

SPRING AWAKENING



August 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 at 7:30pm
August 11, 17, 18 at 2:00pm

Ancaster Memorial Arts Centre

Theatre Ancaster
Mainstage Series

Box Office: 905-304-3232

TheatreAncaster.com



Premier Season Sponsor and Donor



Special thanks to The Desnoyers Family
for their generous ongoing support.

Grant for Adult and Youth Programs



Full Season Sponsor



Dr. Christine Misener

Mainstage and Adult Programming Season Sponsors



AUTOPRO
GLENDALE MOTORS

Doug Kloet, Peter Boeringa and
Ben Tamming



BICK ADVISORS



**Investment
Planning Counsel®**

IPC SECURITIES CORPORATION



 **Desjardins**

Stephen J. Dunn

INSURANCE AGENCY LTD.
Since 1983

stephenjdunn.ca

Steve Dunn



Fran Cheyne



Judy Marsales



**Wealth Management
Dominion Securities**

The Beckett Team

John, Jeffrey and Jason Beckett


SPRING VALLEY
ARCHITECTURAL INNOVATIONS

Beautiful exteriors are our passion.

Design and sustainability are our inspiration.

Eric Sommer

Spring Awakening is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI
www.MTIShows.com

Director's Note

Why *Spring Awakening*? The subject matter challenges us all to magnify the importance of conversations with youth around sexuality. The current global reality is that many women still do not have access to reproductive education or rights. These conversations are as important now as they ever have been. Those with musical sensibilities will say that Sheik & Sater's *Spring Awakening* presents a pop-rock alternative score translated into a rebellious storyline. 'Rock & Roll' and 'swearing' represent a youthful, rebellious energy that harnesses a disruptive power that is authentically 'teenager'.

Why *Spring Awakening*? Ask the cast, crew or fans, and they will share that this story captures an essence of curiosity, vulnerability and frustration. Its ten years on Broadway catapulted the careers of Lea Michelle and Jonathan Groff with good reason. We can't escape being drawn into the world of Wendla, Melchior and classmates as they explore and embrace the nature of their changing bodies while establishing their sexual identities. As adults, a similar tension exists in explaining the act of intercourse to youth. These universal themes were artistically crafted by the playwright Frank Wedekind in 1891 Germany. Writers write what they know and Wedekind's lived experiences are embedded within the fabric of the original play.

Why *Spring Awakening*? Personally, this show challenged me to focus on the trust that exists between actor/director to maintain personal safety while portraying intimacy on stage. My eyes were opened to the significance of working with an intimacy director to establish safety. I am so grateful to Kit for the learning journey. Our Conservatory performers are talented, generous and genuine and our team knew we could do this show justice. Jenn and Jayy — you push me creatively to think about every choice made. Our Prod. Team surpassed expectations. Learning with and from you has allowed us to create a unique piece of theatre to be proud of.

Finally, Why *Spring Awakening* for Theatre Ancaster? This is a bold, unapologetic direction for our company that may cause discomfort. Do we acknowledge and lock the discomfort away or dismiss it as 'in the past'? Or draw parallels and carry the experience with us?

I invite you to dig deep and sit with that discomfort as we engage in this experience together and open up a necessary conversation.

Nupi Gokhale
Director

Season Note

Welcome to Theatre Ancaster's 2024-25 Season! This season, our productions resonate with the universal theme of finding one's place in the world - growing up, claiming an identity, finding true love, understanding one's purpose, and knowing the security of belonging to a family or a community. Each performance promises to delve deep into the human experience, offering poignant reflections and inspiring narratives.

We invite you to join us as we navigate the complexities of these themes of discovery and exploration through the magic of theatre. Whether you are a long-time supporter or a new face in our community, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your presence and support. Here's to a season filled with captivating stories, thought-provoking moments, unforgettable performances and, hopefully, some smiles along the way.

For those who want to deepen their own journeys and discover new ventures, Theatre Ancaster is always looking for new participants and volunteers who understand the importance of the arts to the human experience. Come "Grow, Delight, Shine" with us by visiting www.TheatreAncaster.com for a variety of opportunities to contribute to our multifaceted company!

Sincerely,
Krys Croxall, President

Musical Numbers

Act 1

Mama Who Bore Me.....	Wendla
Mama Who Bore Me (Reprise).....	Wendla & Girls
All That's Known.....	Melchior
The Bitch of Living.....	Moritz, Melchior, & Boys
My Junk.....	Company
Touch Me.....	Company
The Word of Your Body.....	Wendla & Melchior
The Dark I Know Well.....	Martha, Ilse, & Boys
The Word of your Body (Reprise 1).....	Georg & Otto
And Then There Were None.....	Moritz & Boys
The Mirror-Blue Night.....	Melchior & Boys
I Believe.....	Company

Act 2

The Guilty Ones.....	Wendla, Melchior, & Company
Don't Do Sadness.....	Moritz
Blue Wind.....	Ilse
Don't Do Sadness/Blue Wind.....	Moritz & Ilse
Left Behind.....	Melchior & Company
Totally Fucked.....	Melchior & Company
The Word of Your Body (Reprise 2).....	Hanschen, Ernst & Company
Whispering.....	Wendla
Those You've Known.....	Moritz, Wendla, & Melchior
The Song of Purple Summer.....	Ilse & Company

Content and Special Effects Warning

Dry Ice Fog and Haze, Intense Flashing Lights

Trigger Warnings: Acts of Physical Violence and Suicide,
Sexual Content, Language, Abortion, Simulated Masturbation,
Simulated Sexual Intercourse

This production does not present nudity on stage.

