

SUTTON FOSTER AWARDS

JUN 1 / COBB GREAT HALL

Host: Carlos L. Encinias

Director: Brad Willcuts

Music Directors: Steven Cuevas and Jonathan K. Parks

Choreographers: Natalie Malotke and Morgan Rose

Music Arrangers: Steven Cuevas and Jonathan K. Parks

Lighting Designer: Donald Fox

Stage Manager: Lauren Lenz

Assistant Stage Manager: Elaina Veasey

Judges: Penelope Ragotzy, Brian Taylor, Ann White

Donell Snyder – Reeds

Steven Wulff – Percussion

Chuck Newsome – Guitar

Hank Horton – Bass

PROGRAM

Tribute Medley to Musical Comedy

Welcome: Host Carlos Encinias

Character Medley Performances

2024 Technical Theatre Awards

Tribute Medley to Michigan

INTERMISSION

Finalists Announced

Executive Director Eric Olmscheid

Finalists' Individual Performances

Weekend One Production Number

2024 Excellence in Musical Theatre Education Award

Weekend Two Production Number

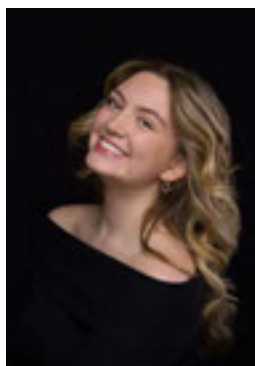
2024 SFA Winners/Jimmy Award Nominees

Closing Number

Today's performance will run approximately two hours and 30 minutes, including one 15-minute intermission.



