

• **ZANESVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE, INC.** •

**2023-2024 61<sup>st</sup> Season**

*presents*



**THE LIGHTNING THIEF** is presented by arrangement with  
Concord Theatricals. [www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

Book by: **Joe Tracz**

Music & Lyrics by: **Rob Rokicki**

Adapted from the book *The Lightning Thief* by **Rick Riordan**

Originally commissioned, created, and produced  
off Broadway by TheaterWorksUSA.

Director: **Cary Stotts**

Music Director: **Sheryl Wise**

Assistant Director/Choreographer: **Jillian Von Gunten**

Producer: **Amy Underwood**

July 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 2024

Friday & Saturday performances begin at 7pm, Sundays at 2:30pm

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Member of  
Ohio Community Theatre Association  
Zanesville/Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce



*Please turn off cell phones while in the theater*

## • DIRECTOR CARY STOTTS' NOTES •

Welcome to ZCT and our production of *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*! I could not be prouder of this cast and all of the hard work and thought they put into bringing these characters to life. This is my first time directing, and I couldn't have asked for a better cast and production team. One of the things I have loved the most about this show is the history that these characters have with all of us. If you know me, you know that I've been a huge fan of this series since it came out in the early 2000s when I was a middle schooler. For most of us in the cast, we grew up reading these books and loving these characters. I loved hearing all of the deep character discussions during even the smallest acting decisions: *can I stand next to Clarisse during this song to show that we've called a truce? Can my weapon of choice be a bedazzled curling iron because daughters of Aphrodite care more about their appearance than fighting?* They honestly made my job so easy, and I left rehearsal with a smile on my face every day. I want to thank my wonderful Assistant Director and Choreographer, Jillian Von Gunten, for taking my vague words and flailing, and turning them into expertly crafted dance numbers. Thanks to my Producer, Mom and queen of lists, Amy, for keeping me on track. Thank you to my lovely husband, Shelby, for turning our garage into a half-blood weapon workshop. Lastly a huge thank you to my Musical Director, Sheryl; none of this would be possible without you! I hope you enjoy the show as much as we enjoyed creating it for you. Bring on the monsters!

## • MUSICAL DIRECTOR SHERYL WISE'S NOTES •

Sheryl is excited to bring a new musical to our area. It is especially fun as the cast and crew features many of our “kids” that started in our theatre camp program and have now graduated to main stage productions. How awesome it has been to watch them continue to grow as performers and shine with the “adults”. It also features several new faces to both the stage and our pit band. These young people have brought much joy to this ZCT old timer. My first show was *Anything Goes*, back before we owned our building and still performed at Elson Hall on the OUZ campus in the mid-1980s. So many memories, so many friends, so many great times. When not at ZCT, Sheryl is an adjunct professor at Muskingum University where she teaches voice and directs the musical theatre ensemble. She is also the director of music and office administrator for Trinity Episcopal Church in Newark, teaches musical theatre to students K-12 at Movement on Main, has her own studio with about 25 students, and is president of the Zanesville Concert Association. This is what retirement is all about! Doing all the fun stuff that you love with your family and friends. She is married to Jillian Von Gunten and they live in Zanesville with their two dogs and seven cats.

## • ORCHESTRA •

Conductor/keyboards .....	Sheryl Wise
Guitars .....	Shelby Stotts
	John Logan Kansinecz
Bass .....	Alex Shinn
Percussion .....	Trenton Morrell
	Wade Jones

# • MUSICAL NUMBERS •

## ACT ONE

Prologue/The Day I Got Expelled  
Strong  
The Minotaur/The Weirdest Dream  
Another Terrible Day  
She Fought Bravely  
Their Sign  
Put You in Your Place  
Clarisse Makes a Splash  
The Campfire Song  
The Trident Appears/Thunder  
The Oracle  
Good Kid  
Killer Quest!

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## FIFTEEN MINUTE INTERMISSION

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## ACT TWO

Prologue Act Two/I Ruin a Perfectly Fine Bus  
Lost!  
A Visit With Aunty Em  
My Grand Plan  
Drive  
The Weirdest Dream (Reprise)  
The Tree on the Hill  
Hellevator  
D.O.A.  
It's the Pits  
Hello Hades  
Sally Appears  
Son of Poseidon  
Poseidon Finally Shows Up  
Reunited  
The Last Day of Summer  
Bring on the Monsters  
Bows/Exit Music

