OUTCRY Youth THEATRE

OUR TOWN

by **Thornton Wilder**

Directed by Becca Johnson-Spinos

AUGUST 22-25
Cox Playhouse
Downtown Plano

There will be two ten-minute intermissions

Our Town is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

CAST

STAGE MANAGER
Lauren Bazan
Liam Paynter

EMILY WEBB
Amelia Racca
Layla Tacazon

GEORGE GIBBS
Apache Browne
Parker Lindsay

MRS. GIBBS
Nadia Fox

DOC GIBBS
Ronit Gollapudi

MRS. WEBB
Madeline Knoff
Olivia Holloway

MR. WEBB
special guest artist
Brady Beckley

HOWIE NEWSOME
Bodhi Miller-Sholl
Everett Johnson

SIMON STIMSON
Kaz Hill
Zhihao Zhang

MRS. SOAMES
Allison Wright

REBECCA GIBBS
Paige Kocsis
Priya Sachdev

JOE STODDARD/WOMAN IN BALCONY/BASEBALL PLAYER
Achilles Witt

CONSTABLE WARREN/ BELLIGERENT MAN
Fin Jayroe

PROFESSOR WILLARD/A MAN/ WOMAN AMONG THE DEAD
Eli Gibson
Kylie Bell

SAM CRAIG/ LADY IN A BOX/ BASEBALL PLAYER
Kensley James

JOE CROWELL/SI CROWELL/ BASEBALL PLAYER
Niam Sachdev

WALLY WEBB
Holden James

MR. CARTER/ANOTHER MAN AMONG THE DEAD
Kaz Hill
Zhihao Zhang

BIOGRAPHIES



Lauren Bazan (Stage Manager) is a senior at Emerson High School. She is excited to be in her third show at Outcry Youth Theatre. Her favorite past roles include Wednesday *(The Addams Family)*, Diana *(A Chorus Line)*, and Mrs. White *(Clue)*. Outside of performing, Lauren loves to read and hang out with friends. She would like to thank her family and friends, Ms. Becca, the cast, and the entire production team. Proverbs 3:5.



Brady Beckley (Mr. Webb) is so excited to be back for his 6th show with Outcry Theatre! His favorite roles include Georg in *Spring Awakening*, Oberon/Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Mr. Bumble in *Oliver!*. He'd like to thank his friends and family for their endless support, Ms. Becca for being the most amazing director and friend, and once again, he'd like to give a big thank you to Liam Paynter and his family, as they've done so much to help him and he'll be forever grateful for them. Good show!



Kylie Bell (Professor Willard) is 11 years old and attends Carpenter Middle School. This is her seventh Outcry production. Kylie's favorite past roles include Pearl *(Finding Nemo Jr.)*, Caterpillar *(Alice in Wonderland)*, and Earthworm *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*. When she isn't performing, she loves to read, draw, play video games, and spend time with her friends. Kylie is also active in her Girl Scout troop. Kylie would like to thank the incredible cast and crew of this show for making the whole process so much fun.



Apache Browne (George) is a senior at Hebron High School. This is his fifth show at Outcry Youth Theatre. He would like to thank the cast and crew for giving him the opportunity to be a part of this production, the learning experience, and the support from his family.



Nadia Fox (Mrs. Gibbs) is a junior at Booker T. Washington HSPVA. Recent credits include *Legally Blonde* (Whitney/ Chutney) with Junior Players, *The Music Man* (Gracie Shinn) with Garland Summer Musicals, *Dear Edwina* (Edwina) with Young Artist Training Program, and *James and the Giant Peach Jr.* (Grasshopper) with Outcry. She would like to thank her parents for all of their support and Ms. Becca for this opportunity.