Cast

Wendla Bergman.....Giselle Magie
Melchior Gabor.....Christopher Martel-Fauteux
Moritz Stiefel.....Gage Minard

The Girls

Ilse Neumann.....Salma Jurewa
Martha Bessell.....Sarah-May Townsend
Thea.....Madeline Giuliano
Anna.....Elaina Zacharia
Ensemble.....Tianna Bryant, Claire Heida, Sarah Rees, Abby Yates, Madisson Zonta

The Boys

Hanschen.....Neill-Erine Palmaria
Ernst/Ulbrecht.....Joey Harvey
Georg/Dieter.....Devin France
Otto/Reinhold.....Mark Rotil
Ensemble/Rupert.....Noah Meeboer

The Adult Women

Frau Bergman/ Frau Gabor/ Frau Bessel.....Laura Almeida
Fraulein Knuppeldick/ Fraulein Grossebustenhalter..... Jamee Smith

The Adult Men

Herr Sonnenstich/ Herr Neumann/ Herr Rilow/ Herr Stiefel/ Doctor Von Brausepulver/ Schmidt.....Rylie Santo
Headmaster Knochenbruch/Father Kaulbach/Herr Gabor.....Shane Bowley

Restaurant Sponsors



Present a ticket stub or proof of purchase from a Theatre Ancaster production during the run of the show to receive a **10% discount** on in-house dining only, excluding alcohol, takeout and specials.



Creative and Production Team

Director.....	Nupi Gokhale
Choreographer.....	Janessa Pudwell
Music Director.....	Jenn Evans-Laframboise
Producer.....	Riley Genier
Stage Manager.....	Abby Hanna
Assistant Director.....	Rachel Beales
Assistant Vocal Director.....	Hilary Irvine
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Anneula Monchamp

Band	
Conductor.....	Jenn Evans-Laframboise
Piano/Harmonium.....	Phillip Darley
Violin.....	Donna Mahboubi
Viola.....	Sarah Cushnie
Cello.....	Paul Burghardt
Guitar.....	Zain Lapsley
Bass.....	Rebecca Ripco
Drums.....	Ben Culver

Costume Designer.....	Jaida Lapsley
Costume Sewer.....	Lina Alfano
Dance Captain.....	Abby Yates
Director of Programming.....	Sam Frisk
Fight Captain.....	Rachel Beales
Front of House.....	Sandra Gibel (Coordinator), Dianne Collinson (Team Lead), Joan Aird, Vicky Aldersley, Lina Alfano, Linda Campbell, Jack Chan, Liz Chlan, Wendy Cormie, Holly Cramm, Kerri Davren, Sloane Davren, Heidi Edmond, Sherry Elliott, Corinne Ethier, David Ethier, Sheila George, Donna Hamilton, Vidya Kamath, Robin Lane, Kayla Law, Larry Little, Toni Little, Lin Mackrael, Dave Mochrie, Elaine Moore, Margaret Moore, Bob Mutton, Lily Mutton, Colleen Pedersen, Katherine Smith, Gay Stanley, Kameron Stencill-Hahn, Marion Stewart, Emma Tiede, Marion Vanderlinden, Liz Visentin, Roxana Waldes Wice, John Weylie, Rose Wong

Lighting Designer and Operator.....	Bobbie Bryant
Hair & Make-Up.....	Teresa Pupi-Marchionda
Marketing.....	Laura Bottrell, Sam Frisk, Lindsay Jones
Photography.....	Robyn Russell, Gareth Skipp
Playbill.....	Sara Barron
Projection Design.....	Owen Lapsley
Projection Operators.....	Riley Genier, Samuel Ollmann-Chan
Props.....	Jessica Rao
Set Construction.....	Shane Bowley (Head), Chris Muir, Riley Santo, Martin Suichies
Set Design.....	Rachel Beales & Shane Bowley
Set Decoration.....	Marissa Slack (Head), Rachel Beales, Eliza Champion, Joey Harvey, Hilary Irvine, Paige Irvine, Giselle Magie, Gaby Malberg, Chris Martel-Fauteux, Noah Meeboer, Anneula Monchamp, Scarlett Muir, Kailyn Norris, Jessica Rao, Janet Raymond, Sarah Rees, Allison Tavares
Sound Engineer.....	Tristan Bernardi
Spotlight Operators.....	Beau Morrish, William Porter
Stage Crew.....	Eliza Champion, Abby Greenleaf
Transportation.....	Joshua Coulter and JCo Solutions
Videography.....	Avery Fleet, Al Croxall

Special Thanks

Markus Carreiro

Production Mentor

Mark has been working in theatre the majority of his life. Originally an actor on stage with over 90 shows under his belt, he found his true passion behind the scenes. He has worked sound, lighting, back stage crew and he has designed and directed a few shows here and there. Mark has worked in Film and Television as well as for museum displays and traveling shows. He now finds himself working primarily as a Prop Master and a Scenic Artist. He was previously employed at the Shaw festival Theatre heading the Scenic Art department. He currently works as a department head at Sheridan College and teaches Advanced Prop Building in the Technical Theatre Program. His newly discovered passion is inspiring the next generation of prop builders and would-be artists. Nothing beats the feeling of passing along his years of knowledge and tips and tricks.

Michelle Chin

Production Mentor

Michelle has been delighted to serve as a mentor for this marvellous production team. She has volunteered with Theatre Ancaster since 2010 and Dundas Little Theatre since 2019, involved in Set Design, Décor and Decoration for over 30 shows. Welcome to late 19th-century Germany and the world of *Spring Awakening*.

Sarah Dowhun

Lyrical Dance Workshop

Sarah Dowhun-Tompa is a professional dance artist and educator from the GTA. She has received her ballet teaching certification as an Associate of the Cecchetti Society of Canada (ACSC-CICB) and is certified in Conditioning with Imagery and the Progressing Ballet Technique Syllabus. Continuing her studies as well as working extensively within the programs of a number of studios around Ontario has provided Sarah with insight to the fundamentals required by young dancers to dance safely at their various stages of development. Having received her Honours Degree in Dance from York University, Sarah was introduced to a variety of ballet and modern styles and methodologies that have been instrumental in developing her critical eye for technique.

Sarah has worked in the performance industry in numerous films (*Maps to the Stars*, LAN), television programmes (*Reign*, *Warehouse 13*/*Jeff Dimitriou*, *Covert Affairs*, *Murder U*) and music/conceptual videos (Hedley, Shawn Desman/Luther Brown, STIGMA/*Jeff Dimitriou*, *I Gotcha*/*Jeff Dimitriou & Leon Blackwood*, *The Violinist*) as both a featured performer, extra and most recently assistant choreographer. Sarah continues to appear in live stage productions (Hamilton Urban Theatre/Robert Desrosier, Canadian Ballet Youth Ensemble/Vitek Wincenza/The Kiev Ballet, *Bringing Tap Back*/Everett Smith, Inner City Dance Company/Irina Aoucheva, Hamilton FrostBites Festival/*To The Pointe* Dance Project/Alyssa Nedich, Dance Ontario Dance Weekend/Jesse Dell). Recently Sarah was chosen

to be a part of the #IAmStillAnArtist Project , presented by Industry HamOnt, to represent the artists that remain an integral part of the city's arts and culture post-pandemic.

