

PLAYBILL

uptown
MUSIC THEATER HIGHLAND PARK



*The
Addams
Family*

JULY 28TH THRU AUGUST 6TH 2023
NORTHWOOD THEATER, 945 NORTH AVE
HIGHLAND PARK, IL

uptown

MUSIC THEATER HIGHLAND PARK



The Addams Family

A NEW MUSICAL
Book by MARSHALL BRICKMAN and RICK ELICE
Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA
Orchestrations by Larry Hochman
Based on Characters Created by Charles Addams

Originally produced on Broadway by Stuart Oken, Roy Furman, Michael Leavitt, Five Cent Productions, Stephen Schuler, Decca Theatricals, Scott M. Delman, Stuart Ditsky, Terry Allen Kramer, Stephanie P. McClelland, James L. Nederlander, Eva Price, Jam Theatricals/Mary LuRoffe, Pittsburgh CLO/Gutterman-Swinsky, Vivek Tiwary/Gary Kaplan, The Weinstein Company/Clarence, LLC, Adam Zotovich/Tribe Theatricals; By Special Arrangement with Elephant Eye Theatrical

THE ADDAMS FAMILY A NEW MUSICAL is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.theatricalrights.com

Uptown Music Theater of Highland Park is a not-for-profit corporation and an affiliate of the Park District of Highland Park.

Musical Numbers

ACT ONE

Overture/Prologue	Ensemble
When You're an Addams	Ensemble
Fester's Manifesto	Fester
Wednesday's Growing Up	Gomez
Trapped	Gomez
Honor Roll	Pugsley
Pulled	Wednesday, Pugsley
One Normal Night	Ensemble
But Love	Fester, Ancestors
Secrets	Morticia, Alice, Female Ancestors
What If	Gomez
What If	Pugsley, Grandma
Full Disclosure (part 1)	Ensemble
Waiting	Alice, Mal, Lucas, Lurch, Female Ancestors
Full Disclosure (part 2)	Ensemble

There will be one 15-minute intermission

ACT TWO

Just Around the Corner	Morticia, Ancestors
Moon and Me	Fester, Female Ancestors
Happy, Sad	Gomez, Wednesday
Crazier Than You	Wednesday, Lucas, Mal, Alice
Not Today	Gomez, Lurch, Fester
Live Before We Die	Gomez, Morticia
Tango De Amor	Gomez, Morticia, Ancestors
Move Towards the Darkness	Ensemble
When You're An Addams (Reprise)	Ensemble

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production
is strictly prohibited. No flash photography.

Cast

Gomez Addams	Aaron Rumack
Morticia Addams	Trillium Falotico
Uncle Fester	Michael Kirby
Wednesday Addams	Leah Jacobson
Pugsley Addams	Nathaniel Vodak
Grandma	Anita Silvert
Lurch	Brock Hayden
Lucas Beineke	Justin Katin
Mal Beineke	Larry Mason
Alice Beineke	Tiffany Melvin

Addams Ancestors

Madison Taylor Breford, Olivia Daly-Short, Abby DeRosa, Christopher Finch, Bill Gordon, Madison Jaffe-Richter, Samantha Kroening, Massimo Manfredini, Max Perkel, Betsy Pennington Taylor, Anna Widlowski

Orchestra

Conductor	Isabella Isherwood
Keyboard 1	Jason Hill
Keyboard 2	Ben Jossi
Violin	Raquel Navarro
Cello	Matt Wolf
Reed 1	Sachio Nang
Reed 2	Jocelyn Goodwin
Trumpet	Jon Rarick
Trombone	Tanner Jackson
Guitar	Michael Lockler
Bass	Ethan Davila
Drums	Ben Heppner
Percussion	Noel Streaker

Creative

Director	Matt Canon
Music Director	Isabella Isherwood
Choreographer	Sarah Makkawy Canon
Producer	Jamie Davidson
Technical Director	Chris Morgan
Stage Manager	Abby Rakocy
Costume Designer	Lucy Elkin
Set Designer	Bob Silton
Sound Designer	Rich Neumann
Lighting Designer	Joel Zishuk
Props Designer	Christopher Finch
Props Associate	Sue Vani
Social Media	Sarah Clement
Graphic Design	Lisa Pogofsky Sobelman
House Manager	Ryan Elliott
Ticket Manager	Anne Zavell
Crew	Juniper Behun Riley Baer Ethan Howard Julia Howard Charlie Nugent