Aaron
Jackson



Abbey
House



Abbigail
Powell



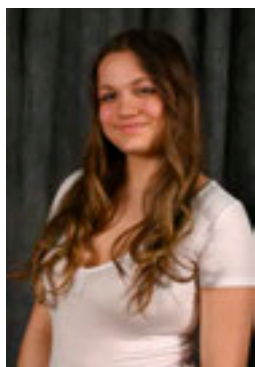
Abigail
Patterson



Abigail
Schmidt



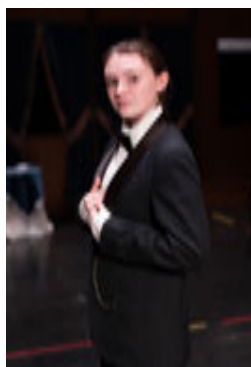
Adyson
Gedrich



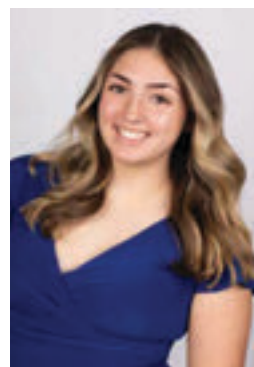
Alexis
Pollock



Alina
Damic



Ally
Tamayo



Amelia
Dalbis



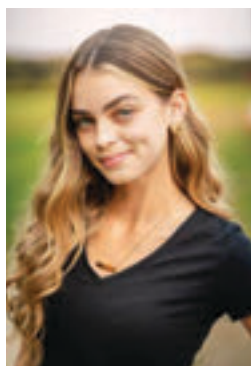
Amyah
Madison



Anderson
Lee



Angelina
Sorrentino



Anna
Hagerman



Annabelle
Gray



Ashley
Klein



Ashley
Sharkey



Aubrey
McCurdy



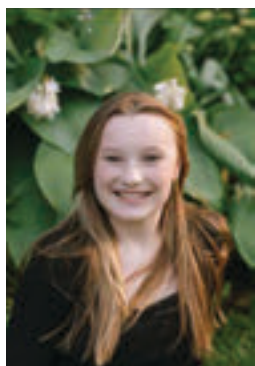
Aubriana
Scott



Audrey
Kovtun



Audrey
McNabb



Ava
Grunder



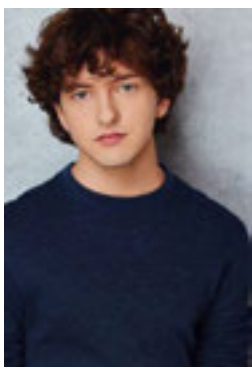
Ava
Kingsley



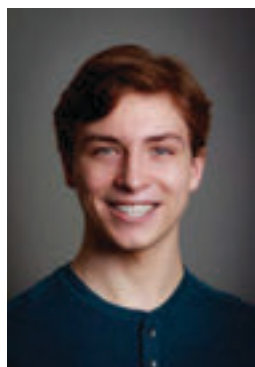
Avani
Davis



Bella
Gerlantz-Mavashev



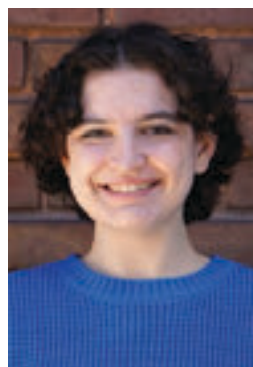
Ben
Miller



Braeden
Davis



Bryce
Costa



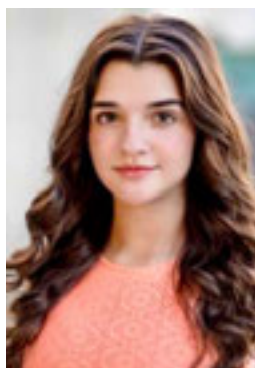
Cady
Brown



Caleb
Bivens



Callum
Johnston



Carly
Koch



Caroline
McNabb



Caroline
Ronayne



Charlotte
Murray



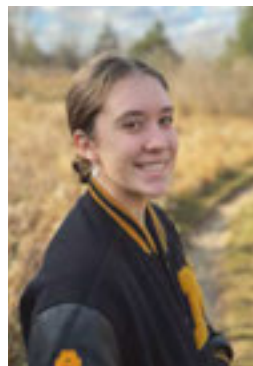
Chase
Crownover



Ciara
Funk



Claire
Hurley



Clara
Bonnel



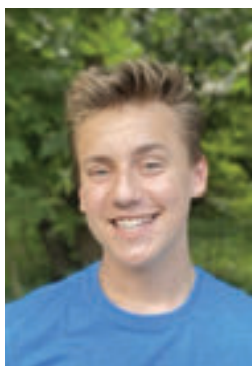
Cooper
Wittenbach



Donte
Dagati



Dash
Mangrulkar



David
Roden



Delayne
Hengesbach



Eddie
Jones



Eli
Goldstein



Ella
Patterson



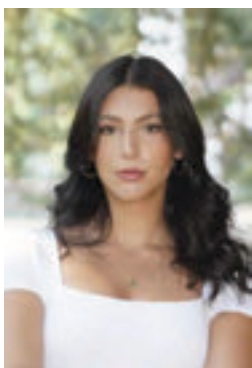
Ellen
Terzino



Ema
Isaku



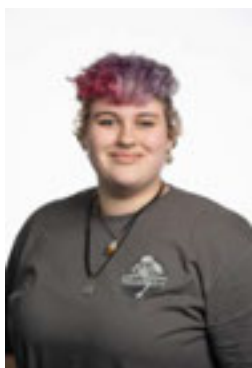
Emelia
Duffield



Emily
Arabo



Emma
Hudgins



Emma
Lesko



Emma
Schramm



Evan
Heindel



Evageline
Heflin



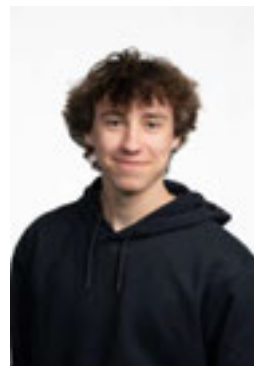
Evannah
Stanley



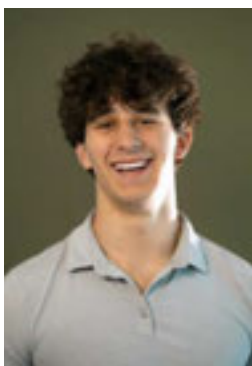
Eve
Quigley



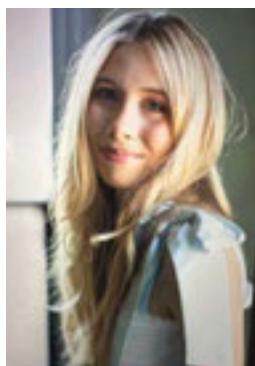
Gabby
Thompson



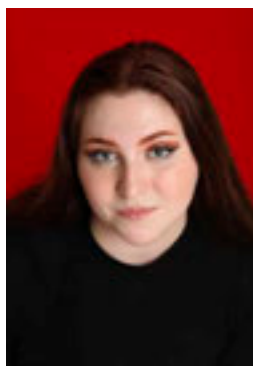
Gave
Mace



Giovanni
Thams



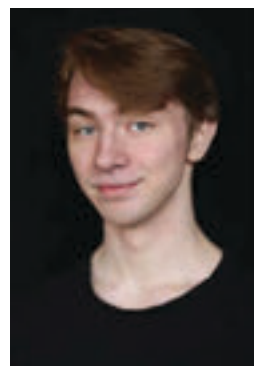
Gisele
Bourbeau



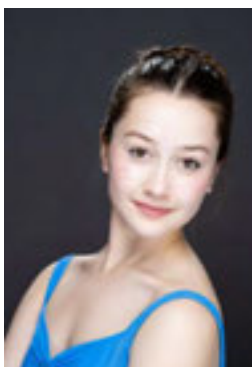
Gretchen
Shope



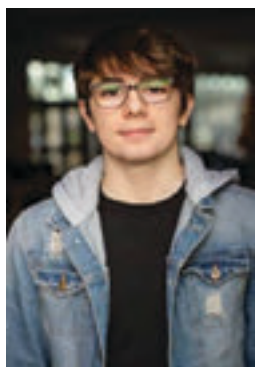
Haley
Berry



Isaac
Martin



Isabel
Seymour



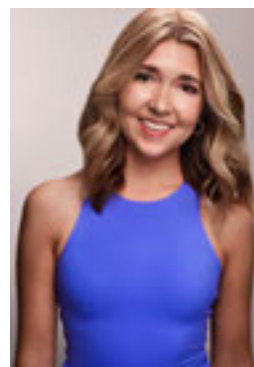
Jacob
Gibson



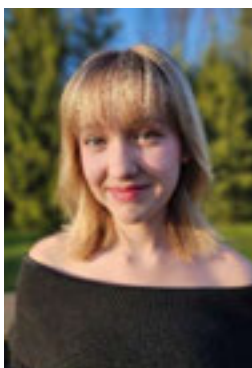
Jaina
Musonda



Jarod
Rochon



Jenna
Doyle



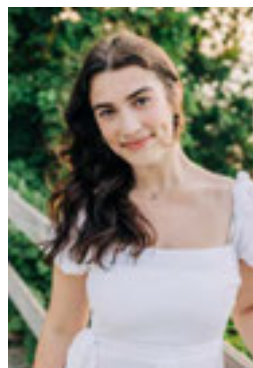
Jocelyn
Filan



Joey
Collins



JT
Breen



Katherine
Brazee



Katie
Fowler



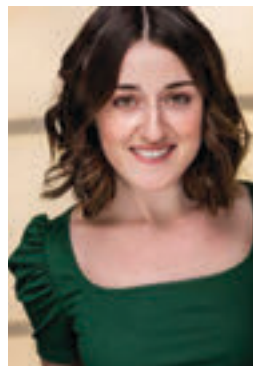
Kayla
Sak