Choreographically, Sarah's work can be seen on stage for various studios and schools, both recreational and competitive, as full time faculty as well as a guest competitive choreographer across the Greater Hamilton/Toronto areas. Sarah also works behind the scenes on set as Assistant Choreographer and Adjudicator on sets and at competitions across Canada. With experience in both the concert and commercial dance worlds, Sarah works to help all dancers she works with, both in studio and on stage, reach their full potential, not only technically, but artistically as well. She is known for her holistic approach to dance education and the importance in fostering the growth of not only the dance but the dancer.

Darcy Stewart

Mic Performance Workshop Leader

Darcy is a professional actor and musical theatre performer based out of Toronto. She has worked in the field professionally for 12 years, both on stage and on screen. Select theatre credits include: *Six* (Mirvish productions), *Mrs. Wormwood* in *Matilda the Musical* (1st National Tour/Mirvish), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Drayton Entertainment), *Priscilla: Queen of the Desert* (Stage West Theatre) *Bend it like Beckham the Musical* (Starvox), *Cha Cha* in *Grease* (Drayton and Irregular Entertainment), *Jukebox Hero* (Ed Mirvish Theatre), *The Heart of Robin Hood* (Mirvish). Select film/tv credits include: *Slo Pitch* (Shaftesbury), *Private Eyes* (Global), *Sensitive Skin* (TMN).

Kit Simmons

Intimacy Coordinator and Fight Director

Kit Simmons (they/them) is an actor, theatre maker, Fight Director and Intimacy Coordinator. They are Queer and Disabled, and always aim to prioritize accessible and power-informed work processes. Recent credits include directing *Bimbos in Space* for Hamilton Fringe - coming to Summerworks for August! You can keep up with them at @impetustheatre and check out their ongoing projects Discocab and Farts Comedy!

Terra Greenhouse Hamilton

Frontier Building Group



Cast



Abby Yates

Ensemble/ Dance Captain

Abby is so excited to be a part of Theatre Ancaster's *Spring Awakening*! She is currently going into her second year at George Brown College for Dance Performance. She has always had a passion for dance and continues to grow as a dancer in her post secondary career. Along with dance, she also has a great love for musical theater and is grateful that this will be her third time in a Theatre Ancaster production after *Oliver!* (Ensemble) and *Pippin* (Ensemble). She has also performed in Ancaster High School's *Mean Girls* (Janis) and *Frozen Jr.* (Young Anna). She would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work putting on an awesome show as well as her family and friends for supporting her in all her artistic endeavors. She hopes you enjoy the show! @y8s.am



Claire Heida

Ensemble

Claire is over the moon to make her Theater Ancaster debut with *Spring Awakening*! Claire began dancing at age 11 and is thrilled to be able to bring her love of dance into this production as an ensemble member! She is currently enrolled at the University of Guelph in the Family Relations and Human Development program and will be entering her third year come fall. Claire is incredibly grateful to the cast and crew of *Spring Awakening* for their kindness, talent, and hard work over the past few months, and she is honoured and humbled to be able to work alongside such wonderful people.



Christopher Martel-Fauteux

Melchior Gabor

Chris (He/Him) could not be more enthused to be joining the Theatre Ancaster community with *Spring Awakening*. He is honoured to be working alongside a passionate and hard working cast and crew of young creatives! A Musical Theatre graduate from ESA and Seneca's Acting for Camera and Voice program, Chris has been studying performance his entire life. He is thrilled to finally be pursuing his truest passion full time: Musical Theatre. In his spare time, he can be found teaching as a cast director at Innovative Arts or, of course, obsessing over *Sondheim*. Select credits include: **Seymour Krelbourne** (*Little Shop of Horrors*), **Man 2** (*Songs for A New World*), **Rapunzel's Prince** (*Into the Woods*), **Crutchie** (*Newsies*), **Rolly** (*Criminal Genius*), **Cliff Bradshaw** (*Cabaret*), **Simon** (*Jesus Christ Superstar*). He hopes the ever-resonant themes of this show strike a disruptive chord, no matter how subtle, against structures and status-quos that still haunt us. He's deeply grateful for the support of his family, his friends, and of course, his partner, Tianna, with whom he's honoured to share the stage for the first time! Talk to me @chris_martel on Instagram!



Devin France

Georg/Dieter

Devin is ecstatic to make his Theatre Ancaster debut this summer! His recent credits include: Reggie/Man #2 in *First Date* (Drury Lane), Mr. Jefferson in *RENT* (Garden City Productions), Brad in *Rocky Horror* (PPT), and Avery in *37 Postcards* (Players Guild). Devin would like to thank his parents (Eric & Sandra), and sisters (Breanne & Danielle) for supporting him, as well as Marissa, Piggy and Letty. A special thank you to Tom Oliver (Voice Concepts) for helping me understand and fall in love with the voice. Instagram @dfrance55



Elaina Zacharia

Anna

Elaina is excited to be making her return to Theatre Ancaster in Spring Awakening. Elaina is very grateful to have been part of some special productions; select credits include: Lumiere, *Beauty and The Beast* (Glendale Secondary School 2023), *4 O'Clock* (NTS Festival 2023 which she wrote, composed music for, directed, and performed in), Ariel, *The Little Mermaid* (GSS 2022), Susan, *Ten Ways To Survive The Zombie Apocalypse* (GSS 2022), and Ensemble/Marty U/S, *Grease* (Penny and Pound Theatre 2022). She would like to thank the cast, crew and creative team for being so welcoming, and to thank her family and friends for lifting her up when she is down. She would like to specially thank her vocal teacher Cydney London-Speers who has helped her grow so much. Check out Elaina's original music on her Youtube or Instagram account!: @elainamusicc