UPTOWN MUSIC THEATER OF HIGHLAND PARK

Board of Directors

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Lisa Pogofsky Sobelman
Anne Zavell

Directors Note

It's perfect isn't it? On this beautiful late summer day, what better people are there to spend your time with than these mysterious and spooky Addams? I think that says it all about these characters and why they've lasted this long: they're timeless. It doesn't matter if it's summer, fall, winter, the 1960s, the 1990s, or 2023, The Addams Family are beloved no matter the time, place, or season. And the story possibilities are always endless. That's what I love about this show and what drew me to it. Usually when a musical is based on an existing IP, it's adapting a story that's been told before - whether it be a film, book, or comic strip. But this show is different. You know the characters, but you don't know this story. You know The Addams Family, but you don't know these Addams.

So we're all incredibly excited for you all to see how this story unfolds and the journey these beloved characters go on. As wacky as characters like the Addams are, at the heart is the story about a loving family. Gomez and Morticia have a marriage that any couple should strive to have. Wednesday might hunt petting zoo animals for dinner, but her struggle with wanting to connect with her family, while finding love in an unexpected place, is as relatable as any story out there. And that's what makes this family so entertaining, because even with all of their crazy characteristics, they're a "family first and family last."

Our goal with this production was simple: take this extremely popular show and make it OUR Addams Family, treating it with the reverence that this hilarious and heartfelt script deserves. If you've seen this show before, you haven't seen it like this. There are over 60 years of influence to take inspiration from. So you'll see a little bit of the 60s TV show, a splash of the 90s films, and even a spark of the recent Netflix series. But surrounded by all of that inspiration is our amazing cast and staff's interpretation of these characters and this world. So we really feel that we've created our perfect "Addams". And we can't wait for you to come join the family for a couple of hours. Enjoy the show and stay "ooky."

PS- In this show about family, I count myself incredibly lucky to be able to create this show with my family. I love you cara mia

Matt Canon, Director

This production is made possible by a grant from
Highland Park Community Foundation



And also by the sponsorship of
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Special thank you to the
Park District of Highland Park,, The Art Center Highland Park
and to North Shore School District 112.



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About the Cast



Madison Taylor Breford (Ancestor) is thrilled to be back performing with Uptown again after appearing in *Seussical* last summer as the yellow Bird Girl. She has her BFA in musical theatre and works as a caregiver to adults on the autism spectrum when not performing. Some of her favorite roles she has played in the past are Carrie (*Carousel*), Baker's Wife (*Into The Woods*), Rusty (*Footloose*), and Deb (*Ordinary Days*). She hopes you enjoy the show and as always thanks her family for the never-ending support.



Olivia Daly-Short (Ancestor) is thrilled to be making her Uptown debut in *The Addams Family*! She is currently attending the Chicago Academy for the Arts and will be a senior in the fall. Some of her recent shows and roles include *A Chorus Line* (Maggie), *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel), *Spring Awakening* (Martha), *A Little Night Music* (Petra/Mrs Nordstrom). She would like to thank her friends and family for all their love and support!



Abby DeRosa (Ancestor) is excited to join the cast of "*The Addams Family*"! She graduated from Roosevelt University with a BFA in Musical Theatre, Dance emphasis. Since then, she has been performing around the city of Chicago. Some of her favorite roles include Patsy in "*Crazy for You*", Eeyore in "*Winnie the Pooh*", and Bebe in "*A Chorus Line*". She would like to thank her Mom, Grammy, Emily and all the friends and teachers along the way!



Trillium Falotico (Morticia) is elated to be taking on this role! Her past work includes *Gypsy: A Musical Fable* (Dolores, Renee), *Eleanor's Very Merry Christmas Wish* (Sprinkle), *The Little Mermaid* (Allana), *Zorro the Musical*, *Miracle on 34th Street* (Olivia Glatt), and *Shrek: The Musical* (Princess Fiona). Trillium studied at Point Park University's Conservatory of Performing Arts. She enjoys yoga and can usually be found belting Falsettos while she cooks.

