

# PLAYBILL

Juneau Ghost Light Theatre



**JUNEAU GHOST LIGHT THEATRE**  
presents



# PEEFIS

by  
**Matt Cox**

— OR —  
**SEVEN INCREASINGLY EVENTFUL YEARS  
AT A CERTAIN SCHOOL OF MAGIC AND MAGIC**

**FEB. 17 - MAR. 5**  
**THUNDER MOUNTAIN AUDITORIUM**

## Meet the Puffs

Jacque Boucher..... Sally Perks, Bippy, Dragon, et al.  
Wendy Byrnes..... Megan Jones  
Becca Gaguine..... Olive Rivers  
Rachel Iafolla..... Susie Bones, Harry, Myrtle, et al.  
Val Kissel..... Narrator  
Hetty LaVerne..... Hannah, Xavia, 1<sup>st</sup> Headmaster, Professors, et al.  
Roman Mahanyu..... Wayne Hopkins  
Joshua Midgett..... J. Finch, Viktor, Zach Smith, Fat Friar, Neville, et al.  
Nomi Saxton..... Ernie Mac, 2<sup>nd</sup> Headmaster, Professors, et al.  
Sarah Wallace..... Leanne, Ginny, Frenchy, et al.  
Ty Yamaoka..... Cedric, Voldy, et al.

## Meet the Production Team

Richard Carter..... Director  
Kirsia Hughes-Skandijs..... Stage Manager  
Grace Lee..... Producer  
Jeffrey Thole..... Set Builder

Props and costumes for this show were a collaborative effort by: Richard Carter, Max Rosen, Nomi Saxton, Grace Lee, Rachel Iafolla, Hetty LaVerne, Ty Yamaoka

Original Music Composed by Brian Metolius

Sound Design by Matt Cox

## A special thank you for your help and support!

Bo Anderson	Max Rosen	Stefan Estonilo
Tahir McInnis	Sukkat Shalom	Bryan Crowder
Melissa Hill	Gene Hickey	Cam Byrnes

# About Juneau Ghost Light Theatre (JGLT)

Juneau Ghost Light Theatre is Juneau Alaska's oldest theatre, established in 1961. Our long tradition continues with vision for community theatre in Juneau. The ghost light has a rich history in the theatre world. It is surrounded by superstition, but its grounded purpose is to be a safety light for artists when the theatre is dark.

JGLT is a diverse and friendly theatre company. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members and partners. And we strive to bring shows to Juneau that are engaging, fun, and thoughtful.

Being a member is a huge way to support the growth of our theatre. You can donate to JGLT by visiting our website at [JuneauGhostLight.com](http://JuneauGhostLight.com).

## *A note from the director*

To our audiences, subscribers, and followers far and wide:

It is important for me to convey that our approach to this production is one of diversity, inclusion, and love. The Puffs are the underdogs -- they are the unseen and uncelebrated heroes. My goal in bringing this show to Juneau is to highlight the valuable qualities of this group of underrepresented students, to laugh, to cry, and to just have a good time casting some magic!

Our audiences will inevitably associate this show with a certain series of books by an author who has done things to harm the trans community. The Puffs production team and the Board of Juneau Ghost Light Theatre stand staunchly opposed to such hateful bigotry and we want to make it clear that this show is in no way affiliated with said author.

To our beloved trans family and friends and LGBTQIA+ community, we hope to share the magic of this show with you and to provide resources and a safe place for anyone standing up to the bullies of the world.

With love,

Richard



# Gender Support Group

For youth ages 12-19

Facilitated by Koru Counseling

Every 3rd Thursday from 5-6pm  
at the Zach Gordon Youth Center  
Registration is required

For more information, please contact Margie Thomson  
at [korucounseling@gmail.com](mailto:korucounseling@gmail.com) or Ty Shae at  
[ty.shae@juneau.org](mailto:ty.shae@juneau.org) or call the ZGYC at 586-2635.

## ***Koru Counseling***

Margie Thomson, LCSW  
She/Her/Hers  
[korucounseling@gmail.com](mailto:korucounseling@gmail.com)

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## JACQUE BOUCHER | Smart

Jacqueline (she/they) is a writer and educator. Having dipped her toe back into performance with 2022's MixCast, she is returning to the stage for the first time in a decade, having decided that she needed some enrichment (silly voices) in her enclosure (Juneau in the winter). She is beyond grateful to JGLT, the Puffs, and her brother, Tracey, for this opportunity to learn and play.

## WENDY BYRNES | Brave

Wendy Byrnes, while having many Puff tendencies, is truly a Brave at heart. She's been performing in Juneau throughout her entire life and is thrilled to be working with Juneau Ghost Light Theatre for this production of *Puffs*. Her past work with JGLT includes MixCast in 2019, 2022, and 2023, as well as Spellbound Cabaret last October. She holds a Bachelors of Vocal Performance from Pacific Lutheran University, as well as a Masters of Arts and Teaching, for which she credits much of her comfort with public speaking and performing arts. Some favorite roles in Juneau productions include Rosalia in *West Side Story* with The Orpheus Project (2017), Antonia in Juneau Lyric Opera's *Man of La Mancha* (2016), and La Messagiera/The River in The Orpheus Project's 2020 production of *Alcina*. When not performing, she is usually teaching, skiing at Eaglecrest, or reading a good book. She would like to thank her family for their consistent support and encouragement, her dog, Benji, for providing excellent post-rehearsal snuggles, and this phenomenal and supportive cast for putting together such a creative and fun show.