Gage Minard

Moritz Stiefel

Gage is exhilarated to make his Theater Ancaster debut this summer with *Spring Awakening*! Gage is going into his fourth and final year at McMaster University, on track to graduate with a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree. Theater holds a special place in his heart in addition to his visual arts endeavors. He is immensely grateful for the opportunity to return to the stage for the first time since high school; previous credits include: Ensemble (*Cinderella*), Rapunzel's Prince (*Into the Woods*) and Warner (*Legally Blonde*). Gage sends his sincerest gratitude to the cast and crew for their dedicated work and care throughout the entire process as well as to his family and friends for their unwavering love and support - it means the world. He would also like to thank all of those who have taught and mentored him throughout his creative journey, as without their expertise and confidence in his ability, he would not be on stage today. He hopes that this performance resonates with you in a special way, like it does for him. Instagram: @gageminard



Giselle Magie

Wendla Bergman

Giselle is ecstatic to be back at Theatre Ancaster for *Spring Awakening*! Currently going into her third year at Sheridan for Musical Theatre Performance, her passion for the arts began in children's acting classes and now ranges from aerial arts, violin, trumpet, RCM classical vocals, and dance styles such as jazz, tap, ballet, and contemporary. Select credits include Sally Bowles (*Cabaret*), Puck (*Midsummer Night's Dream*), Gingy (*Shrek the Musical*), Jellylorum (*Cats*), The Acrobat (*Matilda*), Ali (*Mamma Mia*), Melinda (*Inherit The Wind*), Dance Ensemble (*Legally Blonde*), Sally (*The Day They Shot John Lennon*), and Sally Simpson (*The Who's Tommy*). Giselle would like to thank the entire cast and crew for all their hard work and support. She also pays gratitude to her family and friends for all their constant inspiration and support. She'd like to especially thank the audience for coming to see such a special show. Let's stay in touch! Instagram: @giselle.nora



Jamee Smith

Fraulein Knuppeldick/ Fraulein Grossbustenhalter

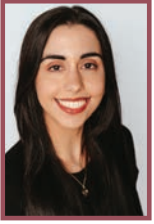
Jamee is excited to be back in her third production with the Conservatory Company! She's incredibly grateful that she has been able to find a great work/life balance with this year's production of *Spring Awakening* and is excited to share the stage with such talented people. Her latest credits include *RENT* (Ensemble) and *Cabaret* (Fritzie). She'd like to thank her mom for coming to every concert and show she's in.



Joey Harvey

Ernst/Ulbrecht

Joey (He/Him) is thrilled to be performing *Spring Awakening* alongside this very talented cast and crew. Some favorite previous credits include: *Spongebob* in *Spongebob The Musical*, Herr Schultz in *Cabaret*, (SLC Music Theatre); Benny in *RENT* (Theatre Ancaster); George in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and Pinocchio in *Shrek the Musical* (Burloak Theatre Group). Joey is a recent graduate of the St Lawrence College Music Theater Performance program and is moving on to studying music and drama at Queens University next year. Joey would like to thank the cast, crew and creative team for their incredible work putting this show together, and his family and friends for their endless support and encouragement. Enjoy the show!



Laura Almeida

Frau Bergman/Frau Gabor/ Frau Bessel

Laura Almeida (she/her) is thrilled to perform in her second Theatre Ancaster production with *Spring Awakening*. A Brantford resident and avid lover of theatre and music, Laura has performed in plays, musicals, and vocal ensembles throughout Brantford, Burlington, Kitchener, and Toronto. A few favourite roles have included Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret* (Theatre Ancaster), Linda in *Evil Dead the Musical* (MAVIS Productions), Jordan Baker in *The Great Gatsby* (Brant Theatre Workshops), and a Bride of Dracula in *Dracula, a Love Story* (Brant Theatre Workshops). She is also a proud member of Burlington's Myriad Ensemble (Soprano 2). When not performing, Laura is a full time policy wonk (i.e. dork) who reads legislation for fun. Laura would like to thank her friends and family for their love and support.



Madeline Giuliano

Thea

Madeline is absolutely thrilled to be joining the Theatre Ancaster family for the first time! She will be entering her second year at Sheridan College in the Honours Bachelor of Music Theatre Performance this September. She is a graduate of Unionville High School's Arts Unionville Drama program, and is trained in classical voice, as well as tap, ballet and jazz. Some select credits from 2022-2023 include Heather McNamara, *Heathers* (Marquee Theatrical Productions), *Shakespeare, Something Rotten* (Unionville High School), Devon, *TomorrowLove* (Unionville High School), and both writing and originating the role of The Fighter, *The Last Roll* (2023 NTS Festival finalists), as well as directing her school's competitive Show Choir team. Madeline would like to thank the entire cast and crew for being so warm and welcoming and her family for letting her borrow a car to drive from Markham to Ancaster three times a week! @madziecake



Madisson Zonta

Ensemble

Madisson is ecstatic to be joining Theatre Ancaster for the first time for *Spring Awakening*! She is currently going into her fourth year of McMaster University's Honours Life Sciences program, and is on track to attend graduate school next year. She was a competitive dancer and attended Glendale Secondary School for the Audition-Based Program of the Arts as a Dance Major, where she took part in many productions. Some of these credits include Aerialist (*Tempest*), Ensemble (*Cinderella*), Dance Ensemble (*Peter and the Wolf*), Lucinda (*Into the Woods*), and Brooke Wyndhyrn (*Legally Blonde*). Madisson would like to send a huge thank you to the cast and crew for being so welcoming and supportive and for being so hard working and dedicated throughout the entire process. She would also like to thank all of her teachers, coaches, family, and friends who have helped her grow into the performer she is today. She would finally like to thank everyone who came to see this incredible show! Instagram: @madiezonta