IG: @Trillium04



Christopher Finch (Ancestor) is excited to be back with Uptown this summer! Most recently, Chris played the Cat in the Hat in Uptown's production of *Seussical* last summer. Chris has also been seen as Lord Farquaad in *Shrek*, Marcellus Washburne in *The Music Man*, Pharaoh in *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and Nicely-Nicely in *Guys and Dolls*. Chris and his family are Libertyville residents. He wishes to thank everyone for their love and support this summer!

About the Cast



Bill Gordon (Ancestor) FIRST SHOW IN OVER 16 YEARS...ELATED! Music Degrees from University of Michigan; Roosevelt University. Many Area Performances as an Operatic Character Tenor, also Sarasota Opera (FL) and Seagle Colony (NY) 26 years as a Public School Music Educator. Prepared Youth Choir Performances for Symphony Center, ABC Television and Carnegie Hall. Director of 20 Middle School Musicals...Grateful for this "Ooky" Cast and Crew! Much love to MY family: Yvonne, Jessica, Ella, Cookie and Axel.



Brock Hayden (Lurch) is ecstatic to be shambling about in the shoes of Lurch. Brock is a Chicago Actor, Shakespeare Text Coach, and Theatre Artist with specialties in acting, costuming, playwriting, and directing. Favorite past roles include Berowne (Love's Labour's Lost), and Stephano in The Tempest. Brock holds a BA in Theatre from Millikin University, where he also played Lurch, circa 2015. #SnapSnap to Uptown for staging this killer production. For booking inquiries, email brock.hayden.actor@gmail.com



Leah Jacobson (Wednesday Addams) is thrilled to make her debut with Uptown Music Theater. Recent performances include "Our Town" and "Mamma Mia" at Highland Park High School. Leah learned with the Actor's Training Center in Wilmette, IL, the Performers School in Highwood, IL, and Highland Park High School. Graduating from HPHS this June, she is now set to pursue a BFA in Theatre Performance at Chapman University in Orange County, California.



Madison Jaffe-Richter (Ancestor / Dance Captain) is thrilled to be back at Uptown Music Theater after previously performing in the 2019 HPHS Alumni Cabaret! Madison recently graduated from Muhlenberg College earning a BA in Theatre and Dance. Past school credits include Miss You Like Hell, Call Me By Any Other Name... Just As Sweet (A world premiere queer deconstruction of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet) and The Bacchae. She can't wait to return to her contemporary musical theater roots with this incredibly fun show!



Justin Katin (Lucas Beineke) has been seen in numerous roles in the Chicagoland area such as Joseph, the Beast, SpongeBob, and Jack Kelly. Justin is a two time all stater in the Illinois All State Theatre Festival Musical, where Justin was a part of the casts of Cabaret (2022) and Shrek (2023). Justin is starting a BFA in Musical Theatre at Indiana University this fall, as well as studying Marketing. Hope you enjoy the show!

About the Cast



Michael Kirby "Kirby" (Uncle Fester) is thrilled to be back with Uptown Music Theater. Kirby was last seen as Horton in Uptown's *Seussical*. Other past performances include Deerfield Family Theater's *Schoolhouse Rock Live! (Joe)* and Glenview Theatre Guild's *Oklahoma! (Jud)*. Kirby recently graduated from Roosevelt University. He majored in Vocal Performance and Music Education. Kirby enjoys spending time with family and friends, seeing movies, and watching his hair gel container collect dust. Kirby also streams occasionally at [Twitch.tv/KirbyontheMic](https://www.twitch.tv/KirbyontheMic).



Sam Kroening (Ancestor) is thrilled to be making her Uptown Music Theater debut as an Ancestor in *Addams Family*. Previous shows include: *Annie Jr. (Orphan)*, *Shrek The Musical (Young Fiona, tap dancing rat)*, *Into The Woods Jr. (Cinderella)*, *Into The Woods (Ensemble)*, *Matilda (Acrobat)*, *Chicago: Teen Edition (June/Dance ensemble)*. Sam would like to thank this incredible cast of *The Addams Family* for making this show such a fun experience!



Massimo Manfredini (Ancestor) is a recent college graduate, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Music Theatre from Carthage College. He has participated in several productions within his academic career and outside of school. Shows have included *THE MUSIC MAN (Harold Hill)*, *SOMETHING ROTTEN! (Ensemble)*, and *NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY (Morris Brummel)*. This will be his debut with Uptown Music Theater, and he hopes you enjoy the performance!