## • CAST •

Percy .....	Remus Buckliw
Annabeth .....	Madeline Gantzer
Grover/Mr. D .....	Brayden Grubb
Luke/Ares .....	Luc Scott
Clarisse .....	Jadyn Hendershott
Sally .....	Elizabeth Bennett
Charon/Silena/Oracle .....	Julia Gantzer
Chiron/Poseidon .....	Colin Dygert
Mrs. Dodds .....	Haley Shaw
Campers .....	Cady Hendershott
	Iyanna Kelson

## • CAST BIOGRAPHIES •

**Remus Buckliw (Percy Jackson)** - Remus is a sophomore at Muskingum University majoring in Psychology. He is very excited to be a part of Percy Jackson as it has been his favorite book series since he was twelve. Remus also has been in *The Little Mermaid Jr* as Sebastian, *Into the Woods Jr* as Jack, and *Emma! A Pop Musical* as Frankie Churchill.

**Madeline Gantzer (Annabeth)** – Madeline is 18 years old and has recently graduated from Zanesville High School. In the fall, she will be attending Kent State University to study Business. This is one of many shows that she has been lucky enough to be a part of. Some of her favorite roles include Small Allison in *Fun Home*, Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, Anna in *Frozen*, and Jojo in *Seussical the Musical*. Outside of theatre, Madeline works at a local salon as a receptionist. In her free time she likes to journal, read, watch true crime documentaries, and going on coffee runs when she should be saving money. Madeline has been reading the Percy Jackson series since she was a kid and she is beyond excited to have this amazing opportunity. This has been such a special experience and she hopes you enjoy the show!

**Brayden Grubb (Grover/Mr. D)** – Brayden is 16 years old and attends Maysville High School. Brayden has been in over 15 plays and musicals over the past eight years, starting with ZCT’s Summer Day Camp, where he has been both onstage and off. Some of his favorite roles include Joe in *9 to 5*, Marlin in *Finding Nemo*, Hans in *Frozen*, and Willy Wonka in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. When he’s not onstage, he’s playing soccer and hanging out with his friends.

**Luc Scott (Luke/Ares)** – Luc is a rising sophomore at Wright State University, and he is majoring in music education. After a year long hiatus, he is thrilled to be back on stage! This show marks the beginning of Luc’s sixth year in theatre. During that time he has been very fortunate to be involved with some amazing productions. Notable credits include *Once Upon a Mattress* (Sir Harry), *The Addams Family* (Gomez Addams), *Shrek Jr.* (Lord Farquaad), and *Mary Poppins* (Bert). When he is not on stage (music school lowering that amount of time), you can find him practicing his instrument, hanging with friends, or working at Raising Cane’s (1LV). He thanks you for supporting the arts, and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Jadyn Hendershott (Clarisse)** – Jadyn has been a fan of the Percy Jackson series since she was in middle school, and is absolutely thrilled to play Clarisse in *The Lightning Thief: a Percy Jackson Musical*. She will be attending her third year at Ohio University this fall as an education major. She has been in many shows before, but some of her favorite roles are The Minstrel in *Once Upon a Mattress*, Kelsi in *High School Musical*, and a Bird Girl in *Seussical the Musical*. Outside of the theatre, she really enjoys hanging out with her cat, Junebug, thrifting, and going on hikes with friends. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Elizabeth Bennett (Sally)** – Elizabeth is so excited to be in her fifth Zanesville Community Theatre production! Some of her favorite roles include Gertie in *Oklahoma*, Mrs. Dudley in *The Haunting of Hill House*, and Tex and the Gorilla in *Cabaret*. She lives in Zanesville with her two cats, Dutch and Tigger, and loves crafting when not on the stage. She’d like to give a special shout-out to her family and “pharmily”, and thanks you very much for coming and supporting the local arts. Enjoy the show!

**Julia Gantzer (Charon, Silena, Oracle)** – Julia has been involved in theatre for the past twelve years, at both the Zanesville Community and the Renner Theatre, where she has been involved in over 40 productions. She is a preschool para-professional at Zane Grey Elementary, and is also an administrative assistant at Movement on Main Center for Dance. Julia is so excited to perform in *The Lightning Thief*! Some of Julia's favorite theatre roles include Sharpay in *High School Musical*, Ellie in *Freaky Friday*, Helga in *Cabaret*, Lady Larken in *Once Upon a Mattress*, Regina in *Ghosts*, and a Bird Girl in *Seussical the Musical*. Julia has assistant directed with ZCT's summer day camp for the past nine summers. She also co-directed *The Haunting of Hill House* last October. She would love to direct more in the future! However, she prefers being on the stage. In her free time she loves gardening, crafting, scrapbooking and spending time with her family and friends.

