OUTCRY Youth THEATRE

GUMDROP
and the SPACE ORPHANS

by **Jason Johnson-Spinos**

OCT. 16-25, 2026

Cox Playhouse
in downtown Plano

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission

This show contains laser lighting

CREW

Directed and Choreographed by Jason Johnson-Spinos

Fight Choreography by Dylan Cantu

Stage Managed by Lisa James

Set by Abel Retta

Costumes by Lisa James and Renee Neleson

Lighting Design by Cameron Smith

Props by Melissa and Rob Gibson

Branch FX Costume: Keith and Christina Wezwick

Projection and Sound Design by Jason Johnson-Spinos

Board Operator: Lukas Newham

Ticket Coordinator: Marian Neleson
Concessions Coordinator: Daniel Meisenheimer
Volunteer Coordinators: Laura and Abel Retta
Playbill Assistance: Stefanie Francis
Cast Party & Gifts Coordinator: Kelsea Fetherston
Production Photography by Jennifer Garcia

Special Thanks: Edward George, Elyza's dad,
Andy Gonzalez-Bendiksen, Jonathan Holloway, Stori James,
Amalia Cabrera, Juliana Bruno, Liam Paynter, Marcy Bogner,
MrJim and Sue Johnson, and the staff of Plano Stages

CAST

GUMDROP
Beatrix Wezwick
Kensley James

SYLBA
Quinn Hopping
Willa Jones

JET
Allie Retta
Luna Francis

IRIS
Annie Dominguez
Elyza Ordono

GUNNER
Eli Gibson
Holden James

MR. FISH
Joshua Neleson
Lupe Meisenheimer

LIZZAKAZI/LAVENDER
Aara George
Nahla Maynard

CLEMENTINE
Addie Dominguez
Wren Alderson

YOUNG GUMDROP/
ZOLIP/ZULIP
Bridget Clark
Neve Alderson

WHIZBANG/LILAC
Greta Slaughter

BRANCH
Eli Gibson
Holden James

BIOGRAPHIES



Neve Alderson (Young Gumdrop/Zolip/Zulip) is thrilled to return to Outcry Youth Theatre for her third production! Previous Outcry roles include Carbucketty in *CATS* and Horace in *101 Dalmatians Kids*. She has also performed in school productions, including *Finding Nemo Kids*, *Magic Tree House*, and *Seussical Kids*. Neve loves musical theatre, singing, dancing, learning new characters, and being part of an ensemble. When she's not performing, she loves spending time with her family and pets.



Wren Alderson (Clementine) is excited to make her OYT debut! She has previously performed in *Finding Nemo KIDS* and *Seussical Kids* at her elementary school and enjoys being part of her junior high choir. Wren loves expressing her creativity through singing, dancing, art, and theatre. She especially enjoys bringing characters to life and working with other performers to create something special on stage. When she's not rehearsing, Wren enjoys making art and spending time with family and friends.



Bridget Clark (Young Gumdrop/Zolip/Zulip) is a fifth grader at Hughston Elementary, and this is her second show with Outcry Youth Theatre. Her first show was *Legally Blonde Jr.*, where she played Bruiser. Bridget loves hanging out with her friends, relaxing with her cats, and spending time with her family, who have been a big help with this show. She's had a lot of fun being part of this production and is excited to see it all come together. She'd like to thank everyone for coming to see the show!



Addie Dominguez (Clementine) is a fifth grader at Providence Christian School. She is excited to be part of this original play! Her favorite past roles include Young Fiona and Little Girl in *Shrek*, Jemima in *CATS*, Mowgli in *The Jungle Book Kids*, and Fannie in *Mary Poppins*. When not on stage, she enjoys spending time with her baby brother and singing. She thanks her parents for their love and support, Mr. J for being a great director, and her family and friends for their encouragement.



Annie Dominguez (Iris) is a freshman and is excited to be part of this world-premiere original production! This is her 26th production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Some of her favorite past roles include Belle in *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* and Miss Corry in *Mary Poppins*. When not on stage, she enjoys singing and running. She thanks her parents for all their love and support, Mr. J for being an amazing director, and all her friends in this show.

