

Music & Lyrics by
ELTON JOHN & TIM RICE

Additional Music & Lyrics by
**LEBO M, MARK MANCINA,
JAY RIFKIN, and HANS ZIMMER**

Book by
ROGER ALLERS & IRENE MECCHI

Based on the Broadway
Production Directed by
JULIE TAYMOR

**PAYSON HIGH THEATRE
PRESENTS**

Disney
THE LION KING
JR

PAYSON HIGH LITTLE THEATRE

AUGUST 3RD-8TH

**7PM NIGHTLY
2PM MATINEE ON THE 6TH**

LIMITED SEATING. PURCHASE TICKETS IN ADVANCE AT
PAYSONLIONS.NET

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Every time I hear the song, "He lives in You", I cry. I love this show! I'm so grateful for an amazing advanced Theatre team this year, our Ambassadors 2022-2023! Our Payson High School Drama Lion Ambassadors have been rehearsing and working pretty much all summer on this Drama Camp experience, the Lion King Jr. show, and prepping for this school year! They are simply INSPIRING to me. I'd like to thank my alumni choreographers for this show, Aeva McLaughlin and Valen Grimes. Stacey Durfee (and family) have done a brilliant job as our Camp Directors. Tori Ludlow, Brinley Bettis and Cindy Tate on costumes, Jordan Hall and Brinley Bettis on publicity and design. Rachel Pipkin, Craig Zeeman and Rich Lindsay have led our technical elements under the direction of our talented student Technical Director, Ryan Worthington. Mayke Wood created our program, and so many other parents have stepped up in so many ways to help bring this experience all together. The hair and makeup for this production was created by the Provo Paul Mitchell School of Hair and Makeup under the direction of Rhi Wright! What a gift working with them has been. Thank you for coming out to support the show. We're sorry it's not cooler in here, just use your imagination and call it immersive Theatre. We wanted you to feel as though you are in the African savanna.

Thank you!

Rock White

THE LION KING JR

Act 1

SCENE 1: **Pride Rock**

- *Circle of Life*

SCENE 2: **Scar's Cave**

SCENE 3: **The Pridelands**

- *Grasslands Chants*

SCENE 4: **Scar's Cave**

SCENE 5: **The Pridelands**

- *The Lioness Hunt*

- *I Just Can't Wait to be King*

SCENE 6: **The Elephant Graveyard**

- *Be Prepared*

SCENE 7: **The Pridelands**

- *They Live in You*

SCENE 8: **The Gorge**

- *The Stampede*

- *The Mourning*

~ INTERMISSION ~

Act 2

SCENE 9: **The Desert & the Jungle**

- *Hakuna Matata*

SCENE 10: **Scar's Cave**

SCENE 11: **The Pridelands**

- *Shadowland*

SCENE 12: **The Jungle**

- *Can You Feel the Love Tonight*

- *He Lives in You*

SCENE 13: **Pride Rock**

- *Luuu Hawaiian Treat*

- *Finale*

- *Bows*

THE LION KING JR.

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) Broadway Junior Collection. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.MTIShows.com

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited!

Payson High School
Home of Thespian Troupe 1025

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Theatre
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CAST

Mufasa Daniel Heaps
Sarabi Hadlie Baxter
Zazu Adam Coates
Scar AJ Rindlisbacher
Adult Simba Daniel Heaps
Adult Nala Tanika Lavery
Sarafina Emily Lauber
Lionesses Kayla Wright, Jewel Huff,
Emily Lauber, Azure Marrott &
Tanika Lavery
Shenzi Jordan Hall
Banzai Alanah Tate
Ed Haven Bettis
Hyenas Conner O'Brien,
Azure Marrott & Jewel Huff
Timon Tori Ludlow
Pumbaa Brinley Bettis
Rafiki Mekhia White

KIDS CAMP

Young Simba/ Nala

Brinley Jenson
Sierra Booth

Zazu Assistants

Alec Riding
Spencer Raught

Lionesses

Tessa Wood
Lillie Mikesell
Brylee Allred
Amber Ludlow
Kacelynn Mikesell
Hetty Wood
Vera Neves

Giraffes

Seth Durrant
Ian McLaughlin
Ethan Ellsworth

Cheetahs

Alex Durrant
Calvin Yates
Ryker Hjorth
Phoenix Davis
Lyla Neves
Sophia Flaker
Sam Ellsworth

Zebras

Benton Mikesell
Maggie Dennis
Nicholys Larsen
Treyson Heinz
Rose Allred
Sadie Allred
Preston Allred
Lincoln Fenn
Logan Fenn
April Lamb

Hyenas

Tolman Mikesell
Charlotte McLaughlin
Katie Pipkin
Michael Pipkin
Nick Tate
Aleah Allred
Jordyn Durfee
Jacob Whatcott
Kamden Raught
Leah Pipkin
Daniel Warne
Nicole Warne

