

Bios

Alyssa Ahrens (Gertrude McFuzz) is a junior this year. She is appearing in her third NHS musical production having previously been in *Grease* (Cha Cha) and *Kiss Me, Kate*. When not on stage, you can most likely find Alyssa eating Swiss Cheese or hiding in trees outside the local elementary schools. After high school, she plans on attending the University of Cincinnati to major in Electronic Media. If that doesn't work out she hopes to travel to Yugoslavia and to help create the new Arabic Alphabet. Alyssa's favorite thing about *Seussical* is trying not to laugh at Dave on stage when he says he is "slow and fat". She is just thrilled to have already received her first rave review..."I like Alyssa. She is super fun, hard working, and a really nifty kid!!!" says Mr. Chris Simmons....."Thanks!" says Alyssa.

Dave "McStallion" Bina (Horton the Elephant) is a junior this year. Dave has been involved in Nordonia's Drama club for many years. He debuted in the chorus in *The Music Man*, and continued from there. He has taken on the roles of Abner in *South Pacific*, Danny Zuko in *Grease*, Gremio in *Kiss Me, Kate*, and as Judge Emmett in *Til Death Do Us Part*. Off the stage, Dave plays on the hockey and football teams. He plans on attending OSU to major in Physical Therapy. He is thankful for all the time he has spent onstage working with the amazing adults involved, and immensely enjoys throwing cheese at Alyssa Ahrens.

Michael Bleich (Mr. Mayor) is a junior. He has been in *Kiss Me Kate*, Nordonia Symphonic Choir for 5 years, and Show Choir for 3 years. He likes painting, playing piano, swimming. He has been playing piano for 2 years. He also has swam competitively for 8 years. He is also on the Nordonia swim team and has been on the team for 3 years. He plans to attend college for a degree in Choral Music Education, the piano is his primary instrument. He also spends his summers being a camp counselor at the Macedonia Recreational Center.

Josh Bodziony (Wickersham Brother) also known as yosewah [ya-soo-ah] by his drama friends. He is a sophomore this year and is appearing in his third drama production at NHS. His previous roles include Lucentio from *The Taming in The Shrew* and Gregory (aka the donkey puller) from *Kiss Me Kate*. Outside of drama club, Josh is on the school's soccer and tennis team, enjoys solving rubik's cubes, playing his clarinet in the school band, and is a one year member of the Rhythm of the Knights Show Choir. In the future, Josh aspires to be an architect and possibly pursue musical theatre. His favorite thing about *Suessical* is the silliness it brings to the stage and how it will be something everyone will enjoy! He is very excited to "monkey around" on stage (hence his part) with all of his close friends and bring everyone joy with his his fellow Wickersham brothers playing pranks on the citizens of the Jungle of Nool! He wants to thank his parents for all of their support and love they provide and letting do as much as he does!

Jessica Byers (crew) is a senior this year and has gone to Nordonia Hills Schools all her life. She has been in show choir for four years but has been involved in Nordonia's choral program for 6 years. She has been in the Drama Club for 5 years and worked as Stage Manager for 3 years. She's been involved with the *Music Man*, *South Pacific*, *Grease*, *Kiss Me Kate*, and now *Seussical*. She plans to major in European History in college and study abroad, probably in England or France. She has no idea where she wants to go to college but is confident she'll figure it out eventually. She's best known for her sarcastic comments and for wearing high heels everyday.

Joey Cogan (The Cat in the Hat) is a sophomore this year appearing in his fourth drama production at NHS. He has appeared in the past two Murder Mysteries and in last years production of *Kiss Me Kate* as Phillip/rear of donkey. Outside of drama, Joey is a member of the Rhythm of the Knights Show Choir, an independent masked crime fighter, and is currently the world champion turtle racer. In the future, Joey aspires to major in musical theater in college and hopefully continue his career as a performer. His favorite thing about being in *Seussical* is having so many different characters and just being in a show everyone can relate to. He would like to thank Mrs. Czepak, Leah, Mrs. Connair, Mrs. Lester, Mr. Aberth, and especially Miss Molly "Sauce" Sawyer & Chris "Banana Pants" Simmons for helping him become the performer he is today.

Samantha Coneglio (Backstage/Assistant Stage Manager) is a senior. She has been involved in *South Pacific*, *Grease*, *Kiss Me Kate*, and *Suessical*. She also plays ice hockey for 10 years and has been in Leadership Council for 2 years. After high school she plans to go to Cleveland State University to study physical therapy. Her favorite things about the play are the cool set and the storyline.