**Colin Dygert (Chiron/Poseidon)** – also Gabe, Kronos, Aunty 'Em, Douglas the Train Conductor, Farmer Goggins, Kurt Cobain and Hades – joined the circus at the tender age of 2. He specialized in acrobatics and snail training. After successfully touring the circus circuit in his youth, he left to pursue other endeavors, including deep sea diving, ostrich racing, and mastering the art of mapping volcanoes without getting burned. He even engaged in a brief stint as a snake oil salesman and sourcer of antiquities before the Fuzz tried to take him down. He met his super-hot and talented wife, Reagan, on one such adventure and they decided to take on life together. They've produced a rad "theatre kid in training" dude named Jude who is beloved by the cast, crew, and a tiny, cute fiend named Joel. In no case should anyone ask what he does now; he could tell you, but he'd have to kill you...

**Haley Shaw (Mrs. Dodds)** – Hayley is excited to be part of the cast of *The Lightning Thief: the Percy Jackson Musical*. The Percy Jackson series is one of her all time favorite book series. One could say that Rick Riordan is responsible for her entire career path, from majoring in Classical Archaeology to becoming a librarian. She has been in several shows at ZCT, including *The Philadelphia Story*, *Cabaret*, *The Great Gatsby*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Haley was also stage manager for *The Haunting of Hill House* and assisted with *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She was also the assistant director for *The Philadelphia Story*. When she is not onstage she loves to cosplay, play board games, and pursuing other creative endeavors through art and music. She is also the Youth Services Manager at the Muskingum County Library System.

**Cady Hendershott (Katie Gardner/Supporting Roles)** – Cady is a sophomore Music Therapy major at Ohio University. She has been involved in community theatre since the young age of 5. She has been in far too many shows to list, but some of her favorites have been *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Freaky Friday*, *Seussical*

the Musical, and so many more. She has been a director for *Sherlock Holmes* and *The Little Mermaid Jr.* And also was an assistant director for *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She is super pumped to be a part of *The Lightning Thief: A Percy Jackson Musical*, because it has been one of her favorite book series since she was young.

**Iyanna Kelson (Camper/Supporting Roles)** – Iyanna is a junior at Heath High School and also attends CTEC for their culinary course. Besides theatre, she loves music (especially K-pop), anime, baking and K-drama. This is her first show at ZCT, but her 25<sup>th</sup> show overall, with two of her favorite roles being Ozzy Osborne in *We Will Rock You* and Jay in *Descendants*. She has had a lot of fun with this cast and show, and hopes that you enjoy it as much as she has.

• PRODUCTION STAFF •

Director.....	Cary Stotts
Musical Director.....	Sheryl Wise
Assistant Director/Choreographer.....	Jillian Von Gunten
Producer .....	Amy Underwood
Stage Managers .....	Alonna Hendershott Sarah Gantzer
Set Design.....	Cary Stotts
Properties .....	Shelby Stotts Susan Sharrer Bill Shaw
Costumes .....	Jan Kiikka, the Cast
Lighting.....	Jillian Von Gunten
Lighting Consultant/Special Effects.....	Carl Underwood
Sound .....	Steven Hendershott
Box Office .....	Angel Palmer

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WHIZ	Zanesville-Muskingum County
WOUB	Conference and Welcome Center
WYBZ	Susan Sharrer
The Zanesville Times Recorder	Bill Shaw



# • BACK WALL REPAIR PROJECT •

As of March 13, 2024, Zanesville Community Theatre has raised the full \$30,900 required for the Back Wall repair project.

Thank you all very much!

Private Donors and Foundations allowing us to list their names are as follows:

Brooke Anderson

The Prickett Family

Susan Barzda

Sharron and Dave Sedziol

Elizabeth Bennett

Christine Shaw and Jim Heidler

Jeffrey Blodgett

Robert and Susan Stotts

Betty Dodds

Brent and Susan Stubbins

Heather Dolen

Sarah Trout

John Furek

Richard and Cynthia Tuck

Ann M. Janusz

David Turrill

Kasey Jones

Amy and Carl Underwood

Jan and Niel Kiikka

Angela Walls

Elizabeth Kirkbride

The Young Insurance Agency, Inc.

Kathy and Larry Normansell

2024 Spring Grant from the J.W. &  
M.H. Straker Charitable Foundation

Pete and Judi Peterson

# • SETTING THE STAGE FOR GROWTH •

Visit <https://www.zct.org> for all the links below as well as more content.

Online donation link: <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/zanesvillecommunitytheatre/296/donations>. Note: ZCT covers all transaction fees and charges as part of your ticket, registration, and/or donation using the TIX.COM platform.

