OUTCRY Youth THEATRE

Once Upon a Maggress

YOUTH EDITION

JULY 17-20

Cox Playhouse

Downtown Plano

ONCE UPON A MATTRESS
YOUTH EDITION

Music by Mary Rodgers
Lyrics by Marshall Barer
Book by Jay Thompson, Dean Fuller and Marshall Barer

Adaptation by Tom Briggs and Timothy Allen Mcdonald
Original Orchestration by Hershy Kay, Arthur Beck, and Carroll Huxley
Musical Preparation by John Higgins
Adaptation and support materials developed by iTheatrics
under the supervision of Timothy Allen McDonald

Directed by Jason Johnson-Spinos
Music Directed by Rachel Wasson
Choreographed by Stori Silva
Assistant Directed by Brady Beckley
Stage Managed by Lisa James

Set by Misty Blasingame and Nathan Blasingame
Costume Design by Lisa James
Lighting Design by Tyler Hester
Props by Kathy Wright

Sound Board Operator: Cicely Hansen

Ticket Coordinator: Joshua James
Concessions Coordinator: Laura Retta
Playbill Assistance: Autumn Highsmith
Cast Party and Gift Coordinators: Ingrid Rorem and Susan Million
Volunteer Coordinator: Eleanor Duelley
Photography by Jason Johnson-Spinos and Kathy Wright

Set Assistance: Daniel Hampton, Joe Westrich, Vijay Sachdev,
Joshua James, and Ingrid Rorem
Costume Assistance: Amy Stoner and Renee Neleson

Special Thanks: Sam Garcia, MrJim and Sue Johnson,
and the Plano Stages staff

Once Upon a Mattress: Youth Edition is presented by arrangement
with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

CAST

PRINCESS WINNIFRED
Allison Wright
Madeline Knoff

PRINCE DAUNTLESS
Kaz Hill
Niam Sachdev

QUEEN AGGRAVAIN
Alexis Highsmith
Piper Westrich

LADY LARKIN
Alicia Pallares
Kate Illian

SIR HARRY
Holden James
Juan Erives

JESTER
Aubrey Blasingame
Paige Kocsis

MINSTREL
Annie Dominguez
Beatrix Wezwick

WIZARD
Achilles Witt
Kensley James

THE SILENT KING
Nora Duelley
Willa Jones

LUCILLE
Aly Dominguez
MacKenzie McLane

ROWENA
Priya Sachdev

PRINCESS #12
Anna Lyle
Renee Neleson

KNIGHT
Ethan Li

KNIGHT
Charlie Yang

BEATRICE
Olivia Stoner
Tiegan Wright

THE ROYAL COURT
Allie Retta
Charlotte Million
Christina Ogbu
Hailee Hampton
Miles Illian
Rene Euton
Willow Wallace

HAROLD
Kaz Hill
Niam Sachdev

ADDITIONAL KNIGHTS
AND LADIES
Achilles Witt
Anna Lyle
Holden James
Juan Erives
Kensley James
Nora Duelley
Olivia Stoner
Renee Neleson
Tiegan Wright
Willa Jones

BIOGRAPHIES



Aubrey Blasingame (Jester) is a rising sixth grader at Otto Middle School. This is her eighth production with Outcry Youth Theatre. She has enjoyed every role, and each is her favorite for different reasons. She especially loved playing JoJo *(Seussical)*, Oliver *(Oliver!)*, Jack *(Into the Woods)*, and Charles Wallace *(A Wrinkle in Time)*. When not on stage, she likes to swim, read, draw, and play with her bird, Bella.



Aly Dominguez (Lucille) is fourteen years old. This is her twelfth production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Her favorite past roles include Bird Girl *(Seussical)*, Jack's Mom *(Into the Woods)*, Nemo *(Finding Nemo Jr.)*, and Veruca Salt *(Willy Wonka)*. When she is not on stage, she enjoys singing, playing instruments, and reading. She thanks her parents for all of their love and support, Mr. J for being an amazing director, and the entire cast and crew for all of their dedication!



Annie Dominguez (Minstrel) is thirteen years old. This is her thirteenth production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Her favorite past roles include Sponge *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*, Matilda *(Matilda Jr.)*, Violet Beauregard *(Willy Wonka)*, and Wickersham *(Seussical)*. When she is not on stage, she enjoys baking and playing the piano. She thanks her parents for all of their love and support, Mr. J for being an awesome director, and the entire production team for all of their dedication!