Jason Conrad (Thing 2) is a sophomore. Prior to this year, Jason has appeared in *Kiss Me, Kate* in the Male Ensemble, in the 2008 Murder Mystery as Cookie Jars, and in *Til Death Do Us Part* as Bruce Montgomery. While not performing onstage, Jason is active in Student Council and Leadership, and reads a lot of books. After graduation, Jason plans to attend OSU to major in Psychology or Criminology and possibly minor in theater. He also plans on performing in his break-out role as Mayzie on Broadway someday. Jason would like to thank the amazing people he has had the opportunity to work with.

Sam Fujikawa (Jo Jo/a cadet) is 10 years old and is in 5th grade. He also played Jerome in *South Pacific*. He has been taking drum lessons at Brecksville Music for 4 years, Voice Lessons with Vicki Lester for 3 years, swimming for 2 years, and he loves to cook. He plans to attend Harvard after high school. His favorite thing about the play is the people involved and the play itself.

Charli Habingreither (Bird Girl). A junior at Nordonia, Charli was born, raised, and started theatre in Texas.

This is her second year in Nordonia's Drama Club, for over 10 years she has been in over 20 plays and musicals.

She was recently in *Big* at Royalton Players and will be performing in *Jekyll and Hyde* at Garfield Heights Little

Theatre. She sings, acts, and writes love stories, and plans on going to Baldwin-Wallace or a college in New York to major in musical theatre and writing. She wants to be a Broadway Actress, an Opera Singer, or a Romance Novelist.

She would like to thank her Mom, friends, and family for supporting her throughout her life.

Katelynn Holloway (a Who) is a senior. She has worked backstage in plays such as *South Pacific* and *Kiss Me Kate*. After high school she hopes to go into International Business at the University of Akron. Some of her hobbies are bowling, reading, and kickboxing. Her favorite thing about being in *Suessical* is being with her friends.

David Jerina (Grinch) is a junior. He has played in *Grease* as the burger palace boy, and *Kiss Me Kate* as Stagehand #2 and Nathaniel. He has also been apart of Show Choir for 3 years. He has played guitar for 2 years and likes singing in his band. After high school he plans to go to college for music and business or engineering. His favorite thing about the play is being the Grinch, which is his favorite role.

Russell James Kainec (Wickersham 3) is a senior. His hobbies are playing guitar, singing, and spending time with family and friends. He has been playing a guitar in the symphonic choir for 6 years. He also has sung in the Rhythm of the Knights show choir for a year. Russell plans to go to college hopefully to the art institute of Pittsburgh. He thinks *Seussical* is a great play to be in for his first. His favorite thing about *Seussical* is that it has many fun songs to sing.

Rachel Karlozi (Bird Girl) is in the 10th grade. She began her acting career in 8th grade as a student in *Grease* and continued her freshman year as a Lady of Love in *Kiss Me Kate*. Rachel plans to go on to college and major in fashion design or fashion merchandising.

Maria Madden (Bird Girl) is a junior this year. She has appeared in numerous Nordonia productions including *Grease* as a Beauty School Dropout, *Kiss Me, Kate* as a Lady of Love, and *Til Death Do Us Part* as Tina Louise Fitzhugh. While not performing, Maria takes singing lessons and dance classes. She plans on obtaining a major in teaching, and a minor in theater after graduation.

Melissa McFarland (Sour Kangaroo) aka Missy, is a senior. Melissa has been in many school productions like *South Pacific*, *Grease*, *Kiss Me Kate* and many more. She has been in show choir for 3 years, Student Council, Leadership Council and Project Love all for 4 years. She also has been working at Handel's Ice Cream for 2 years. After high school Missy plans to go to Kent State to major in Theater Education. Her favorite thing about being in *Seussical* is that she plays the villain and be "sour". She also gets to work with the best people in the world.

Bret Dillon Mucha (aka dill pickle) is a senior.

He is on the make-up crew for drama club. Bret has been playing guitar for 2 years, has played piano for 3 years and has been dancing for 4 years. Bret plans to attend Kent State University and join the arts program. His favorite thing about *Seussical* is that it is amusing and he loves all the characters.

He enjoys being a part of creating all of the characters.

Meghan O'Neill (Bird Girl) is currently in her junior year.

She was in the musical production *Grease* as a Burger Palace Girl. Meghan's hobbies are show choir and golf. She has been in show choir for 2 years and has been playing golf for 13 years. Her plans after high school are attending the University of Akron or Miami University to minor in entrepreneurship or finance and major law.

Meghan's favorite thing about *Seussical* is she loves being with some of her closest friends spending every day of her life, except for Fridays, with them.

She also enjoys random outbursts of song.

She wants to thank all her family.

Alexis Perney (Li'l Roo) is 10 years old and in 5th grade.

She has been on stage with the Nordonia drama club performing in *Music Man* (little kid) and in *South Pacific* (Nagana). She has played volleyball for 3 years, softball for 6 years has taken voice lessons for 6 years and loves playing with her friends. Alexis plans on becoming a teacher and says her favorite thing about being in *Seussical* is that she loves her character.