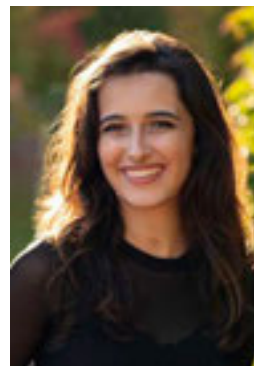
Kelsie
Koves



Kendall
Schulz



Kierah
Streater



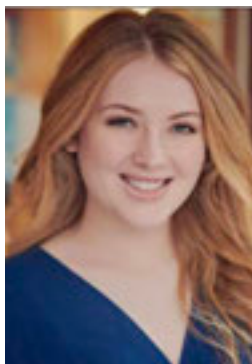
Lauren
Gates



Lauren
Singer



Lilly
Pettit



Lizzie
Caldon



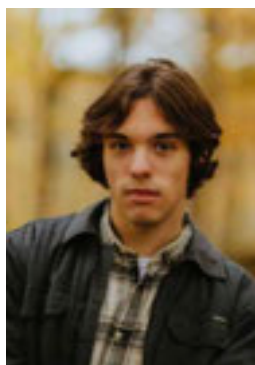
Louie
Diaz



Lucas
Phelps



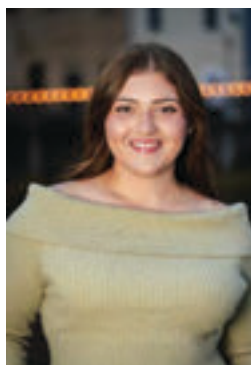
Lucy
Prush



Luke
Marzolf



Lydia
Fenner



Lyndsey
Camp



Maceon
Betts



Maddie
Bowman



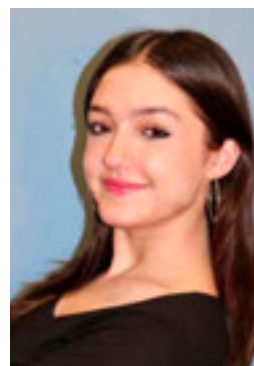
Maggie
Fanning



Mark
Bonney



Mason
Moran



Miranda
Bourne



Nathan
Zervas



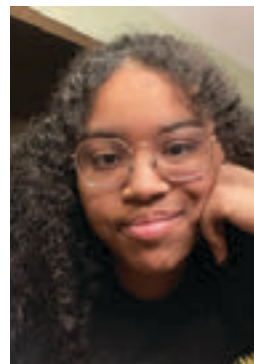
Nicholas
Trevino



Nika
Marwood



Noah
Aiello



Olivia
Cortez



Olivia
Johnson



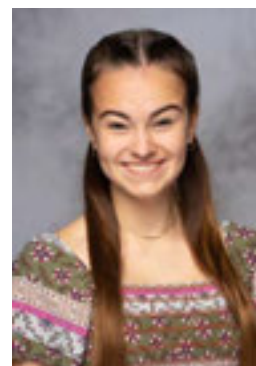
Omar
Atasi



Owen
Thompson



Quin
VanAmberg



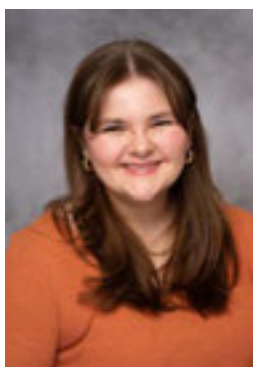
Quinn
Thelen



Reese
Licavoli



Sam
Machado



Sarah
Bovee



Sawyer
Lakowski



Seth
Amoguis



Seth
Taylor



Shea
Giese



Silas
Perry



Talan
Hendrickson



Tatiana
Goffee



Taylor
Pozzi



Thomas
Thaxter



TJ
McCarthy



Trudy
Grecther



Truman
Columbus



Will
Powers

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SUTTON FOSTER AWARDS

The Sutton Foster Awards program is a state-wide educational initiative celebrating Michigan high school musical theatre. The program is open to all Michigan high schools, regardless of location, school size, or musical budget. The year-long program culminates in the Sutton Foster Awards Showcase that you will see today.

The Sutton Foster Awards program has grown significantly over the past two years, from 23 schools in 2022 to 52 schools the following year, and now 61 high schools represented today.

Today's program features 121 high school students performing selections from their school musicals and a variety of Broadway medleys.

THE NOMINEES' JOURNEY

All of today's performers are hoping to become Michigan nominees for The National High School Musical Theatres Awards (The Jimmy Awards®) to be held in New York City later this spring. Performers were selected based on their participation in their respective high school musicals;