Nora Duelley (The Silent King) is a rising 7th grader at Curtis Middle School. This is her 4th show with Outcry, after appearing as Matron Nurse *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*, Ancestor Caveman *(The Addams Family)*, and Mrs Which *(A Wrinkle in Time)*. When not on stage, Nora enjoys playing softball, playing guitar and electronic drums, singing at School of Rock, and making Kandi bracelets. She would like to thank her loving family, and her 2 dogs, Ruby and Harper, for all their support.



Juan Erives (Sir Harry) is 13 years old and a rising 8th grader at Wilson Middle School. This is his fifteenth production with Outcry Youth Theatre and his eleventh with Mr. Jason! His favorite past roles at Outcry include Charles Wallace *(A Wrinkle in Time)*, and James *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*. Juan would like to thank Mr. Jason for the great direction and everyone else who made this masterpiece of a show possible.

BIOGRAPHIES



Rene Euton (The Royal Court) will be entering 6th grade at Haggard Middle School. This is her third show with Outcry. She enjoyed her past roles of Sandy *(A Wrinkle in Time)* and Chris Cryermouth *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*. She has participated in shows with other theaters but enjoys Outcry most. When not on stage, she likes to read, embroider, and bake. She thanks her mom, dad, brothers, teachers, friends and Mr. J, and all those who helped behind the scenes like Stori and Ms. Lisa.



Hailee Hampton (The Royal Court) is in 6th grade at Otto Middle School. This is her first production with Outcry Youth Theatre. This is her first time in a major production, though she has enjoyed minor roles performing shorts and duos. When not on stage, she likes to write and illustrate fiction novels, snowboard, and play with her cats. She would like to thank her family and Aubrey Blasingame for introducing her to the theater.



Alexis Highsmith (Queen Aggravain) is a freshman at Forney High. This is her fifth production at Outcry Youth. While she loved all her roles, her favorite may always be Little Red in *Into the Woods*. She is excited for the opportunity to play the villainous Queen Aggravain, and has especially enjoyed working with her double, Piper, and being a "Big" at Outcry for the first time. Special thanks go to Mr. Jason, Ms. Lisa, Ms. Rachel, Stori, and Brady for all their hard work and support.



Kaz Hill (Prince Dauntless) is a 16-year-old actor. He has done multiple shows with Outcry Youth Theatre, this being his sixth show with Mr. J. When he's not performing, he enjoys drawing, cooking and singing. He takes pride in his acting and is always up for a challenge and always ready for what the day may bring him.



Kate Illian (Lady Larkin) is an 11-year-old rising 6th grader at Haggard Middle School. This is her 10th production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Her favorite roles include Wednesday *(The Addams Family)*, Alice *(Alice in Wonderland)*, and Veruca *(Willy Wonka)*. She loves hip hop dance, singing, and any chance to be on stage. She wants to thank her Mom, Ms. Rachel, and Mr. J.

BIOGRAPHIES



Miles Illian (The Royal Court) is a 8-year-old rising third grader at Harrington Elementary. This is his second production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Miles loves gaming, drawing, and soccer. He'd like to thank Mr. J for making this so fun.



Holden James (Sir Harry) is extremely proud to be part of Outcry Youth Theatre. This will be his fifteenth performance with Outcry. One of his favorite roles was as Gomez Addams in *The Addams Family (young@part)*, directed by Jason Johnson-Spinos. When he's not at rehearsal, he loves to play video games and spend time with his family. He would like to thank Jason Johnson-Spinos for giving him the opportunity to perform in *Once Upon A Mattress: Youth Edition*.



Kensley James (Wizard) is excited to join Outcry Youth Theatre's production of *Once Upon A Mattress: Youth Edition*. Kensley is in the seventh grade, and she is enjoying the fast-paced world of drama. This is her sixteenth show at Outcry Youth Theatre. Her favorite performance was as Meg in *A Wrinkle in Time*. When not at rehearsal, she loves to spend time with her friends and family. She would like to thank Mr. Jason for giving her the opportunity to perform in this exciting production.



Willa Jones (The Silent King) is an eighth grader at Wilson Middle School. This is her ninth production with Outcry, and she is a proud J-Squad member. Favorite roles: Aunt Beast *(A Wrinkle in Time)*, Caterpillar *(Alice in Wonderland)*, Grasshopper *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*, Cinderella's Mother/Giant *(Into the Woods)* and Who Child 2 *(Seussical)*. She loves being in Girl Scouts, dancing, singing, improv, and is in cheerleading. Willa wants to thank Mr. J and Brady for this opportunity!