Larry Mason (Mal Beineke) has been performing as an actor, singer, and drummer in the Chicagoland area for over forty years and is an Uptown Music Theater Board Member. Off-stage, Larry is a Goldberg Segalla Partner where he dedicates his trial and appellate practice to insurance and reinsurance coverage, commercial litigation, environmental & toxic torts, and professional liability defense. Larry is grateful for this amazing professional team, spectacular cast, and his always supportive Susie, Samantha, Sarah, Zoe & Dolly.



Tiffany Melvin (Alice Beineke) is from Kalamazoo, Michigan and holds a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance and music education from Roosevelt University in Chicago. She has been performing since the age of 4! Now 25, Tiffany's theatrical resume contains more than 35 roles. One of her favorites is playing Belle from *Beauty and the Beast*. When not on stage, Tiffany teaches music in an Elementary school. She is so excited to share the stage with this talented group!

About the Cast



Max Perkel (Ancestor) is ecstatic to make his debut with Uptown Theatre. He was raised in Oklahoma City where he received a bachelor's degree in Music Theatre, and moved to Chicago in 2018. Currently he is studying to become a certified music therapist and works as the music specialist at Camp Apachi. The Addams Family was one of the few shows his father took him to see on Broadway in NYC so it is incredible to get to harness and portray all that spooky ookiness. He would like to dedicate his performance to his Dad.



Betsy Taylor Pennington (Ancestor) trained at MADA, London. West End: Isabel Pirates of Penzance, Peep Bo The Mikado, Fleta Iolanthe. Off West End: Lina Lamont Singin' in the Rain, Alaura/Carla City of Angels. Tours: Lulu/Betty Blast Footloose, Kate Pirates of Penzance, Peep Bo The Mikado and My Fair Lady (Singapore). Most recent Chicago: Judith Bliss Hayfever City Lit Theatre. TV credits: My Hero (BBC), Let's Roll! The Story of Flight 93. Betsy is grateful to be part of the Addams Family!



Aaron Rumack (Gomez) is making his kooky Uptown debut! With roles ranging from Fred Graham/ Petruchio in Kiss Me, Kate to Smudge in Forever Plaid, he has performed in more than fifteen shows throughout the Chicagoland area. Aaron is grateful to be spending the summer with this special cast and crew. Appreciation to Colette Todd at Star Music Studio. ¡Una serenata a la luz de la luna para el verdadero amor de mi vida, Shandalla!



Anita Silvert (Grandma) is thrilled to debut with Uptown, and with such a hilarious role and cast. Favorite roles: Paula Abagnale (Catch me if you Can), Frau Blucher (Young Frankenstein), Joanne (Company), Phyllis (Follies), Fraulein Schneider (Cabaret) By day, Anita is a rabbinic student while teaching and lecturing in adult Jewish education. Anita hosts a podcast called "Verses: Where Broadway and Torah Meet", Thanks as ever to Don, Char, Rachel, Malia and DJ.



Nathaniel Stephen Arthur Vodak (Pugsley) Nathaniel is SO happy to perform with Uptown again, as Pugsley, identifying with his manic humor. Other featured roles include Seussical (Ensemble - Uptown), Joseph (BNT), School of Rock (Madison - HPP), Matilda (Nigel - HPP), and Into the Woods (Boy - BNT). He is a proud member of Gus Giordano youth dance company. Nathaniel is grateful to the Addams Family team, teacher Colette Todd, as well as his friends Remy, David, Francis & Tommy.

About the Cast



Anna Widlowski (Ancestor) is thrilled to be in her debut production with Uptown Music Theater. Some of her favorite past shows include *Chicago*, *Matilda*, and *Into The Woods*. When not on stage, Anna loves hanging out with her pet bird, drinking strawberry Fanta, and playing violin

About the Staff

Matt Canon (Director) feels privileged to bring *The Addams Family* to death, uh I mean, to life. This is his second summer with Uptown, after performing in *Seussical*. Previous directing credits include *Schoolhouse Rock Live* (Deerfield Family Theater), *Our Town* (Big Deal Productions), and several independent film projects through his production company, Trip Aces Media. Many thanks to the entire cast and staff for their hard work and dedication in making this show an incredible production and experience. Also, that choreographer is kind of cute

Sarah Clement (Social Media Manager) is thrilled that she got to take a different approach to the *Addams Family* by being Uptown's Social Media Manager. This allowed her to think outside of the box and find a new creative facet. Sarah holds a BFA in Acting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. When she is not at Uptown, Sarah is a director for Skyline's Children Theatre and a character performer for Cruising Characters.