## REBECCA GAGUINE | Puff

Becca (she/her) is thrilled to be breaking her 10-year theatre dry spell with Puffs! Born and raised in Juneau, Becca remembers playing the Alien in her 4th grade thanksgiving play and never shook the theatre bug! Her acting credits include a few JDHS productions: *The Wizard of OZ*, *The Man who Came to Dinner*, and *Damn Yankees*. Becca attended the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities to get her BA in Theatre where she got the opportunity to be a part of many different shows. Previous Juneau shows include *Cyrano* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Theatre in the Rough. Becca is forever grateful for the support and love of her family and friends. Her saintly husband Karl took on the lion share of caring for their children, Lilah and Benji, who also bravely forwent many bedtime cuddles so that their mom could have fun pretending a few nights a week.

## RACHEL IAFOLLA | Snake

Rachel (she/her) has been waiting for this show to happen for what feels like an eternity and even put off grad school to be in it. Priorities. She would say she is a Snake or Brave rising (depends on the day), Smart sun, and Puff moon. You may recognize her for her performances in JGLT's MixCast ('22 and '23) and Spellbound Cabaret, or as drag king, Oliver Garden. You definitely won't recognize her for her performance as Éponine in *Les Misérables*, Little Sally in *Urinetown* or Maureen in *RENT*, among others, because she did those in high school and didn't live here. Rachel gives endless thanks to everyone who has supported her and JGLT during this magical endeavor (including, YOU, audience member!), and wants to remind everyone that they are always welcome among the Puffs.

## **VALORIE KISSEL** | Puff

Valorie (she/her) is such a Puff. She was last seen in Juneau running through the forest in Theatre Alaska's *Midsummer Night's Dream* as Helena and can be found next trodding the boards with Perseverance's production of *Little Women* as Hannah in April. She's eternally grateful to this magical cast & crew & community (yeah, that's YOU! Thanks for making theatre possible!) and is sending extra special thanks to the Michael Chekhov School, her mom & dad & brother, Em, CVSB, and TCM for their unceasing love & support! Enjoy the show!!!

## **HETTY LAVERNE** | Puff

Hetty (she/her) is so grateful to see this show come together after years of it being in JGLT limbo. Hetty delights in doing voices and playing silly characters, so this show has been a thrill. She was previously seen in Perseverance Theatre's *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Odd Couple*, JGLT's *Women Playing Hamlet*, and most of the Gold Town Nickelodeon's Live Reads. She directed JGLT's *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Women Playing Hamlet*, and *5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche*. Hetty is also a Puff offstage and is happy with that. She is a dog mom more than anything and wants you all to know that Davy is wonderful and a good boy. She'd like to dedicate her performance in this show to her momma and Grandma Pat.

## **ROMAN MAHANYU** | Brave

Roman (he/him) was born in hot Las Vegas and moved to Juneau in 2013 when he was nine to live with his mother. Roman went to Juneau-Douglas High School where, as a freshman, he had his very first role in *Bye Bye Birdie* – and he loved every moment of it. Roman continued to be a part of many JDHS productions, such as: *Elf the Musical*, *Clue*, *Fame*, and *High School Musical* (which was his last show before graduating!). Roman would like to give special thanks to his friends and family for their encouragement and constant support!

## **JOSHUA MIDGETT** | Snake

Joshua (he/him) has had the pleasure of performing with JGLT in *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. You may have also spotted him in Theater Alaska's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Theatre in the Rough's *Much Ado About Nothing*, or you could have even heard him in JGLT's Radio Play *Sherlock Holmes*. He is excited to finally put his long car ride game of reading road signs in random accents to use by playing 87.2 roles in a singular silly play. Much gratitude to a certain batch of hot dogs, a special lobster among them, and to all his friends, family, and fellow fanfarons.

## **NOMI SAXTON** | Smart

Nomi (he/him) was last seen (heard) as Van Helsing in JGLT's radio play, *Dracula*, and as William Barfee in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. He has also performed in the Destiny Players production of *The Little Mermaid*; *Kiss Me, Kate*; *Romeo and Juliet*; *Faerie Home Companion*; and (Justin Sayre's adaptation of) Bellini's *Norma*. Special thanks to Max Rosen, Cordelia, and Wesley Wyndam-Pryce for all their love and support.