Madeline Knoff (Princess Winnifred) is a tenth grader thrilled to perform in her 29th Outcry show. Favorite roles: The Witch *(Into the Woods)*, Evelyn *(Jekyll + Hyde)*, Morticia *(Addams Family)*, Helena *(A Midsummer Night's Dream)*, Leanne *(Puffs)*, and the Grand High Witch *(The Witches)*. She extends heartfelt thanks to her supportive family and friends, her amazing double, Allison, her inspiring director, Mr. J, and the entire cast and crew for making this magical adventure truly unforgettable.

BIOGRAPHIES



Paige Kocsis (Jester) is in seventh grade at Saint Patrick's Catholic School. This is her tenth production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Favorite roles include Rebecca Gibbs *(Our Town)* and Mrs Who *(A Wrinkle in Time)*. When not on stage, she loves to hang out with friends and work at her mom's coffee shop. She would like to thank her dad for driving her to rehearsals, her mom for being supportive, and Mr. Jason for always encouraging and helping her to be the best actress she can.



Ethan Li (Knight) just graduated from Skaggs Elementary School and is going to sixth grade next semester. This is his first production at Outcry Youth Theatre. His past experiences of acting and singing include weekly choirs and summer theater programs. Ethan's hobbies are reading books and playing piano. He played the main role in one of his recent musical performances, singing solo in several of the songs. Ethan would like to thank Cece Jin for recommending this program.



Anna Lyle (Princess #12) is going into the seventh grade and is excited to be back with Outcry Youth Theatre for her seventh show! Her favorite past roles are Tweedledum *(Alice in Wonderland)*, Mother *(A Wrinkle in Time)*, and Christopher Robin *(Winnie the Pooh KIDS)*. She's a proud J-Squad member and thanks Mr. J and Ms. Lisa for all their work on the show, and her friends and family for their support.



MacKenzie McLane (Lucille) is moving into eighth grade at TCA. This is her eighth production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Her favorite past roles include Jane Seymour *(SIX: Teen Edition)*, Ms. Trunchbull *(Matilda Jr.)*, and Cinderella *(Into the Woods)*. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their love and support!



Charlotte Million (The Royal Court) is a rising fifth grader at Saigling Elementary, performing in her fifteenth production, sixth with Outcry Youth Theatre, and is especially excited to be performing in her fifth Mr. J show! Favorite past roles include Cheshire Cat, Miss Spider, Piglet, Marlin, and Elephant Bird. She thanks Mr. J for the royal opportunity, her Moms for their support, and admits she'd probably snore right through a whole sack of peas under the mattress.

BIOGRAPHIES



Renee Neleson (Princess #12) is in tenth grade at Frisco High School. This is her ninth stage production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Some of Renee's favorite Outcry roles include White Rabbit *(Alice in Wonderland)* and Meg *(A Wrinkle in Time)*. When not on stage, Renee enjoys sewing, animation, and baking. Renee would like to thank her parents and cats for all their love and support.



Christina Ogbu (The Royal Court) is an eighth grader at Curtis Middle School. This is her first show with Outcry Youth Theatre. She likes to read and draw in her free time. Her previous roles in acting include Seagull 2 *(My Little Mermaid)* and Roberta *(Miss Polly's Institute)*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and Mr. Jason for giving her the opportunity to perform.



Alicia Pallares (Lady Larkin) is 13 years old and a rising eighth grader at Evans Middle School in McKinney. She is excited to be in her eighth production with Outcry Youth Theatre and would love to thank Mr. J for this amazing opportunity! Her favorite roles include Morticia *(The Addams Family)*, Queen of Hearts *(Alice in Wonderland)*, and Rapunzel *(Into the Woods)*. When not performing in theater, Alicia is also involved with choir, cheer, tennis, gymnastics, and watching Japanese anime.



Allie Retta (The Royal Court) is in seventh grade at Haggard Middle School. She is thrilled to be in her twelfth production with Outcry Youth Theatre! Some of her favorite past roles have been Mack *(Peter and the Starcatcher)* and Tad *(Finding Nemo Jr.)*. Allie is grateful to Mr. J, Ms. Becca, Stori, and all of her Outcry friends for helping her grow as an actor. She would like to thank her parents for their love, support, and always getting her to rehearsals as early as possible.



Niam Sachdev (Prince Dauntless) just graduated from Harrington Elementary. He is excited to be playing Dauntless in his 14th show with Outcry. Favorite roles include JoJo *(Seussical)*, Oliver *(Oliver!)*, Charlie Bucket *(Willy Wonka)*, and Nemo *(Finding Nemo Jr.)*. He studies film acting with Performer's Edge Dallas, has acted in four films, and is represented by the Horne Agency. Niam would like to thank Mr. Jason for believing in him and the amazing staff, volunteers, and cast for their support!