Mark Rotil
Otto/Reinhold

Mark is honored to join Theatre Ancaster's Production of *Spring Awakening*. A Graduate of the St. Clair College Music Theatre Program, Mark has performed in various venues from Windsor to Prince Edward County. On Fridays and Saturdays you can find him at Stagecoach Hamilton as an Acting and Dance coach. He has also had an opportunity to perform a comedy routine at Second City Toronto. Select credits include Originating the role of AD (*The Book of Esther*), Paul (*A Chorus Line*), Angel Dumant Schunard (*RENT*), Brit (*We Will Rock You*) and most recently played various characters as Man #1 in Drury Lane's production of *First Date*. Mark would like to thank his friends, family, and the cast and creative team at Theatre Ancaster. He would also like to give a shout out to his partner, Laura, for her unwavering support. @markrotil



Neill-Erine Palmaria
Hanschen

Neill-Erine(they/them) is a born and raised Calgarian. Graduating from Central Memorial's Performing and Visual Arts Program, they currently attend Sheridan College for Musical Theatre Performance. Select credits include: *Ginny And Georgia* (Netflix), *Gen V* (Amazon Prime), *Legally Blonde*, *Spongebob the Musical*, *The Theory of Relativity* (Storybook Theatre), *A Chorus Line* (Clarkson Musical Theatre), and *An Incomplete List* (The Makers Ensemble). Neill-Erine would love to shout-out their lovely friends for supporting them through these last few months. Love you Annelise, Giselle, Luca, Ella, Dani & Isaac!



Noah Meeboer
Ensemble/ Rupert

Noah is very excited to take part in his first Theatre Ancaster production, *Spring Awakening*! Noah is a student studying Human Geography and Sociology at the University of Toronto, but has trained in various art forms since his childhood, such as: instrumental music with a focus in low brass for wind ensembles, composition and arranging, show choir, and musical theatre. Some of his most recent credits in musical theatre include: Billy Nolan (*Carrie: The Musical*), Billy Flynn (*Chicago*), Ren McCormack (*Footloose: The Musical*), Cheshire Cat (*Alice in Wonderland*), Curtis (*Sister Act: The Musical*), and Perch Perkins & Ensemble (*SpongeBob SquarePants: The Musical*). Noah would like to thank the creative team for putting together this show, the cast for being so welcoming and kind, and his family, friends, and teachers for always encouraging him to pursue his passions. He would also like to thank the audience and he hopes that you fall in love with the show just as he did! You can find more of Noah on his Instagram, @noahmeeboer



Rylie Santo

Herr Sonnenstitch/ Herr Neumann/ Herr Rilow/ Herr Stiefel/ Doctor Von Brausepulver/ Schmidt

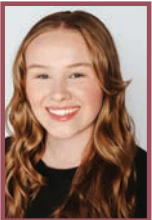
Rylie (He/Him) is very excited to be a part of Theatre Ancaster's production of *Spring Awakening*! He is ecstatic to be getting to work with such a talented and dedicated cast and crew and is grateful for the opportunities he's been given and the people he gets to work with everyday. He would like to thank his friends and family for their support throughout the show process.



Salma Jurewa

Ilse Neumann

Salma Jurewa is incredibly honoured to join Theatre Ancaster for the first time in *Spring Awakening*! She wants to thank the entire cast, crew, and production team for welcoming her into a new theatre environment with open arms, as she previously was a committed member of McMaster Musical Theatre. Her most recent credits include *Witch (Into the Woods)*, *Rizzo (Grease)*, and *Don (A Chorus Line)*. She has also recently graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Science in Biology Research from McMaster University. She thanks all her friends and family for supporting her in both her academic and theatrical pursuits! @salmajurewa



Sarah Rees

Ensemble

Sarah Rees is ecstatic to rejoin Theatre Ancaster for *Spring Awakening*! Sarah got her start with Theatre Ancaster as a member of the Ensemble during *Oliver*! She continued to follow her passion to university where she is studying Theatre at Dalhousie University. She has previously appeared as Michael in *Mary Poppins* and the Parrot/Messenger/Doctor/Ensemble in *Little Women* with Dalhousie. She is grateful to be in Ontario this summer to take part in this show and is grateful to her friends and family in Ontario and on the East Coast for all their support! @sarahrees13



Sarah-May Townsend

Martha Bessell

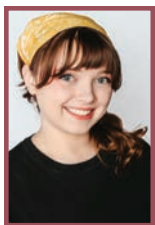
Sarah-May is joyous to be joining Theatre Ancaster this summer for their run of *Spring Awakening*! Sarah-May's passion for live performance started as early as her preteen years when she began singing for any and all upcoming assemblies. She continued to grow that passion; training at a post-secondary level in the performing arts (theatre, musical theatre, and film/tv). A few credits in the last year include: beginning her first season of *Glee Social*, Janet Weiss (*The Rocky Horror Picture Show*), Sally Bowles (*Cabaret*), Ensemble (*Legally Blonde*), two short films and a commercial. She is grateful to her parents, the rest of her family, and her close friends for their unwavering support, encouragement, and love. @sarahmaytownsend



Shane Bowley

Headmaster Knechenbruch/ Father Kaulbach/ Herr Gabor/ Carpenter

Shane is a full-time carpenter/project manager and local band (Down For Anything) front man. He is a passionate and versatile member of the Conservatory Company. He began his journey with us as Roger in Conservatory's - year one - electrifying production of *RENT*. His talents then shone behind the scenes as the Lead Carpenter and Set Constructor for last year's rendition of *Cabaret*. This year, Shane is thrilled to step onto the stage once more, taking on the multifaceted role of Several Adult Men in our current production. Additionally, he is beyond excited to bring his creative vision to life as the designer and carpenter for this year's set. Shane aspires to craft an immersive environment that seamlessly draws you into the world our actors bring to life, allowing you to experience the show's themes on a profoundly intimate level.



Tianna Bryant

Ensemble

Tianna (They/Them) is very excited to be making their Theatre Ancaster debut with *Spring Awakening*! Having trained at the Ontario Conservatory of Music, Tianna recently graduated from Seneca's Acting for Camera and Voice program and is now working as a Princess Entertainer at Bibbity Bobbity Princess Parties. Previous credits include Lucilla (*Anne of Green Gables*), Doris (*Unity 1918*), Shirley (*Criminal Genius*), and Lisa (*Key Exchange*). Tianna is over the moon to be adding *Spring Awakening* to their stage experience and wants to thank the cast, crew and audience for this amazing collaborative opportunity. They hope you enjoy the show! ig: @the_kingdom_of_sam

Help Us Shine

Your donation helps us create the magic of theatre for everyone.