Present projects under the TIX.COM platform are:

- New theater style seating, House & Aisle lighting-Setting the Stage for Growth (Estimated \$75,000)- donations for 2024
- Complete windows & blinds installation begun in 2019 (Initial cost was \$89,500; balance outstanding is \$10,000)
- New audience seating (Estimated in 2019 at \$50,000)
- Energy efficient Stage Lighting to replace existing stage lighting: (\$150,000 estimated as of 2022)

Online donations may be made via this link: <https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/zanesvillecommunitytheatre/296/donations> and recurring donations via the Muskingum County Community Foundation via this link: <https://www.mccf.org/Community-Foundation/Funds/Donate/405/Zanesville-Community-Theatre-Building-Pass-Thru-Fund>. On the MCCF link above: Due to the generosity of Zanesville Honda and Zanesville Toyota, credit card fees will not be charged on your transaction. 100% of your donation will go directly for its intended purpose.

You may also mail your donation to the Muskingum County Community Foundation, 534 Putnam Ave, Zanesville, Ohio 43701. Please make all checks to: Muskingum County Community Foundation and put in the memo line: ZCT-Setting the Stage for Growth.

As we prepare for the 62nd season at Zanesville Community Theatre, it is important to take a moment to reflect on our past and ponder our future. The Board of Directors of Zanesville Community Theatre has spent many hours doing both in preparation for the "Setting the Stage for Growth" initiative. The common thread that was woven through the fabric of reflection and pondering is that the current Board of Directors wishes to ensure that many future generations have the opportunity to experience fine performance art right here in their own back yards at Zanesville Community Theatre.

The goal of the Board is the preservation of this grand, historic building and Zanesville Community Theatre to have an energy-efficient safe and comfortable home where generations can continue to learn, cultivate and nurture the craft of live theatre and our patrons can continue to enjoy quality performances.

The year 2016 saw the completed installation of a new roof (Vendor: Saup-Hartley) with funds from the State of Ohio, and the renovation of the Women's restroom thanks to the initiative, hard work and dedication of the Board of Directors in securing grant funding, local match for these funds from the Board of Directors and other private donors. These projects were the catalyst for the "Setting the Stage for Growth" initiative.

With the continued help of our community, this initiative can fund projects such as sealing the exterior envelope of the building as well as the interior and dome of the building to help prevent loss of heating and cooling (COMPLETED in January 2022, Vendors: Roger Touvell HVAC, Inc. and Hittle Electric Inc.), making the building safer and more energy-efficient. Replacement of audience seating and theater lighting (resulting in a reduction of our electrical load from 18,000 watts to 8,000 watts per rehearsal and/or performance) will add to increased patron comfort when attending productions at Zanesville Community Theatre.

The Board of Directors of Zanesville Community Theatre wishes to thank this community for their support over the last 60+ years and hopes that you will join them as they preserve the community theatre tradition in Zanesville by "Setting the Stage for Growth".

We thank you for your continued donations of time and funds to Zanesville Community Theatre, Inc.

Visit <https://www.zct.org> for all the links to purchase tickets, complete donations, and register for events as they are created, and find out the history of ZCT as well as more content. ZCT's website is a work in progress and has been newly created by Web Chick <https://www.webchick.com/>

# •MISSION OF ZANESVILLE COMMUNITY THEATRE•

Zanesville Community Theatre, Inc. (ZCT) is a wholly volunteer organization, having no paid staff positions.

ZCT serves the Zanesville and Southeastern Ohio areas and is dedicated to the production of plays, musicals, and other dramatic presentations; and to the education of our members and the communities we serve in theatrical techniques and presentations.

ZCT's first show was in November 1963. We are now 60+ years and counting!

Board of Directors for our current 61st season:

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Jillian B. Von Gunten – President

Sarah Gantzer – Recording Secretary

Eric Blake – Vice President

Sue Barzda – OCTA Delegate

Carleton Underwood – Treasurer

## EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Susan Bardza

Angel Palmer

Eric Blake

Ashley Bondurant

Sarah Gantzer

Pamela Smith

Steven Hendershott

Cary Stotts

Jan Kiikka

Jillian B. Von Gunten

## About ZCT:

Zanesville Community Theatre, Inc. (ZCT) is a fully volunteer-driven organization without any paid staff positions. Dedicated to serving the Zanesville and Southeastern Ohio areas, our focus is on producing plays, musicals, and various dramatic presentations. Equally important is our commitment to educating both our members and the communities we serve. Proudly operating as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, ZCT is at the heart of local cultural and artistic expression.