BIOGRAPHIES



Priya Sachdev (Rowena) is thirteen and begins eighth grade at Haggard Middle this fall. This is Priya's eleventh production with Outcry. Favorite roles include Peach *(Finding Nemo Jr.)*, Lavender *(Matilda Jr.)*, Mrs Who *(A Wrinkle in Time)*, and White Mouse *(The Nutcracker)*. She is in junior company at Tuzer Ballet. She enjoys taking acting and film classes with Performer's Edge and is represented by the Horne Agency. She would like to thank Mr. Jason, all the volunteers, and her family for their support.



Olivia Stoner (Beatrice) is in sixth grade at Renner Middle School. This is her ninth production with Outcry Youth Theatre. She is a proud member of the J-Squad. Her favorite past roles include Spider *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)* and Grandma *(The Addams Family)*. When not on stage, she enjoys basketball, making reels, and roller skating. She would like to thank her mom and dad for their continued love and support.



Willow Wallace (The Royal Court) is excited for her seventh show at Outcry and fifth with Mr. Jason! Favorite roles: Pooh *(Winnie the Pooh)*, Pugsley *(The Addams Family)*, Milky White *(Into the Woods)*, and Bagheera *(Jungle Book)*. Willow thanks her mom, dad, stepmom, friends, her dogs and cats, Mr. Jason, her fellow cast and crew, and a special shoutout to Mrs. Lisa for helping and staying calm when everyone was talking a bit too much. "Let's make this show crispy like chicken tenders!"



Piper Westrich (Queen Aggravain) is so excited to make her Outcry Youth Theatre debut in this fun show! A rising eighth grader at Robinson Middle School, Piper enjoys theatre, choir, and sports. Some of her favorite past roles include Jane Banks *(Mary Poppins)*, Scuttle *(The Little Mermaid Jr.)*, Meredith Wilfred *(Why Do We Laugh)*, and Young Cosette *(Les Misérables)*. She thanks Mr. Jason for this opportunity and her family for their love and support.



Beatrix Wezwick (Minstrel) is entering seventh grade at Richardson West Junior High where she was accepted into the theatre magnet. Favorite past roles include Bilbo Baggins *(The Hobbit)*, Alice *(Alice in Wonderland)*, and Louise *(Sunday in the Park with George)*. She performs with Stomping Ground Comedy's Youth Improv House Team and takes classes at Performer's Edge Dallas. Beatrix would like to thank her friends and family and beloved cat, Neptune, for the love and support.

BIOGRAPHIES



Achilles Witt (Wizard) is in tenth grade at The Einstein School. This is their tenth performance with Outcry Youth Theatre and twentieth theatre production. Some of their favorite roles have been Mrs Whatsit *(A Wrinkle in Time)*, Celeste *(Jekyll + Hyde)*, Granny *(Into the Woods)*, and Smaug *(The Hobbit)*. They have fallen in love with Outcry and are so thankful to get to be a part of such a high caliber theater. They want to thank Mr. J for the opportunity to be part of such a fun show.



Allison Wright (Princess Winnifred) is 14 years old and a proud member of J-Squad and Becca's Army. This is her fifteenth Outcry Youth Theatre production and her ninth under the direction of Mr. Jason. Favorite past roles include the silly Uncle Fester *(The Addams Family)* and outlandish Mrs. Soames *(Our Town)*. Offstage, Allison enjoys basketball, choir, cuddling her dogs, and laughing with her family. She thanks Mr. J for the gift of this bold and fearless role. Esther 4:14.



Tiegan Wright (Beatrice) is 12 years old and excited to be in her fourth Outcry Youth Theatre production. She brings energy and joy to every role and is especially thrilled to share the stage with her sister in *Once Upon a Mattress*. When she's not acting, Tiegan enjoys playing soccer, making videos, and hanging out with friends. She is thankful for the friends she's made at Outcry and for Mr. J, who created a place where she can grow and feel truly welcomed.



Charlie Yang (Knight) is in seventh grade at Rice Middle School. This is his first production with Outcry Youth Theatre. When not on stage, he likes to help around the house and build items. He would like to thank his family members and the production team.

BIOGRAPHIES



Jason Johnson-Spinos (Director) is a teacher, director, actor, playwright, and designer. Elon University graduate. Film editor: *Tattoo Uprising*, *Extraordinary Ordinary People*, *Looking for Home*. Off-Broadway design: *Texas in Paris* (sound/projections), *Lonesome Blues* (sound). Jason has worked professionally with Circle Theatre, Undermain Theatre, WaterTower Theatre, and Shakespeare Dallas. At Outcry, he recently directed *A Memorial Service for Lily Evergreen* and *A Wrinkle in Time*.