Theatre Ancaster is a not-for-profit and registered charitable organization. Your generous donations support our mission to present high quality community theatre and educate performers of all ages.

Donation Levels

Supporters: \$1-\$99

Superstars: \$500-\$999

Friends: \$100-\$249

Showstoppers: \$1000-\$2999

Stars: \$250-\$499

Theatre Ancaster
Ambassadors: \$3000+

Donations of \$100+ will be recognized in our printed show playbills for 12 months.

*Donations of \$20+ receive a tax receipt



SCAN
ME!



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

We are immensely grateful for the generosity of our donors. Your donations support our not-for-profit, charitable organization in its mission to create high quality community theatre and educate performers of all ages. Donors listed here have contributed over the last 12 months. If you're interested in supporting the magic of theatre, visit www.theatreancaster.com/donate or simply scan the QR code on this page.

Special thanks to The Desnoyers Family for their ongoing generous support!

Showstoppers (\$1000-\$2999)

Joanne Baker and Gord Conroy
Fred and Arlene Bennick
Craig Brookhouse
Jack DiSalvia (Jaden Printing)
Terry and Susan Harvey
Doris and Doug Holder
Diane Sandler and Dr. William Nisker

Superstars (\$500-\$999)

Joan Aird
Al and Krys Croxall

Friends (\$100-\$249)

Diane Knyf
David Reed

Stars (\$250-\$499)

Margot Burnell
Bryan and Laura Hustler
Porter Family
Katie Smith



Donate Now





Abby Hanna
Stage Manager

After performing on stage with the Conservatory Company for the past two years, Abby is thrilled to be stage managing *Spring Awakening* this year. She has performed extensively on stage, enjoys helping out on the backstage side of things, and has the privilege of teaching the arts at summer camp. Abby attends McMaster University and is going into her fourth year of the Integrated Science program. She is so proud of everything this team has accomplished and would like to thank her friends and family for their continued encouragement and support.



Anneula Monchamp
Assistant Stage Manager

Anneula is delighted to be returning to the Conservatory Company for her second year! Anneula began her Theatre Ancaster career as a student in the ArtSMART Program where she worked both on and off stage for 3 years. She is now furthering her backstage education in Sheridan College's Technical Production program. Anneula is endlessly grateful to the teachers, mentors, and friends she has made through her time in theatre and thanks them for their constant support and encouragement! Enjoy the show!



Bobbie Bryant
Lighting Designer & Operator

Bobbie is honoured to design the lighting for this production of *Spring Awakening* at Theatre Ancaster. He has been involved with Theatre Ancaster since 2016, operating spotlights and running lights during performances, and has been fortunate enough to branch into designing lighting for shows. He has designed lighting for several Theatre Ancaster productions, including ArtSMART's *High School Musical* (2024), *GLEE* (2023, 2024), *The Full Monty* (2023), and *Here on the Flight Path* (2023). He is a graduate of the Technical Production for the Performing Arts Industry program at Sheridan College. He would like to thank the Theatre Ancaster staff who allow him to keep doing this. Designing lighting and working on shows is one of his favourite things in the world, and there's nowhere he'd rather do it!



Hilary Irvine
Assistant Music Director

Hilary is excited to step into a new role as Assistant Vocal Director. Having graduated in 2023 with an Honours BMus in Voice Performance, she is eager to learn more about the behind-the-scenes aspects of vocal directing a musical. Hilary is going into her final year at Western University Faculty of Education to become a music teacher. She has been involved with Theatre Ancaster for many years, both on stage and off and is honoured to be part of such an important musical. Congratulations to everyone involved. You rocked this Purple Summer!



Jaida Lapsley
Costume Designer

Jaida Lapsley is a costume designer and multidisciplinary theatre creator who has worked professionally in Ontario and Nova Scotia. She grew up locally in Ancaster and has worked and studied with Theatre Ancaster since childhood. A recent graduate of Dalhousie University's Costume Studies program, she has worked in all areas of costume design, creation, and maintenance, as well as producing, directing, stage managing, prop building, and stage design. She is excited to be getting back to her Theatre Ancaster roots this summer with *Spring Awakening*. Theatre is her happy place and she is so glad to be home working with so many amazing performers and creators this summer! Recent costume credits include *RENT* (Theatre Ancaster), *Finding Nemo JR.* (Theatre Ancaster), *Little Women* (Neptune Theatre), and *Hamlet* (Shakespeare By The Sea).



Janessa Pudwell
Choreographer

Janessa is a dancer, choreographer and teacher working out of Hamilton and the GTA. She has devoted her life to training extensively in a variety of styles including contemporary, jazz, ballet, tap, modern and street dance styles such as hip hop, popping, locking and house. Janessa was a featured choreographer for Toronto's Nuit Rose Festival and Hamilton's Art Crawl Festival and received Hamilton's Emerging Dance Artist Award in 2020. She is always looking for new ways to create and evolve her artistry. She co-founded a small production company that went on to produce the short film "Moment Between 8 & 1", which won the independent short film category for the Hamilton Arts Awards in 2021. Janessa co-founded the dance company RxD in 2023, which has gone on to perform and compete around Ontario and Quebec. Her passion for dance, music and art are undeniable. She hopes to inspire the generations after her to be fearless in their creation and expression. This is her third season with the Conservatory Company, and she is proud to be a part of such a talented group of artists.



Jennifer Evans-Laframboise
Music Director/Conductor

Jenn is thrilled to be returning to the creative team for the third Conservatory Company season with *Spring Awakening*, having previously performed in and been part of the creative teams of many TA shows. Jenn is currently an educator with the HWDSB Programs of the Arts at Glendale Secondary School in the Vocal Music and Musical Theatre programs. Jenn would like to thank Mark and Mom for their patience, support, and love, and the cast, crew, and team of *Spring* for their amazing efforts and energy! I Believe you have all made our Purple Summer together pass faster than Blue Wind. While we Don't Do Sadness, know that the Whispering of your beautiful work will always be Left Behind.