each musical was reviewed by a panel of three expert adjudicators, who selected students to appear in today's showcase. Once nominated, students were also invited to participate in one of two Workshop and Audition Weekends held earlier in May. During these weekends, the students experienced one-on-one vocal coaching with voice professionals, learned music and choreography for a musical theatre arrangement custom-designed for each weekend, and auditioned for a panel of judges.

All 121 students came together yesterday to rehearse and stage today's 2024 Sutton Foster Awards Showcase.

COMPANY BIOS

Morgan Rose:

Morgan is so grateful and overjoyed to be back at this year's Sutton Foster Awards. Broadway: *School of Rock* (Dance Capt/Swing); Off-Broadway: *Dear Edwina* (Dance Capt/Swing); National Tours: *Evita* Revival 1st Nat'l Tour (Swing), *Shrek The Musical* 1st Nat'l Tour, *Elf The Musical*. In addition to performing, Morgan is a passionate arts educator. You can find her teaching all around New York City and on faculty at Broadway Dance Center, Joffrey Ballet School's Musical Theatre Intensive, MTCA and AMDA. She has been incredibly fortunate to work alongside some of New York's most inspiring

choreographers including Al Blackstone, Natalie Malotke, Ricky Hinds and Josh Bergasse. BFA Music Theatre Florida State University. Michigander at heart. Proud AEA Member. Love to her incredible husband, Trey, and their sweet not-so baby boy, Theo. @nycmoro

Natalie Malotke:

Natalie Malotke is a director, choreographer, creative event producer and teaching artist living in New York City. Associate Directing and Choreography credits include Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Choreography Team on Broadway and Second National Tour), Bygone Love for China Broadway Entertainment, Candide at Carnegie Hall, and I Married an Angel at City Center all alongside Joshua Bergasse. Little Dancer at Lincoln Center with Susan Stroman, Really Rosie at City Center with Leigh Silverman, and the developmental lab of Monopoly: The Musical with Donna Feore. Regional directing and choreography credits at Pittsburgh Music Theatre, Northern Stage, The Engeman, and Wagon Wheel Theatre and the national tour of Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood Live!. Resident director and choreographer for Nickelodeon Experience Design events worldwide. Industrial and corporate events for Hermès, Target, and The Robin Hood Foundation. TV: PBS, A Capitol Fourth.