Rachel Wasson (Music Director) is a multi-faceted musician, educator, performer, and composer. Raised in a musical family in McKinney, Texas, Rachel was regularly involved in choir, band, dance, and musical theatre throughout her childhood. She is an alumna of East Texas A&M University where she pursued instrumental and vocal music and education. She currently teaches private french horn and voice lessons, and performs in professional, community, and church ensembles in DFW.



Stori Silva (Choreographer) is an Acting major and Dance minor at Texas State. This is their fifth show choreographing for Jason. They are so proud of this cast and deeply grateful to have worked alongside their mom, Lisa, as well as Brady and Jason. Stori is thrilled to share this experience with you. Love to all.



Brady Beckley (Assistant Director) is overjoyed to be behind the desk with Mr. J again! Previously, he was assistant music director for *James and the Giant Peach Jr.* and assistant director for *A Wrinkle in Time*. He has been with Outcry Theatre for over two years now and has learned so much from his experience, both on stage with Ms. Becca and off with Mr. J, having been a part of twelve productions. He's incredibly proud of all these hard-working kiddos and can't wait to see them shine!

JULIUS CAESAR

by **William Shakespeare**

Performs **August 1-10, 2025**
The Addison Performing Arts Centre, Studio Theatre
directed by Becca Johnson-Spinos

The brilliant historical tragedy is transplanted to a post-apocalyptic world where zombies roam the streets, and the question of who wields political power is a real matter of life and death. In this survival of the fittest world, Brutus fears that Julius Caesar will become a tyrant, so he joins a conspiracy led by fellow politician Cassius to assassinate him. Caesar's right-hand man Antony stirs up hostility against the conspirators and Rome becomes embroiled in a dramatic civil war.

Contains depictions of violence. Not recommended for young children.

Describe the night
by Rajiv Joseph

Performs **August 23-31, 2025**
Theatre Three, Norma Young Arena Stage, Dallas
directed by Becca Johnson-Spinos

In 1920, the Russian writer Isaac Babel is a war correspondent with the Red Cavalry. Seventy years later, a mysterious Stasi agent spies on a woman in Dresden and falls in love. In 2010, an aircraft carrying most of the Polish government crashes in the Russian city of Smolensk. Set in Russia and East Germany over the course of ninety years, this thrilling and epic play traces the stories of seven people connected by history, myth, and conspiracy theories. This professional production, by the acclaimed author of *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo* and *Guards at the Taj*, will be Outcry's first performance at Theatre Three.

Contains adult language and content.

UPCOMING AUDITIONS

Off to TREASURE ISLAND

by **Jason Johnson-Spinos**
freely adapted from Robert Louis Stevenson's *Treasure Island*

Ages 10-15
Auditions **August 5 & 9, 2025**
Performs **October 17-26, 2025**
Cox Playhouse in Plano
directed by Jason Johnson-Spinos

This thrilling new adaptation of the classic Robert Louis Stevenson novel finds new twists and turns, new characters, and new adventure.

When a pirate with a map to buried treasure takes up lodging at the inn Jim Hawkins' runs with his mother, their lives are turned upside down. Soon they are captured by a colorful group of pirates, led by the unforgettable Long John Silver, and set sail for a deserted island. An incredible journey awaits, filled with iconic characters like Blind Pew, Black Dog, and Ben Gunn, as well as fictionalized versions of historic female pirates like Anne Bonny, Mary Read, and Shi Yang.

ONE-WEEK SUMMER CAMPS



July 21-25
9am-12pm
Ages 12-18

Taught by
Benjamin McElroy



July 21-25
1-5pm
Ages 12-18

Taught by
Megan Becker



July 28-August 1
9am-12pm
Ages 10-18

Taught by
Benjamin McElroy



July 28-August 1
1-5pm
Ages 10-18

Taught by
Megan Becker



August 4-8
9am-12pm
Ages 10-18

Taught by
Jake Blakeman



August 4-8
1-5pm
Ages 10-18

Taught by
Jake Blakeman

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Karen Wade
M Evan Willis
Kimberly Wilson
Weidong Zhou

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 5-18.

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Outcry Theatre is funded in part by the City of Plano, the Kaleta A. Doolin Fund at Texas Women's Foundation, the Govenar Family Fund at Communities Foundation of Texas, the Texas Commision on the Arts, and the Town of Addison. This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

outcrytheatre.com