Tech Crew

Emma Pipkin
Amara Sawyer

PRODUCTION CREW

Artistic & Music Director Rock White
Assistant Directors Tori Ludlow &
Conner O'Brien
Choreographers Aeva McLaughlin &
Valen Grimes
Stage Manager Ryan Worthington
Nebo District Tech Support Craig Zeeman &
Richard Lindsay
Lights Ryan Worthington
Sound Chaz Pipkin
Projections Amara Sawyer (Kids Camp)
Props Master Rylan Nielsen
Stage Crew Xane Harmon,
Neeshia Simpson &
Emma Pipkin (Kids Camp)
Set Design & Construction Ryan Worthington,
Rachel Pipkin &
Rob Baxter
Costuming Tori Ludlow
Hair & Make-Up Paul Mitchell The School, Provo
Yvonne Sipherd, Nicole Kreider,
Gracious Muir, Kennedy Ray,
Sierra Kiel, Kaley Mansell,
Alison Waite, Andrew Helm,
Christiane Frost, Jake Halladay,
Camille Childs, Hannah Flanagan,
Lindsey Rands, Alec Eddington,
Rhiannon Wright & Guadalupe Bermejo
Kids Camp Director Stacey Durfee
Kids Camp Assistants Ashlyn Durfee &
Kaylie Durfee
Posters & Gear Design Brinley Bettis
Photography Ashlyn Durfee &
Brinley Bettis
Program Mayke Wood

Drama Parent Committee
President Rachel Pipkin
Secretary Michele Lyn Bettis
Trip Specialist Tiffany McLaughlin
Hardwood & Sets Rachel Pipkin &
Rob Baxter (Set Crew)
Wardrobe Master (Costumes) Cindy Tate
Purse Strings (Fundraising) Calvin Kitchen
Town Crier (Marketing) Misty & Adam
Rindlisbacher
Front of House Mayke Wood (Concessions) &
Tristan Rasmussen (Box Office)

SPECIAL THANKS

June White
Mekhia White

Theatre Council:

Brinley Bettis - President
Tori Ludlow - Vice President
Tanika Lavery - VP of Administration
Mekhia White - VP of Membership
AJ Rindlisbacher - VP of Lion Pride
Jordan Hall - VP of Marketing
Alanah Tate - Thespian Legacy Director
Conner O'Brien - Thespian Rep
Hadlie Baxter - Fine Arts Rep
Rylan Nielsen - Dungeon Master
Ryan Worthington - Technical Director

Samantha Gwilliam
Springville Playhouse

Payson Community Theatre

Mountain Grove Middle School and Ethan Blair

PHS Administration, Finance Office and Custodial Staff

Drama Mama and Papa Committee:

Rachel Pipkin, Michele Lyn Bettis, Tiffany McLaughlin,
Rob Baxter, Cindy Tate, Karina Bryant,
Mindy Ellsworth, Calvin Kitchen,
Mayke Wood, Tristan Rasmussen

Craig Zeeman
Rich Lindsay

Diamond Fork Jr. High School Theatre

Paul Mitchell The School of Provo
Ri Wright

Ahnika and Byron Lopez
Haydn, Leah and soon to be grandbaby White

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P R O V O



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UPCOMING SHOWS

Shakespeare Showcase Dinner & Performance

PHS Theatre & Pipe Band
September 23, 2022

Tarzan

School Wide Musical
November 11-21, 2022

Elf the Musical Jr

Drama 3 Semester 1 Play
December 9-12, 2022

How the Fortune Cookie Crumbles

Drama 4 Murder Winter Mystery Dinner Theatre
January 6 & 7, 2023

BIOGRAPHIES



HADLIE BAXTER

Sarabi

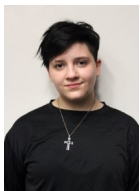
Hadlie is super excited to do Ambassadors this year and she's really happy she made the choice to audition. She's even more happy that she went out for council and made it. She's been doing shows since 8th grade and can't wait to do more. She's excited to play *Sarabi* in *Lion King*. The musical she's most excited for this year is *Tarzan*. Her dream role is to play *Eponine* from *Les Misérables*. She can't wait to make new bonds and her older ones stronger this year.



BRINLEY BETTIS

Pumbaa

Brinley has always had a passion for being on stage. She is a senior this year and is so excited to be serving as the PHS Theatre Council President! One of her favorite roles has been *Robin Hawksley* in the play *Laughing Stock* which she won a Best Actor award for at Drama Competition. She is so excited to be a part of this amazing drama family!