"She's sassy and that's how I like to be (most of the time)!"

Alexis loves the theater and has been taking lessons from Mrs. Vicki Lester since she was 5.

Lauren Pike (Bird Girl-2-alto) is in 10th grade. She was in the play *Romeo and Juliet* and played Lady Montague, *Taming of the Shrew* and played Bianca, and also in *Kiss Me Kate*, and played Lady of Love and Too darn hot. Her hobbies and interests are dancing, singing, show choir, snowboarding, and drama club. She has been dancing for 3 years, singing for about 7 months, been in show choir for 2 years, snowboarding for 1 year, and has been in drama club for 4 years but 2 were at the middle school. After high school she plans on going to college to major in performing arts and musical theater. Her favorite thing about the play *Seussical* is that she loves coming to rehearsal knowing she'll have a good time because everyone is so fun to be around.

Jessica Pontious (Jungle Animal/Circus Member) is a senior.

She has been in *South Pacific* as the Nurse, *Grease* as the High School Student, *Murder Mystery*, and *Wedding Murder Mystery* as the bridesmaid. She has been in Girl Scouts for 13 years, she is also a Zoo Crew Member at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for 3 years, National Honors Society for 2 years. She also likes being outdoors, listening to music and reading. After high school she wants to pursue a degree in Biology at either John Carroll University or Mount Union College. Her favorite thing about this play is that it is abstract.

Anna Porter (Mayzie La Bird) is a senior. She has been in *South Pacific* as Honey Bun Girl, *Grease* as the Palace Girl, and *Kiss Me Kate* as the Too Darn Hot Lady. She is leaving for the Air Force on July, 10 and staying for 6 years in the intelligence field. Afterwards she will be getting a government job. Anna's favorite thing about *Seussical* is that it's the best play to end my senior year with. She is happy with her part and her cast crew.

Mike Roberto (Vlad Vladikoff) is a junior. He has been in past shows such as *Grease*, *Kiss Me Kate* and 2 murder mysteries. When Mike is not on stage, Mike enjoys weightlifting after school and playing video games. Since his childhood, he has been a member of the Boy Scouts. He is very close to becoming an eagle scout, scouting's highest honor. Mike plans to attend Kent State University to receive a degree in teaching. What he wants to teach he hasn't decided. If you ask Mike about what he likes about the play, he'll say that he likes everything about it (especially his "big scene!")

Cassie Sakach (Mrs. Mayor) is a junior this year and has previously appeared in the last two Murder Mysteries and more notably was in last year's *Kiss Me, Kate* as a Lady of the Court and the Head of the Donkey. She is also currently serving as the Vice President of the Drama Club. In her spare time, Cassie likes to play basketball and is quite the crowd favorite on the guitar. After high school, she plans on going into the English field. Cassie's favorite part of drama this year is getting to work with such an amazing cast as well as the likes of Mama Sauce, Mr. Chris Simmons, and company.

Rachel Nicole Scott (Thing 1) is a senior at Nordon High School. She has been in other plays such as *South Pacific* and played as the Nurse. Also in *Grease* and was one of the Beauty School Drop Outs. Her hobbies are playing guitar and drawing and taking photos. She taught herself how to play guitar for a little over a year, and drew and took photos most of her life. After high school she is going to attend the University of Akron to major in photography. She wants to eventually become a photographer for a magazine.

She loves everything about the play *Seussical*. She loves being Thing 1 because it is such a fun character and is full of life and character.

Kayla Weiland (Jungle Animal) is a senior. She has been in *South Pacific* (Nurse), *Grease* (Beauty School Drop Out) and *Kiss Me Kate* (Lady of Love). Kayla's hobbies are baking and playing softball. She has been baking for 6 years and loves to bake with her friends. She plays softball with the city recreation teams. Kayla's plans after high school include having fun. She works at Geauga Lake's Wildwater in May. She starts school at The School of Nursing at CVCC in October to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. From there, Kayla plans to go on for her Registered Nurse. Her favorite thing about *Seussical* is the people. They all have a bunch of fun together and laugh all the time. She enjoys her character she plays. She gets to play a Giraffe as a jungle animal, which is her favorite animal. Kayla believes that even though she's in the chorus, her part still adds something to the play. She attends Cuyahoga Valley Career Center for health careers. In February, she became a STNA (State Tested Nurse Assistant). Kayla is currently doing clinicals at Marymount Hospital along with rotations through different departments.

Jenna Wodecki (Bird Girl) is a sophomore. She has been in show choir for 2 years, dance for 11 years, ballet for 11 years, tap for 10 years, and lyrical for 4 years. She plans to attend a college or university majoring in photo journalism and minoring in dance. Her favorite thing about *Seussical* is being able to spend time with my friends, and doing what she loves.