BIOGRAPHIES



Luna Francis (Jet) is thrilled to be part of *Gumdrop and the Space Orphans* and grateful for another opportunity to learn, grow, and perform with Outcry. Most recent roles include Robertson Ay in *Mary Poppins*, Jemima in *CATS*, and Lucy in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Previous credits include Horton in *Seussical* (NTPA), King Louie in *Jungle Book Kids* (OYT), Star to Be in *Annie Jr.* (NTPA), and Annie in *Dear Edwina Jr.* (NTPA). Luna especially loves the friendships she's made through theatre.



Aara George (Lizzakazzi/Lavender) is an 11-year-old sixth grader at Wortham Intermediate. *Gumdrop* is her 5th show with Outcry. After loving her role as Anne Bonny in *Off to Treasure Island*, she couldn't wait to audition again! When not on stage, Aara stays busy creating nail art, building townships, crossing animals, sending extra lives to her human friends, and curling up with her furry ones. She also sings in her school choir—and occasionally tries out her stand-up skills by roasting her mama.



Eli Gibson (Gunner/Branch) is 15 years old and has appeared in 18 productions with Outcry Youth Theatre. Favorite roles include Black Dog in *Off to Treasure Island*, Gollum in *The Hobbit*, and Mrs. Bumbrake in *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Eli is also a film actor, writer, and editor with The Performers Edge. He enjoys playing games with friends and making people laugh. Eli is a proud member of J-Squad and Becca's Army. He would like to thank Mr. J for his support.



Quinn Hopping (Sylba) is an 8th grader making her Outcry Youth Theatre debut in *Gumdrop and the Space Orphans*. She has been active in theatre since kindergarten, and it is definitely a passion. When she is not on stage, she enjoys traveling, camping, reading, and participating in Scouting America. She has greatly enjoyed her first production with Outcry Youth Theatre and hopes everyone breaks a leg!



Holden James (Gunner/Branch) is an enthusiastic performer and theatre technician who loves every aspect of bringing productions to life. He has participated in more than twenty stage productions, with Gomez Addams in *The Addams Family Young@Part* among his favorite roles. Holden also enjoys lighting, sound, props, and stage crew. He attends Booker T. Washington HSPVA. Outside theatre, Holden enjoys video games, family time, creating, and performing. He thanks Mr. J for this opportunity.

BIOGRAPHIES



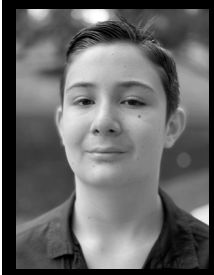
Kensley James (Gumdrop) is excited to be part of *Gumdrop and the Space Orphans*, her 27th production with Outcry Youth Theatre! She is enjoying the fast-paced world of drama and especially loved performing as Meg in *A Wrinkle in Time*. Kensley is 14 years old and in 9th grade. When not at rehearsal, she loves spending time with her friends and family. She would like to thank Mr. J for giving her the opportunity to be part of this exciting production.



Willa Jones (Sylba) is in 9th grade at Vines High School. This is her 13th production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Willa's favorite past roles include Mother (*The Yellow Boat*), Mister Mistoffelees (*CATS*), Sully (*A Monster Calls*), and The Silent King (*Once Upon a Mattress*). When not acting, Willa loves improv, singing, and hanging out with her friends. She is a proud member of J-Squad and sends thanks to Mr. J for always believing in her!



Nahla Maynard (Lizzakazi/Lavender) is in 7th grade at Schimelpfenig Middle School. This is her fourth show with OYT. Favorite roles: Old Deuteronomy in *CATS*, Father Christmas in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Genie in *Aladdin*, Ursula in *The Little Mermaid*, Marlon in *Finding Nemo*, and Scar in *The Lion King*. When not on stage, Nahla loves reading, playing with her dog KitKat, and spending time with friends. Nahla would like to thank her mom, dad, family, and friends for their continued support.



Lupe Meisenheimer (Mr. Fish) is in 5th grade at Richardson Heights Elementary School. This is his second production with Outcry Youth Theatre, and he is excited to be part of *Gumdrop and the Space Orphans*. When not on stage, he loves listening to his favorite albums and playing guitar. He would like to thank his family, Mr. J, his fellow cast members, and everyone who helped make the show possible.