HADLEY (HAVEN) BETTIS

Ed

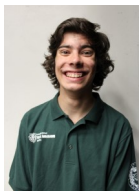
Haven is a sophomore at PHS and is excited to be a part of this year's Ambassadors. Having his sister be in performances and going to musicals have really inspired Haven to pursue theatre. Haven's favorite performance so far was in *A Christmas Carol* in 6th Grade where he was a part of the *Ghost Chorus*. One of his dream roles is *Jeremy* in *Be More Chill*, another is *Veronica Sawyer* in *Heathers*. Haven hopes to inspire others to put themselves out there and to not be afraid of what others say or think.



ADAM COATES

Zazu

Adam is heading into his senior year. The only play he has been in so far is *The Little Mermaid Jr*, in which he played *Sebastian*, though he has a love for theatre. He loves singing, acting, and especially improv. He is a giant nerd and has come to terms with that, so he can be himself and just be the big loud theatre kid that he is!



DANNY HEAPS

Mufasa/ Adult Simba

Danny is a junior this year, and is more than ready to perform *The Lion King Jr*. He's had an absolute blast playing *Mufasa* and *Adult Simba*. While this is his first year in Theatre Ambassadors, he has been acting since 7th grade 4 years ago. He has also directed a few things outside of school, he is a multi-instrumentalist and is a part of multiple school bands. He is excited to perform, and hopes you enjoy *The Lion King Jr*.



JORDAN HALL

Shenzi

Jordan is a senior this year at Payson High School and has always loved theatre. Her favorite roles are *Mrs. Gloop* in *Willy Wonka* and *Grandma Tala* in *Moana*. She loves doing service for others, and

spending time with the other ambassadors. She enjoyed being a student director for *Mamma Mia!* in her sophomore year. She is so excited for this year and is ready to roar like a lion!



ADRIANN (JEWEL) HUFF

Lioness

AJ is a senior this year and plays both a hyena and a lioness in this production. Last year she was the main character in the Murder Mystery Dinner for Drama 1. She is in orchestra, Dance Company and Drama 4. She can't wait to show you all of her hard work and spirit this year!



EMILY LAUBER

Sarafina

Emily is a junior at Payson High. Past shows that Emily has been a part of are *Once on This Island*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Xanadu*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Laughing Stock* and *Legally Blonde Jr*. In her free time, she likes to take naps and play Just Dance. Her favorite thing about doing shows is the love that the cast has for each other and that they are always so positive. Emily would like to give a shout out to her mom who always encourages her to do her best and to always try new things.



TANIKA LAVERY

Adult Nala

Tanna is so excited for her junior year! She has always loved to sing and act. Past roles include *Mary/Mina* in *Laughing Stock*, ensemble in *Wizard of Oz*, and *Tamatoa's Left Claw* in *Moana Jr*. She is looking forward to sharing the *Lion King Jr* with everyone. Thank you to her family for always supporting her!



TORI LUDLOW

Timon

Tori is a senior this year and she is so excited to share this show with you! She has been doing theatre at PHS for about 5 years, and she is ready to finish up her high school theatre experience with a bang. *Timon* has been a new favorite role of hers, and some other favorites are *Specs* in *Newsies*, *Scarecrow* in *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Enid Hoops* in *Legally Blonde Jr*. She loves all aspects of theatre, student directing, hair & makeup, and costuming. This summer she undertook the task of costuming for *Lion King Jr*, so she hopes you also enjoy all aspects of the show!

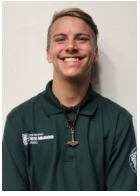


AZURE MARROTT

Lioness/ Hyena

Azure is a sophomore this year at PHS and excited to be a part of all the upcoming productions. They have been acting since 5th grade when they played *Ebenezer Scrooge* in *A Christmas Carol*, and they fell in love with the theatre atmosphere. In 7th Grade they had the opportunity to play *Ms. Gulch* in *Wizard of Oz*. They took a break from theatre in 8th Grade but made comeback in 9th with *JoJo* in *Seussical the Musical*. Music has always played a big part in their life and they can't wait to see what the future brings!

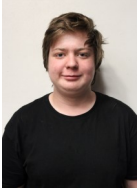
BIOGRAPHIES



RYLAN NIELSON

Props Master

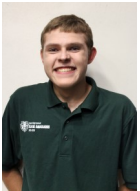
Rylan is going into 11th grade and he is excited to be part of the Payson High School Theatre Council. He has been acting since he was 11 years old. He has been in *Little Mermaid Jr* as *King Triton*, *Mary Poppins Jr* as *Statue*, *Clerk*, and *Chimney Sweep*, *Wizard of Oz Jr* as *Guard/Doorman*, *Newsies* as *Mayor*, *An Heir of Mystery* as *Malcolm*, *Lion King Jr* (Springville) as *stage crew*, and now *Lion King Jr* again as *Props Master*! He is very excited to help with props in the upcoming shows this year!