Jessica Rao *Props Master*

Jessica is so excited to be joining Theatre Ancaster as Props Master for *Spring Awakening*. She grew up performing in various local theatre productions, and went on to graduate from Sheridan College's Bachelor of Film and Television program. Jessica has worked in the art department on numerous films and commercials, and is excited to make her props debut in the theatre world. She would like to give a special thank you to her Uncle Rocco and Uncle Tony, for continually supporting her and pushing her to achieve her dreams!



Marissa Slack *Set Decorator*

Marissa Slack is a multidisciplinary artist and oil painter from Hamilton, Ontario. She is delighted to make her debut in theatre as the Set Decorator for Theatre Ancaster's production of *Spring Awakening*. She is in her final year of pursuing her BFA in Studio Arts Honours Specialization at the University of Western Ontario. Marissa has been featured in a number of publications and group exhibitions in London and Hamilton, including notable shows *Conversation Pit* (486 Barton Gallery), *Sincerely* (ArtLab Gallery), and magazine *Linger* (Iconoclast Collective). Specializing in painting colourfully moody and enigmatic scenes, her research and practice are informed by the Baroque movement and its contemporary interpretations, as well as European impressionism and expressionism. Central themes within her work involve youth, morality, identity, and desire, all which translate into the bold and angsty narratives of *Spring Awakening*.



Nupi Gokhale *Director*

Nupi has been involved with Theatre Ancaster as a performer, choreographer, director and producer for 25 years. On the Board of Directors, she has held the positions of Youth Programming Director, Vice-President, President for 10 years and is currently the Past President. Favourite directing credits include *Cabaret*, *RENT*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Shrek*. She continues to be in awe of the talented community volunteers that are the lifeblood of Theatre Ancaster. From Jitterbugs (ages 4-6) to Conservatory (18-29), Nupi is most proud of her role in developing sustainable community programming for artists of all ages! Nupi is currently a school administrator with the HWDSB. Nupi's love of theatre and education allowed her to build both careers simultaneously. She sends a proud mama shout-out to the kids she 'bore' (Zain, Jaida, Owen) and other people's children who she has had the pleasure to work with artistically, over decades, watching them 'bloom' into the amazing performers and producers of theatre they have become. She couldn't do any of this without her husband Chris, always her rock, and the artistic, collaborative and kind creative team behind the success of the Conservatory Company!



Rachel Beales

Assistant Director

Rachel is thrilled to be joining the Conservatory Company in the role of Assistant Director for *Spring Awakening*. A theatre educator based in Hamilton, Rachel holds a BFA Spec.Hons in Theatre Production and Design from York University and a BEd from Queen's University's Artist in Education program. Rachel has experience in many areas of theatre including performance, stage management and costume design but finds the most fulfillment in mentoring, directing and teaching the unique joy of theatre to young artists. As an educator, she has worked with school and community groups across Canada including Theatre Ancaster, The Living Arts Centre, Mentor College, British Columbia School District #69, Canadian Stage and Hamilton Conservatory of the Arts. In 2020, she co-founded Young Artists' Theatre in Burlington where she proudly continues to develop the next generation of theatre kids. This is her first production with Theatre Ancaster and she is grateful to collaborate with a team of extraordinary talents. She is inspired by the profound themes of *Spring Awakening* that continue to resonate deeply with our audience and society at large.



Riley Genier

Producer

Riley is excited to make their producing debut with the Conservatory Company. They have worked with the Theatre Ancaster and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board partnership program, ArtSMART, for two years as the Music Director (*Seussical 2023* and *High School Musical 2024*). Riley works as a secondary teacher with the HWDSB. They completed a B.Ed from Nipissing University in 2022 and a B.Mus (Hon.) at McMaster University in 2020. They enjoy playing flute in community bands in their free time and studied under the studios of Samantha Crouch, Suzanne Shulman, and David Gerry. Riley would like to thank the Theatre Ancaster community for opening its arms in a way that has helped foster a new-found passion for theatrical arts as well as their family and friends for always supporting new adventures.



Teresa Pupi-Marchionda

Head of Hair and Makeup

Teresa is a dedicated hairstylist and educator with a passion for the art of hairdressing. In *Spring Awakening* she is challenged to infuse a punk, rebellious look with a 19th century German aesthetic. With years of experience in the industry she not only excels at creating stunning hairstyles but also shares her expertise as a teacher in HWDSB, inspiring the next generation of hairstylists at the high school level. She is thrilled to work on her first theatre production with Theatre Ancaster and hopes you enjoy the show.



Tristan Bernardi

Sound Designer/Operator

Tristan has been working with Theatre Ancaster since 2009 and is happy to return to work on *Spring Awakening*. Recent productions with Theatre Ancaster include *British Invasion*, *The Full Monty*, *Legally Blonde*, and *The Music of Motown*.

Spring Awakening

Book & Lyrics by Steven Sater
Music by Duncan Sheik

Based on the play by Frank Wedekind

Original Broadway Production Produced by IRA PITTELMAN, TOM HULCE, JEFFREY RICHARDS, JERRY FRANKEL, ATLANTIC THEATER COMPANY, Jeffrey Sine, Freddy DeMann, Max Cooper, Mort Sinsky/Cindy and Jay Gutterman/Joe McGinnis/Judith Ann Abrams, ZenDog Productions/Carjac Productions, Aron Bergson Productions/Jennifer Manocherian/Ted Snowdon, Harold Thau/Terry Schnuck/Cold Spring Productions, Amanda Dubois/Elizabeth Erynnon Wetherell, Jennifer Maloney/Tamara Tunie/Joe Cilibrasi/StyleFour Productions.

The world premiere of "SPRING AWAKENING" was produced by Atlantic Theater Company arrangement with Tom Hulce & Ira Pittelman.

