance with Theatre West, and he's thrilled to play in the Pit Orchestra.



Audrey Weime (Props) Audrey is a sophomore who has been in theatre west since her freshman year. She loves music, martial arts, and going downtown.



Rheal White (Makeup crew) Rheal is a very hard worker, and always works very diligently. She is experienced with makeup. She is good at bonding with others and making the environment a fun and happy place.



Ania Willis (Ensemble) This is Ania's third year with Theatre West and first time as part of the cast. She's excited for her first appearance on stage.



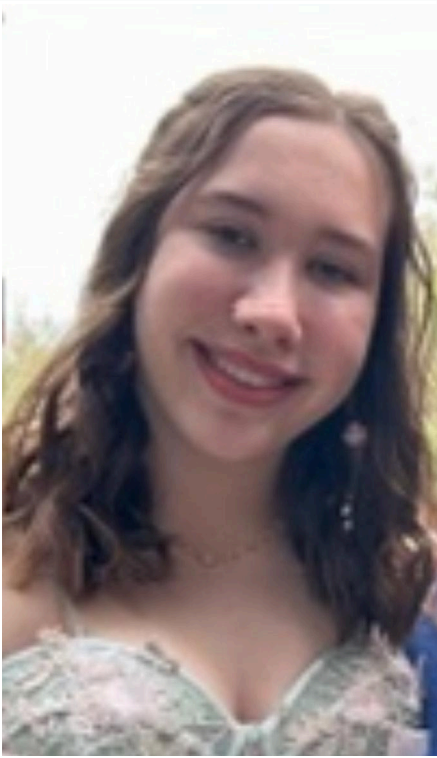
Cormac Wilson (Band) Mac is a senior and is excited for his first show with Theatre West. He will be playing bass for the pit.



Rosemary Younts (Make-up crew) Rosie has been in 2 Theatre West shows and is a junior makeup member.



Flora Zhu (Stage Manager) This is Flora's fourth year in Theatre West and her first as a stage manager! She's super excited for this show and loves the theatre community.



Claire Zubcic (Costume Crew) Chicago is Claire's fifth show. She is on the costumes crew and is very excited to get to make the costumes for this show and see all her friends.