BIOGRAPHIES



Eli Gibson (Professor Willard) is in 7th grade at Inspired Learning Academy. This is his 10th production with Outcry. Favorite past roles include Ladahlord *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*, Gollum *(The Hobbit)*, Mike Teavee (Willy Wonka), King of Hearts *(Alice in Wonderland)*, and Bunce *(Fantastic Mr. Fox)*. When not performing onstage, Eli likes to perform Improv and play video games. He would like to thank Ms. Becca for her guidance and direction. He would also like to thank his family and friends for their support.

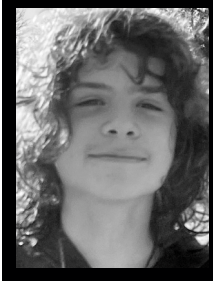
Ronit Gallapudi (Doc Gibbs) is a sophomore at Hebron High School. This is his first show at Outcry Youth Theatre.



Kaz Hill (Simon Stimson) is a 15-year-old actor. He has done multiple shows with Outcry Youth Theatre, this being his fourth Ms. Becca show. When he's not on stage preforming, he enjoys drawing, cooking, and singing. He takes pride in his acting and is always up for a challenge, always ready for what the day may bring him.



Olivia Holloway (Mrs. Webb) is a senior at Rockwall High School. Some of her favorite past roles include Dory in *Finding Nemo Jr.*, Narrator in *Puffs*, and Aunt March in *Little Women*. She has also performed in Texas Ballet Theater's professional *Nutcracker* ballet for five years. This is her fourth Outcry Youth Theatre production, and she is excited to be a part of this show.



Holden James (Wally Webb) is extremely proud to be part of Outcry Youth Theatre. This will be his ninth performance with Outcry. One of his favorite roles was Centipede in *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*, 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 Ms. Becca Johnson-Spinos for giving him the opportunity to perform as Wally Webb in Outcry's production of *Our Town*.

BIOGRAPHIES



Kensley James (Sam Craig/Lady in the Box) is excited to join Outcry's production of *Our Town*. Kensley is in the 7th grade, and she is enjoying the fast-paced world of drama. This is her ninth show at Outcry Youth Theatre. Her favorite performance was as The Earthworm in *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*, directed by Jason Johnson-Spinos. When not at rehearsal, she loves to spend time with her friends and family. She would like to thank Ms. Becca Johnson-Spinos for giving her this opportunity.



Fin Jayroe (Constable Warren/Belligerent Man) is 14 and a freshman at The Colony High School. This is his third production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Past roles include Bard the bowman in *The Hobbit* and Tom Chitling in *Oliver!* When not in theater, he enjoys hanging with his pups, skateboarding, and is now wrestling! He would like to thank his awesome mom who writes his bios and drives him to all rehearsals!



Everett Johnson (Howie Newsome) is a junior at Booker T Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. He is thrilled to be in his 12th show at Outcry! Past favorite roles include Constable Joe *(Tuck Everlasting)*, J. Finch *(Puffs)*, and Duncan *(Macbeth)*. He is a chili cook-off champion and enjoys history and board games. Thanks to Ms. Becca, this amazing cast, and my family and friends!



Madeline Knoff (Mrs. Webb) is a 9th grader with a passion for playing sports, piano, saxophone, and bassoon. Favorite roles: Mrs. Sowerberry *(Oliver!)*, Helena *(A Midsummer Night's Dream)*, Leanne *(Puffs)*, Mad Hatter *(Alice in Wonderland)*, Gill *(Finding Nemo Jr.)*, Miss Honey *(Matilda Jr.)*, and the Grand High Witch *(The Witches)*. She is grateful for the unwavering support of her family and friends. She also thanks her incredible director, Ms. Becca, her double, Olivia, and the entire cast and crew for this amazing experience.

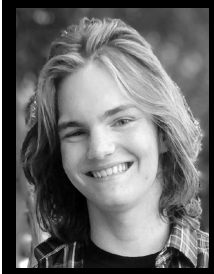


Paige Kocsis (Rebecca) is in 6th grade at St Patrick Catholic School. This is her fourth production with Outcry Youth Theatre. Paige loves to read, enjoys traveling, and track. She would like to thank her Dad for driving her back-and-forth across Dallas every night and Ms. Becca for being such a great director and helping her grow.