Faculty at Broadway Dance Center, AMDA and MTCA.
University of Michigan grad.

Steven Cuevas:

Steven Cuevas (he/him) is a NYC-based music director, musician, orchestrator, and arranger. Broadway: *The Notebook*; *The Who's Tommy*; *Days of Wine and Roses*; *New York, New York*; *Dancin'*; & *Juliet*; *Moulin Rouge!*; *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*; *Once On This Island*; *Anastasia*; *Kinky Boots*. Select Off-Broadway: *The Connector*, *Hell's Kitchen*, *Kinky Boots*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *We Are The Tigers*, *Closer Than Ever*. Tours: *Tina*, *Moulin Rouge!*, *Once On This Island*, *Kinky Boots*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, *Spring Awakening*. Regional: *Eighty-Sixed* (Diversions Theatre), *Macbeth in Stride* (A.R.T., Shakespeare Theatre Company, Philadelphia Theatre Company). Recordings: *Once On This Island*, *How the Grinch...*, *Monstersongs*. Orchestrations: *Macbeth in Stride*, *Gold Mountain*. Proud member: Local 802 AFM, AEA, Recording Academy, Filipino American community.
@StevenMCuevas

Brad Willcuts:

Brad's credits as a director, choreographer, movement director, fight director, and assistant/associate span Broadway, National Tours, International Theaters,

Regional Theaters and the Metropolitan Opera. He most recent credit was as Associate Director/Choreographer for the new Dolly Parton musical entitled *Here You Come Again* which got its start at Delaware Theatre Company and is now touring the United Kingdom.

Broadway and National Tour: *Amazing Grace* (Assistant Fight and Military Movement Director), International: *Legende Holmes* (Holmes the Legend) at the Karlin Theater in Prague, Czechia (Dance, Movement and Fight Assistant), Met Opera: *Porgy and Bess* (Assistant Violence Director), *Mother Courage and Her Children*, starring Kathleen Turner (Assistant Movement Director) at the Tony Award Winning Arena Stage in Washington D.C., *Hello, Dolly* (Director/Choreographer) at San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre. He recently choreographed the World Premiere of *The Fantasticks* at Flint Repertory Theatre. Brad is Associate Professor of Musical Theatre and Choreography at Michigan State University where he also serves as the Head of Acting. As a tenured professor, Brad has won multiple awards and grants including the All-University Teacher/Scholar Award, the AT&T Excellence in Teaching with Technology Award, The Fintz Award for Excellence in Teaching and multiple Catalyst Grants to continue working with new media practices for actors and dancers in the classroom.

Jonathan K. Parks:

Jonathan K. Parks is a Manhattan-based music director, educator, and pianist. Broadway: *Chicago*. National Tours: *Chicago*, *Young Frankenstein*, *The Four Phantoms in Concert*. NYC: Metropolitan Opera, Big Apple Circus. Regional: Barrington Stage Company, Ogunquit Playhouse, Gateway Playhouse, Northern Stage, New London Barn Playhouse, Lake Dillon Theatre Company, Short North Stage, Amarillo Opera. He is a proud graduate of Florida State University and has served on the faculties of New York University and Marymount Manhattan College.

Carlos L. Encinias:

Carlos is originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico and has been a proud New Yorker since 2000. His career as an actor on Broadway spans more than two decades and includes *How to Dance in Ohio*, *Les Misérables*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Good Vibrations* and *Scandalous* starring Carolee Carmello, plus a run in the hit Off-Broadway production of *Altar Boyz*.

Carlos is a passionate educator and teaches Theatre and dance at the Professional Performing Arts High School in Manhattan and for the Dreamyard Project.

As a director, he's worked at Pittsburgh CLO, North Carolina Theatre, The Gateway and Adirondack Theatre Festival.

As a writer, his short story, Luca's Journey, has been performed at several events and on Houses On the Moon's podcast. He is currently developing Numbe Whageh with fellow New Mexican writer/actor, Jennifer Sanchez and is passionate about bringing Latin, Indigenous and Queer stories to the stage.

PROGRAM STAFF

Laurie Briseño

Steve Heinrich

Ben English

Kelly Stuible-Clark

Additional Support

Travis Hunt

Jess Randall

Connor Reilly

Hope Still

Nick Wilders