Joshua Neleson (Mr. Fish) is an eighth grader at Pearson Middle School. This is his eighth production with Outcry Youth Theatre. His favorite past roles have included Father in *A Wrinkle in Time*, Billy Bones in *Off to Treasure Island*, and Tumnus in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. When he's not acting, he enjoys playing piano, riding his bike, video games, 3D printing, reading, and watching TV. He would like to thank his parents for all their help and support.

BIOGRAPHIES



Elyza Ordono (Iris) is 11 years old and attends Alton Boyd Elementary. This is her 9th production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Her favorite past roles include Rachel Wall in *Off to Treasure Island* and Flapper Ancestor in *The Addams Family*. She enjoys drawing, singing, and hanging out with friends. She would like to give a huge thank-you to her friends, Ms. Lisa, the amazing cast and volunteers, her family, Mi Familia group, her teachers at Boyd, and Mr. Jason for their encouragement and support.



Allie Retta (Jet) is an eighth grader at Haggard Middle School and is excited to blast off into her 16th Outcry Youth Theatre production! Some of her favorite past roles include Mack in *Peter and the Starcatcher* and Tad in *Finding Nemo JR*. She is a proud member of both J-Squad and Becca's Army. Allie is grateful to her parents for their endless love, support, and countless rides to rehearsals—and for always cheering her on every step of the way.



Greta Slaughter (Whizbang/Lilac) is thrilled to make her Outcry Youth Theatre debut in *Gumdrop and the Space Orphans*! Greta has enjoyed performing in several roles at her church and most recently played one of the young daughters in *Fiddler on the Roof* with Garland Summer Musicals alongside her dad and stepmom. Greta would like to thank Mr. J, Ms. Lisa, and her theatre friends for always encouraging and cheering her on. She is grateful to be part of this wonderful theatre family!



Beatrix Wezwick (Gumdrop) is 13 years old and has appeared in more than 20 youth theatre productions. Favorite roles: Bilbo Baggins in *The Hobbit*, Alice in *Alice in Wonderland*, the Witch in *Into the Woods Jr.*, and Louise in *Sunday in the Park with George*. She made her on-screen debut last fall as Suzie in the horror-comedy short film *Dinner with the Joneses*. Beatrix would like to thank her friends, family, and beloved cat, Neptune, for their support. Beatrix is represented by Cachet Talent Agency.

Dylan Cantu (Fight Choreographer) is a professional wrestler throughout the state of Texas under the name "The Supernova Tommy," with a background in martial arts, holding a 1st degree black belt, and is an Outcry Youth alumni.

Jason Johnson-Spinos (Director/Choreographer) is a theatre and film artist and educator. He wears many hats at Outcry, including Marketing Director, a teacher, director, actor, playwright, and designer. He is very excited to have his first ever completely original youth play performed by these amazing kids.

UPCOMING AUDITIONS



Book by **Thomas Meehan**
Music by **Charles Strouse**
Lyrics by **Martin Charnin**
Based on "Little Orphan Annie"
by permission of The Media Tribune Services, Inc.

Ages 6-12
Auditions **November 16, 2026**
Performs **February 19-21, 2027**

The Addison Performing Arts Centre
Studio Theatre
directed by Brady Beckley and Jason Johnson-Spinos
music directed by Cindy Johnston

In 1930s New York City, an orphan named Annie lives a "hard-knock life" at an orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. Annie dreams of being reunited with her parents and escapes the orphanage to try and find them. Annie discovers a new family in billionaire Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary, Grace Farrell, and a lovable mutt named Sandy. But Miss Hannigan, alongside fellow baddies Rooster and Lily, hatches an evil plot to manipulate Annie and Oliver Warbucks. Based on the popular comic strip and adapted from the Tony Award winning musical, *Annie KIDS* delivers the classic story that will leave you grinning from ear to ear.

UPCOMING AUDITIONS



Book and Lyrics by **Kate Thomas**
Original Music and Lyrics by **Veronica Mansour**
Originally developed through the DreamWorks Theatricals/
Music Theatre International Emerging Writers Program

Ages 10-15
Auditions **December 7 & 9, 2026**
Performs **March 12-21, 2027**

The Addison Performing Arts Centre
Studio Theatre
directed by Jason Johnson-Spinos
music directed by M. Shane Hurst

Based on the DreamWorks Animation hit, *How to Train Your Dragon JR.* brings fire-breathing action, epic adventure and big laughs to the stage.