Orchestrations
Duncan Sheik

Vocal Arrangements
AnnMarie Milazzo

String Orchestrations
Simon Hale

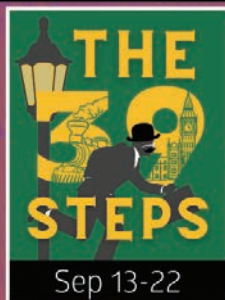
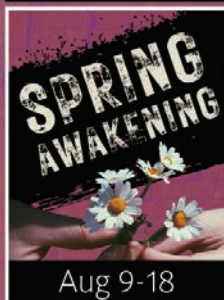
Steven Sater (Book and lyrics) was awarded the 2007 Tony Awards for Best Book of a Musical and Best Original Score for *Spring Awakening* along with the Drama Desk and Outer Critic Circle Awards for Best Lyrics. With alt-rockers Duncan Sheik, he received the 2007 Grammy Award for Best Musical Show Album for *Spring Awakening*. In addition, the two received the Dramatists Guild Hull-Warriner Award, the Outer Critics Circle, the Drama Desk, the Lucille Lortel, New York Drama Critics' Circle, and Drama League Awards for Best Musical. Steven is the author of numerous plays, including the long-running *Carbondale Dreams*, *Perfect for You*, *Doll* (the Rosenthal Prize, Cincinnati Playhouse); *Umbrage* (Steppenwolf New Play Prize); *A Footnote to the Iliad* (New York Stage and Film, The Miniature Theatre of Chester); *Asylum* (Naked Angels); *Murder at the Gates* (commissioned by Eye of the Storm); *In Search of Lost Wings* (Sanford Meisner Theater) and a reconceived version of Shakespeare's *Tempest*, with music by Laurie Anderson, which played London's Lyric Hammersmith and toured throughout Great Britain. In addition to *Spring Awakening*, Sater has collaborated with Sheik on the NY premiere of *Umbrage* (HERE), *Nero* (The Magic Theatre, workshopped at the New York Shakespeare Festival and New York Stage & Film), and *The Nightingale* (workshopped at the O'Neill Musical Theatre Conference, La Jolla Playhouse, A.C.T., and New York Theater Workshop). He is also hard at work with System of a Down's Serj Tankian on a musical version of *Prometheus Bound*, to be directed by Dian Paulus at the American Repertory Theater. Sater is the lyricist for Sheik's critically acclaimed album *Phantom Moon* (Nonesuch), and together the two wrote the songs for Michael Mayer's feature film *A Home at the End of the World* (Warner Classics) as well as the independent features *Brother's Shadow* and Mary Stuart Masterson's *The Cake Eaters*. Sater is also co-creator and executive producer, with Paul Reiser, of recent pilots for both NBC and Sony/FX, and has developed two projects for HBO, and another for Showtime (with Reiser). He is also at work, with Jessie Nelson, on a feature film and is creating an original movie musical for producer Larry Mark. In addition, Steven works as a lyricist with various composers in the pop/rock world- recently writing songs with Burt Bacharach, Johnny Mandel, Andreas Carlsson, and William Joseph.

Duncan Sheik (Music). In addition to writing the music for *Spring Awakening* (2007 Tony Awards for "Best Orchestration" and "Best Original Score", 2008 Grammy Award for "Best Musical Show Album"), Sheik's other theater credits include: *Nero* (Another Golden Rome) (currently in development), *The Nightingale* (currently in development), *Whisper House* (currently in development). Recorded works include: *Whisper House* (Sony/Victor 2009), *White Limousine* (Rounder 2006), *Daylight* (Atlantic Records 2002), *Phantom Moon* (Nonesuch 2001), *Humming* (Atlantic Records 1998). Duncan Producer Credits include: Holly Brook (forthcoming CD 2009), Micah Green (2008), *Spring Awakening* Original Cast Album (Universal 2007) and Chris Garneau (2006).

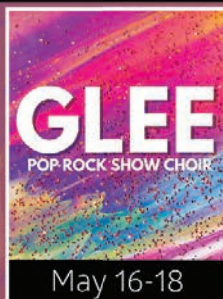
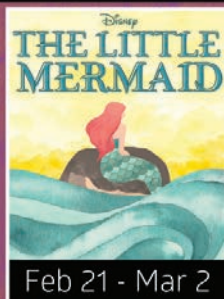
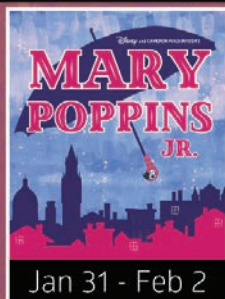
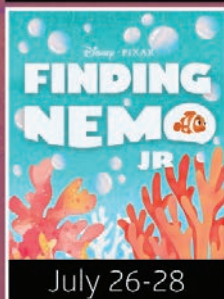
AnnMarie Milazzo. (Vocal Arrangements) Composer/lyricist: *Pretty Dead Girl*, Sundance Film Festival. Vocal arranger: Broadway productions of *Spring Awakening* and *Next to Normal*. *Bright Lights*, *Big City* at The New York Theater Workshop, and the Paramount feature film, *The Marc Pease Experience*. AnnMarie is a Grammy nominated singer from the East Village Opera Company on Universal/Decca

Simon Hale (String Orchestrations). After graduating from the University of London with an honors degree in composition, Simon Hale's acclaimed solo album, *East Fifteen*, led to recordings with many artists, including George Benson, Simply Red, Jamiroquai and Björk. In 1996 he orchestrated Duncan Sheik's first album, and their musical collaboration has continued ever since. Simon's involvement with *Spring Awakening* marked his Broadway debut and the Tony Award for Best Orchestrations in 2007. He continues to work with Steven Sater and Duncan Sheik on other projects. For more information please visit www.simonhale.co.uk.

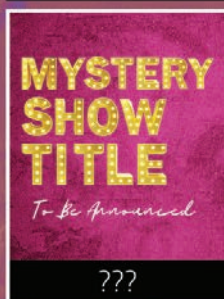
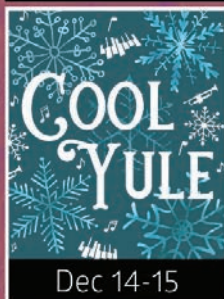
Mainstage Series



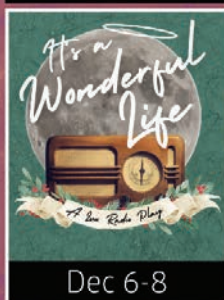
Youth Series



Choral Series



Benefit



Theatre Ancaster
2024|2025 Season

TheatreAncaster.com