### **SARAH WALLACE** | Puff

Sarah (she/her) is very excited to be in her first production with Juneau Ghost Light Theatre. Sarah has lived in Juneau for 5 years and worked with multiple local theaters as a stage manager and production manager. This is the first time Sarah will be onstage in 10 years. She would like to thank Richard and the rest of Puffs crew for being so supportive and creating such a welcoming environment. She would also like to thank her mom for reading a certain series of 7 books out loud to her and her brother while she was growing up. Her house is of course, Puff. Hi, to her partner Ryan and her two cats Friday and June. ☺

### **TY YAMAOKA** | Snake

After nearly three years, Ty (he/him) is ecstatic to finally showcase the magic that is Puffs. Ty has previously worked with Juneau Ghost Light Theatre on MixCast 2022 and *Dracula*, as the voice of Dr. Arthur Seward. Other credits include: Theatre in the Rough: *Witch* (Cuddy Banks) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Claudio); *Blue Ticket* (Richard); Perseverance Theatre: *The Winter Bear Project* (Wolf), *Whale Song* (Nukaaluk), *Our Town* (George), *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Valvert), and *Oklahoma!*; The Orpheus Project: *Alcina* (Dancer) and *West Side Story* (Chino). Ty has appeared with Dance Machine International and in eight productions of Juneau Dance Theatre's *The Nutcracker*, dancing the parts of Herr Stahlbaum, The Nutcracker and the Arabian Coffee Pas de Deux. Ty would like to thank his partner, Joey Meyers, for supporting him through back-to-back rehearsal processes and show runs.

## PRODUCTION

### **RICHARD CARTER** | Smart

Richard (he/him) has been working with JGLT for a handful of years now. This is his directorial debut. He is a singer, actor, and artist. He has previously been seen in MixCast, *Next to Normal*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Chicago*, Wearable Arts, and performing with Juneau Drag as Miss Guise. He enjoys all things artsy from graphic design to live performing. This show was a true undertaking and it definitely did not magic itself into existence. He is so thankful to everyone who helped along the way. Special thanks to best friend Hetty LaVerne and partner, Stefan Estonilo, for the love and support through it all. Richard hopes you enjoy the show!

### **KIRSA HUGHES-SKANDIJS** | Puff

Kirsa (she/her) is a long-time Juneau resident and a first-time stage manager. Previous theatre work on the technical side includes props work on JGLT's production of *Next to Normal* and PT's staging of *Equus* and sound for *Topdog/Underdog* on PT's Phoenix Stage. In her spare time she enjoys creating; art, writing, crafts, you name it.

### **GRACE LEE** | Snake

Grace (she/her) made her theatre debut with JGLT in 2017 in *Women Playing Hamlet*. Since then, she has embraced her many years of piano lessons and music directed JGLT's *Next to Normal* and JGLT's *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Grace now serves as the treasurer of JGLT. In her off time, she works with Juneau's Therapeutic Courts.

**Thank you to our JGLT Spirits!**

Andi Hirsh  
Daniel Martin

**Thank you to our JGLT Specters!**

Donna Tollet  
Mo Michels  
Frank Katasse  
Caitlin O'Meally  
Gene Hickey

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# SORTING QUIZ!

- What is your favourite school subject?*
  - History
  - English
  - Gym
  - Home Ec
- What is your favourite food?*
  - Filet Mignon
  - Baked Salmon
  - Pizza
  - Mac and Cheese
- What is your favourite board game?*
  - Monopoly
  - Trivial Pursuit
  - Battleship
  - Hungry Hungry Hippos
- What is your favourite movie?*
  - Crazy Rich Asians
  - Hidden Figures
  - Raiders of the Lost Ark
  - Hook
- Where do you like to go when on holiday?*
  - Expensive Restaurants or the Theatre
  - Museums or Bookstores
  - On Hikes or Ziplining
  - Cat Cafes or Magic Shows
- What is your drink order?*
  - Espresso
  - Tea with Lemon
  - Iced Vanilla Latte
  - Raspberry Hot Chocolate
- What is your dream job?*
  - CEO or Lawyer
  - Teacher or Librarian
  - Professional Athlete or Politician
  - Baker or Zookeeper
- Who knows you best?*
  - My Significant Other
  - My Teachers
  - My Best Friend
  - My Dog
- What is your favourite childhood game?*
  - Hide and Seek
  - Simon Says
  - Tag
  - Heads Up, Seven Up
- What is your favourite season?*
  - Winter
  - Spring
  - Summer
  - Autumn

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## **If you answered mostly A, you are a Snake**

Snakes are ambitious, cunning, and determined.  
They enjoy the fine things in life and know how to get them.

## **If you answered mostly B, you are a Smart**


Smarts are logical, bright, and studious.  
They love a good book and always seem to have the answer.

## **If you answered mostly C, you are a Brave**

Braves are adventurous, daring, and bold.  
They never turn down a dare and have likely broken several bones in life.

## **If you answered mostly D, you are a Puff**

Puffs are trustworthy, generous, and loyal.  
They find the good in everyone and love a warm brownie.



Juneau Ghost Light Theatre  
acknowledges that Dzánti K'ihéeni (or  
Juneau) is the unceded ancestral lands of  
the A'akw Kwáan, who have stewarded  
this land since time immemorial. JGLT is  
grateful to the A'akw Kwáan and  
Neighboring T'aaku Kwáan for their  
stewardship of this beautiful place where  
we have the opportunity to create, share,  
and celebrate theatre.

Puffs (One Act Edition)

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