BIOGRAPHIES



Parker Lindsay (George) is in the 10th grade at iUniversity Prep. This is his 5th production with Outcry Youth Theatre. His favorite past roles include Artful Dodger in *Oliver!* and Oliver in *Puffs*. When not on stage, he enjoys figure skating as well as the study of literature and philosophy. He would like to thank Ms. Becca for the incredible opportunity and trust she has given him with this role.



Bodhi Miller-Sholl (Howie Newsome) is a 10th grader at McKinney Boyd High School. This is his first show with Outcry and his seventh show overall. His favorite roles include Blackstache in *Peter and the Starcatcher* and The Mayor in *Big Fish*. Outside of theatre he likes to play video games and hang out with his friends. He would like to thank his parents for enduring the arduous journey of getting him to and from rehearsal and his fellow castmates for making this fun.



Liam Paynter (Stage Manager) is 16 years old and a junior at Plano Senior High School. This is his 19th production with Outcry. Liam's favorite past roles include Nick Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Wayne Hopkins in *Puffs*, Laertes in *Hamlet*, and Skuggle in *The Night Fairy*. Liam would like to thank Ms. Becca for the opportunity to be a part of this incredible cast.



Amelia Racca (Emily) is in 10th grade at Marcus High School. She is thrilled to be a part of her third production with Outcry. Some of her favorite roles include Anne *(Anne of Green Gables)*, Anna *(Frozen)*, and Judas *(Godspell)*. Amelia would like to thank her family, friends, and Ms. Becca for all of their support.



Niam Sachdev (Joe/Si Crowell) is 10.5 and in 5th grade at Harrington Elementary. This is his ninth production with Outcry. Favorite past roles include James *(James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*, Oliver *(Oliver!)*, Charlie Bucket *(Willy Wonka)*, and Nemo *(Finding Nemo Jr.)*. He trains at Tuzer Ballet and studies film acting with Performer's Edge Dallas. Niam would like to thank his family for their love and Ms. Becca for her constant support and the opportunity to be a part of this production.

BIOGRAPHIES



Priya Sachdev (Rebecca Gibbs) is 12 and is in 7th at Carpenter Middle. This is her sixth show with Outcry. Past roles include Ladybug (*James and the Giant Peach Jr.)*, Peach *(Finding Nemo Jr.)*, Lavender *(Matilda Jr.)*, Ruby *(Anne of Green Gables)*, and Handwalker *(Oliver!)*. She trains with Tuzer Ballet, performs in their *Nutcracker* (The White Mouse), and is in their junior company. She takes film acting classes with Performer's Edge Dallas. She thanks everyone who has worked on this production and her family for their support.



Layla Tacazon (Emily) is a junior at Rockwall High School, and she is so excited to play the role of Emily! Some of her past roles with Outcry were Megan Jones in *Puffs* and Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She would like to thank her friends and family for coming and supporting her, and she hopes everyone enjoys the show!



Achilles Witt (Joe Stoddard) is in 9th grade at The Einstein School. This is their third performance with Outcry Youth Theatre. Some of their favorite past roles have been Smaug in Outcry's *The Hobbit* and Miss Shields in *A Christmas Story*. Their dream is to write a play performed by their school, filled with gravitas, drama, tear-jerking moments - or at the least, tons of dark humor. Preferably both. They have fallen in love with Outcry and are so thankful to get to be a part of such a high caliber theater.



Allison Wright (Mrs. Soames) is 13 and attends Curtis Middle School. Allison enjoys playing basketball for her school and hanging out with friends. Favorite roles include Charlotte in *Oliver!*, Bruce in *Finding Nemo Jr.*, and Mr. Wormwood in *Matilda Jr.* This is her 11th show with Outcry. She wants to thank her amazing friends and loving family for their unwavering support. Special thanks to Ms. Becca and Ms. Saenz for their dedication to the show and cast.