Hiccup is a young Viking who defies tradition and befriends one of his deadliest foes – a ferocious dragon he calls Toothless. Together, the unlikely heroes fight against the odds to save both their worlds in this wonderful theatrical adaptation.

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

THE REAL & imagined HISTORY OF THE ELEPHANT MAN

by **Tom Wright**

Performs **November 13-22, 2026**
The Addison Performing Arts Centre, Studio Theatre
directed by Becca Johnson-Spinos

Powerful, angry, and surprising, Tom Wright's acclaimed play imagines an alternative history of the person who came to be known as "the Elephant Man." It restores Joseph Merrick to the centre of his own story: a man fighting for his right to be and to belong. In addition to Merrick, it also features an incredible cast of mostly female characters in Joseph's life – including a Ringmaster, a famous actress, and a dying woman, amongst many others.

Alice by heart

Book by **Steven Sater and Jessie Nelson**
Music by **Duncan Sheik** • Lyrics by **Steven Sater**

Performs **January 30-31, 2027**
Courtyard Theater in downtown Plano
directed and choregraphed by Becca Johnson-Spinos
music directed by Parker Lessmann

In the rubble of the London Blitz of World War II, Alice Spencer's budding teen life is turned upside down, and she and her dear friend Alfred are forced to take shelter in an underground tube station. *Alice by Heart* explores the poignancy of first love, coming to terms with loss, and finding the courage to move forward. This touching musical encourages us all to celebrate the transformational power of the imagination, even in the harshest of times.

2026-2027 SEASON SUPPORTERS

MAJOR SUPPORTERS
$10,000+

City of Plano
Govenar Family Fund at
Communities Foundation of Texas
Texas Commission on the Arts
Town of Addison

BENEFACTORS
$1,000+

The Highsmith Family
MrJim and Sue Johnson
The Knoff Family
The Paynter Family
Dominique and Efstathios Spinos
The Stoner/Ward Family
The Witt Family

ENTHUSIASTS
$500 - $999

Chris Buchanan
The Guiou Family
Lauren Harris
The James Family
Nadia McInnis
The Sachdev and Holub Family
Karen Spencer

DONORS
$100 - $499

Selina Coleman
Alejandro Erives
Andreea Hamilton
Deborah Higgins
Jamie Illian
Dale Jacobs
Sara Johnson
Cindy Johnston
Parker Lindsay
Emily Moore
The Neleson Family
Laura Retta
Carmen Toal
Kelly Walton

SUPPORTERS
$10 - $99

Johnny Beutel
Becca Johnson-Spinos
Lori Jones
Ruby Kooner
Olga Langley
Sherry LeVine
Toby Newham
Shannon O'Keefe
Nimisha Pachory
Henry Price
Eric Schramm
Trey Smith
Jenna Terry
M. Evan Willis

If your name is incorrect or missing,
please contact us at outcrytheatre@gmail.com

MISSION STATEMENT

Outcry Theatre strives to draw youth and young adults from Plano and the surrounding areas to the theatre as both audience and participants, integrating the arts into their lives, and encouraging them to become lifelong artists and arts appreciators.

ABOUT OUTCRY THEATRE

Outcry Theatre utilizes bold artistic vision, highly physical staging, and an energetic and visceral performance style. With rigorous rehearsals, tenacious attention to detail, and unwavering dedication to excellence, Outcry Theatre focuses on developing stellar performances and exceptional storytelling.

Outcry Theatre serves the Plano community and surrounding DFW area through professional productions; Outcry Reads, presenting works in development by local playwrights; the Outcry Community Theatre program, involving people of all ages; and the Outcry Youth Theatre program, educating students ages 5-19.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marisa Saenz *(President)*
Chauncey Eastes *(Vice President)*
Vijay Sachdev *(Treasurer)*
Lauren Harris Wallace *(Secretary)*
Brady Beckley
Becca Johnson-Spinos
MrJim Johnson

OUTCRY STAFF

Artistic Director
Becca Johnson-Spinos
Marketing Director
Jason Johnson-Spinos
Bookkeeper
Jim Guiou

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

Outcry Theatre is funded in part by the City of Plano,
the Govenar Family Fund at Communities Foundation of Texas,
the Texas Commision on the Arts, and the Town of Addison.

Plano

Texas Commission on the Arts

ADDISON

outcrytheatre.org