CONNER O'BRIEN

Hyena

This year Conner is super excited to be the Thespian Representative for Troupe 1025. Some of his favorite past roles are *Dewey* in *Legally Blonde Jr*, *Oz Guard* in *Wizard of Oz*, and *the male muse* in *Xanadu*. Conner is excited for this year's Disney-filled line up of shows.



AJ RINDLISBACHER

Scar

AJ is going into his Sophomore year and LOVES theatre! His favorite role that he has played is the *Cat in the Hat* from *Seussical*. AJ has had quite a run in theatre, starting at a young age in elementary school. He is a nerd who drops obscure references wherever he goes. Murder mysteries interest AJ greatly, and he is thrilled with the plots and plans of Disney Villains. AJ wouldn't have gotten far without the help from his mentors, like his teachers, friends, and directors.



ALANAH TATE

Banzai

Alanah is a sophomore at Payson High School. She has played parts in various plays including *Gertrude* in *Suessical the Musical*, *Lucille* in *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *Violet* in *Willy Wonka Kids*. She is extremely excited for this season's plays.



MEKHIA WHITE

Rafiki

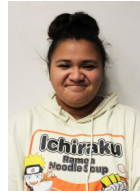
Mekhia is a sophomore at PHS and is so excited to finally be in her father's classes! Last year she was in *Seussical the Musical*. She made many friendships and can't wait to make more friends in the Ambassador Class. She is looking forward toward Beauty and the Beast later this school year and to making many more memories in theatre.



RYAN WORTHINGTON

Stage Manager

Ryan is a junior at Payson High School. He has done Tech for a lot of shows including *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood*, *Wagon Wheels A Rollin'*, *Freaky Friday*, *Moana*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Laughing Stock*, and *Legally Blonde*. This year he is the Technical Director of the Drama Lions Theatre Council and is excited for the upcoming season and making the shows as magical as possible.



KAYLA WRIGHT

Lioness

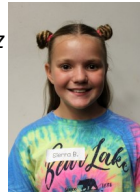
Kayla is a sophomore this year. She has been in several plays since 7th Grade but has never taken a Drama class. Past roles include *Chef* in *The Little Mermaid Jr*, *ensemble* in *Xanadu*, and a *Bird Girl* in *Seussical the Musical*. She is excited to see what the year brings!



BRINLEY JENSON

Young Simba

Brinley is a 7th Grader at Mount Nebo Middle School. She played *Audrey* in their performance of *Descendants*, and *Glinda* in the *Trouble in Oz*. She's currently in the *ensemble* for PCT's *Matilda*. She loves to sing and is super excited to be a part of this show.



SIERRA BOOTH

Young Nala

Sierra is a 6th Grader at Mount Nebo Middle School. She performed in the kids' ensemble in last year's *Moana Jr* and was the *Stepmother* in *Rinderella* at Spring Lake Elementary. She loves to sing, dance and perform. She hopes you enjoy the show as much as she does!



Aeva McLaughlin

Choreographer

Aeva is currently attending Snow College majoring in theatre and a Payson High School 2021 alumnae. Aeva has been actively involved in theatre since the 7th grade as well as competitive dance for over 7 years. Some of her favorites have included *Betty* in *The Foreigner*, *Helen* and *R.R.* in *A Tuna Christmas*, *Donna Sheridan* in *Mamma Mia!*, *Quiser Boudreaux* in *Steel Magnolias*, and *Anna* in *Frozen Jr*. She is so excited to be a part of the *Lion King Jr* on the other side of the stage as she played *Pumbaa* in 2017. Aeva would like to thank her family, friends, and the amazing Hedgehog for all the love and support they have given her!



Valen Grimes

Choreographer

Valen graduated from Payson High School earlier this year. She was absolutely thrilled when Mr. White asked her to help choreograph *Lion King Jr* this year. She has been on stage for almost 2 decades and loves performing. She has 16 years of dance experience under her belt and is grateful for the opportunity to add choreographer to her repertoire. Her favorite roles have been *Brooke Wyndham* from *Legally Blonde*, *Miss Andrews* from *Mary Poppins*, and the *Dragon* from *Shrek*. She wishes the cast good luck in everything they do and hopes that you enjoy the show.

KIDS CAMP & CREW



The Lionesses



The Cheetahs



The Hyenas



The Zebras



The Giraffes



Zazu's Assistants



Paul Mitchell The School, Provo



Tech Crew:

Rachel Pipkin, Chaz Pipkin, Neeshia Simpson, Xane Harmon

DRAMA LIONS FAN MAIL



Brinley, we are so excited for you to play Young Simba. Keep shooting for the stars and being the kind person that you are. Break a leg!

Love, Mom & Dad



Tessa & Hetty,
It's always so fun to
watch you two perform!

Love,
Mama, Dad & Will

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Sep 5 at 3pm
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