Zhihao Zhang (Simon Stimson) is 14 years old and a freshman at Frisco High School. This is his first ever show at Outcry Youth Theatre. Some of his previous roles include Shrek in *Shrek Jr.* and Tin Man in *Oz*. He has done singing, dance, and theatre all in school and is excited to perform his first show outside of school. He would like to thank Ms. Becca for challenging him as a performer and his family for always being there to support him.

BIOGRAPHIES

Becca Johnson-Spinos (Director) is the Artistic Director of Outcry Theatre. Becca has a BFA in Music Theatre from Elon University and an MFA in Directing for Theatre from Baylor University. Becca attended Playwrights Horizons Directing Lab and Shakespeare's Globe and Washington University's Shakespeare Intensive. She wrote, directed, and performed a one-woman show for the New York Fringe Festival. Becca worked as an assistant to the Artistic Director at Burning Coal Theatre Company in North Carolina, where she also assistant directed and performed. In the Dallas area, she has directed dozens of shows and was named one of the Best Directors for 2018 by John Garcia for Outcry Theatre's production of *Spring's Awakening*.

CREW

DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER: Becca Johnson-Spinos

STAGE MANAGER: Marisa Saenz

COSTUMES: Kathy Wright

PROPS: Sherilyn Fox

SET: Nathan and Misty Blasingame

LIGHTING: Jason Johnson-Spinos

SOUND: Becca and Jason Johnson-Spinos

TICKET COORDINATORS: Lisa and Josh James

PLAYBILL ASSISTANCE: Shayla Holub

CONCESSIONS COORDINATOR: Kristin Bell

PRODUCTION PHOTOS: Kathy Wright

CAST PARTY COORDINATOR: Shayla Holub

SET BUILD ASSISTANCE: Kara Holloway, Shayla Holub, Zan Jayroe, Dan Knoff, Jenci Kocsis, and Vijay Sachdev

COSTUME DYEING ASSISTANCE: Marisa Saenz and Dan Knoff

SPECIAL THANKS: MrJim and Sue Johnson, Chris Buchanan, and the staff at Plano Stages

UPCOMING AUDITIONS



by **Becca and Jason Johnson-Spinos**
Based on the book by **Robert Louis Stevenson**

Ages 13-18
Auditions **August 28 & 30, 2024**
Performs **November 14-17, 2024**
Cox Playhouse in Plano
directed by Becca Johnson-Spinos

A brand new adaptation of the Robert Louis Stevenson story of good vs. evil. A classic tale of gothic horror – exploring the concept that while someone might seem outwardly virtuous, no one can know what depths of depravity may lurk just below the surface. Dr. Jekyll's scientific experiment, aimed to create a perfect man, goes horribly awry, and now the sinister Mr. Hyde haunts the back alleys of London with his dark and vicious desires.

UPCOMING AUDITIONS



Music and Lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim**
Book by **James Lapine**

Performs **January 23-26, 2025**
Lewisville Grand Theater, Black Box
directed by Becca Johnson-Spinos
music directed by Cindy Johnston

James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim take everyone's favorite storybook characters and bring them together for a timeless, yet relevant, piece... and a rare modern classic. The Tony Award-winning book and score are both enchanting and touching.

The story follows a Baker and his wife, who wish to have a child; Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's Festival; and Jack, who wishes his cow would give milk. When the Baker and his wife learn that they cannot have a child because of a Witch's curse, the two set off on a journey to break the curse. Everyone's wish is granted, but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later with disastrous results.

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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, readings of new works by local playwrights, and the Outcry Youth Theatre program, educating students ages 5-18.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chauncey Eastes *(Vice President)*
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Carmen Toal *(Secretary)*
Vijay Sachdev
Becca Johnson-Spinos
MrJim Johnson

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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 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.

Plano

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www.outcrytheatre.com