Jamie Davidson (Producer) is a founder and the Artistic Director/President of Uptown Music Theater. He feels that *The Addams Family* pop culture has endured for decades because its genuine relationships and portrayal of family dynamics hold true. It is that truth which makes this show hilarious. How does each person interpret what is normal? What is our identity? How does family member respond to change? We hope that you enjoy the Uptown vision of *The Addams Family*, with its asymmetry, parallels, and humorous realizations. So much love to his family and friends for their support!

Lucy Elkin (Costume Designer) Working on this production has been a much anticipated return to the world of musical theatre, and it's been a scary-good time. I am a costume designer and technician living and working in Chicago, where I am the Costume Supervisor at Timeline Theatre Company. My design work can also be seen this summer at *Pippin* with Actor's Training Center. Previous design credits include *Queremos Eso?* (Señor Woolly Leaning, INC) and *Queens of Infinite Space* (Proboscis Theatre Company). I received my BFA in costume design from DePaul University. Visit lucycelkin.com

About the Staff

Isabella Isherwood (she/her) (Music Director) is a Chicago-based music director, vocal coach, actor, and jazz pianist/vocalist. She has had the great privilege of sharing her music in venues both at home and internationally. Isabella is thrilled to be making her Uptown debut with this incredible team. So much love to her family for their endless support. Upcoming: *Mary Poppins* at Children's Theater Winnetka. @isabella.isherwood www.isabellaisherwoodmusic.com

Sarah Makkawy (Choreographer) is thrilled to be returning as choreographer for Uptown after having choreographed their productions of *Seussical* and *Freckleface Strawberry*. She has enjoyed drawing upon her flamenco experience for this production. Favorite credits include assistant choreographer of *Matilda!* and performing in *Mamma Mia!*, *On the Town*, and *Pajama Game* for HPP. This fall she will be choreographing *Beauty and the Beast* for Deerfield Family Theater. Working with this "altogether ooky" cast and team has been a dream come true! (Also, that director is pretty cool.)

Chris Morgan (Technical Director) Chris is thrilled to return as Uptown's Technical Director for *Addams Family*. Over the last twenty years Chris has worked productions with Glenview Theatre Guild, North Shore Theater of Wilmette, Deerfield Family Theater, and Highland Park Players. Chris is also a founding member of Uptown's Board of Directors where he serves as their Treasurer. Chris would like to thank all of the technical production team who volunteered after this program went to print for stepping in to make *Addams Family* happen.

Richard Neumann (Sound Designer) is very happy to be designing for Uptown Music Theater again. Richard has worked with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Stradivari Society, Columbia College, The National High School Institute, Skokie JCC, and many other performing arts companies and schools.

Abby Rakocy (Stage Manager) is happy to be back for her second summer with Uptown, especially as a big fan of the *Addams Family* movies from the 90s. Favorite acting roles include *Dragon* (*Shrek*), *Joanne* (*RENT*), and *Sylvia* (*All Shook Up*). Many thanks to the cast and staff for creating a supportive and collaborative environment. Thank you to Ben for everything.

Bob Silton (Scenic Designer) is excited to return as scenic designer for Uptown, after designing *Seussical* and *Freckleface Strawberry*. Bob is currently the Production Manager for Fruit Wine Productions. He has worked with The Marriott Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre, The Performers School, and many others. Bob has designed numerous restaurants on the North Shore. He has toured the country with RuPaul's Drag Race star, Ginger Minj, having recently set designed and production managed the world premiere of *The Golden Gals Live!* At The Mercury Theater Chicago. Instagram @bobsiltontodesigns

Joel Zishuk (Lighting Designer) is a Lighting and Projection Designer who has recently moved to Chicago! This is his first time working with the Uptown Musical Theater. He has designed at the Florida Repertory Theatre, Gablestage, Orlando Fringe, Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, and more. Find more of his work at joelzishuk.com.