

PLAYBILL®

JPCATHOLIC THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

SEUSSICAL

THE MUSICAL



August 27–28, 2026
The Ritz Theater



JOHN PAUL
THE GREAT
CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Dear Audience,

Thank you so much for joining us for JPCatholic's annual musical, *Seussical*. This is such a collaborative and energized piece of theatre, and you are essential to the world of this story.

I performed in this musical when I was fifteen, and it's been wonderful to revisit the vibrant world of Dr. Seuss as an adult; his world comes alive with such joy and color through this musical. *Seussical* incorporates many different stories of Dr. Seuss, including *Horton Hears a Who*, *Gertrude McFuzz*, and *The Butter Battle*. Some stories (such as *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*) also make quick appearances, and there are many different references to other various characters and books. Largely, these stories are strung together through song and dance with minimal dialogue.

The simple, colorful and energetic world of this musical allows some deeper themes to peek through without dominating the childlike feel and drive of the piece. Dr. Seuss, being a political cartoonist, tackles fundamental human rights ("A person's a person no matter how small") that form the backbone of *Seussical*; life is held as a fundamental gift through the end of the show. Simultaneously, the gift of imagination given from the Cat in the Hat to JoJo, is then handed on to us as an invitation. It echoes, in a very different context and tone, the poet Mary Oliver: "Tell me, what is it your plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" (*Summer's Day*).

Thank you for being here.

Prof. Katelyn Slater
Director



proudly presents

SEUSSICAL

THE MUSICAL

Music by
Stephen Flaherty

Lyrics by
Lynn Ahrens

Book by
**Lynn Ahrens &
Stephen Flaherty**

Co-conceived by
**Lynn Ahrens,
Stephen Flaherty
& Eric Idle**

Based on the works of **Dr. Seuss**

with

**Emily Ranschaert, Regine Modina, Ron-Paul Tamayo, Lisa Ruiter,
Mary Leskowicz, David Thomas, Darla Lopez, Philip Neri Morris, Annie Baur**

Costume Design
Zoe Voelker

Set Design
Theresa Hochderffer

Set Builders
**Chuck Slater
& Dave McGuire**

Head of Hair
Madelyn O'Campo

Lighting Design
Bryson Armstrong

Stage Manager
Tessa Haubert

Sound Design
Carlos Chavez

Director of Photography
Andrew Koltuniuk

Production Assistant
Mary Wenner

Musical Director
Robert Giracello

Choreographed by
Megan Geier

Directed by
Katelyn Slater

Seussical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.co.uk

www.mtishows.com

www.mtishows.com.au

MEET THE CAST

The Cat in the Hat	Emily Ranschaert
Boy/Jojo	Regine Modina
Horton the Elephant	Ron-Paul Tamayo
Gertrude McFuzz	Lisa Ruiter
Mayzie la Bird	Mary Leskowicz
Mayor of Whoville	David Thomas
Mrs. Mayor	Darla Lopez
General Genghis Khan Schmidt	Philip Neri Morris
Sour Kangaroo	Annie Baur
Bird Girls	Hannah Ehlinger, Andrea Mendez Gonzalez, Catherine McDonald, Georgiana Naaden
Wickersham Brothers	Philip Neri Morris, Anastasia Wambeke, Louisa McCarthy, Regine Modina
The Grinch	Johanna Wells
Yertle the Turtle.....	Helen Daoust
Vlad Vladikoff.....	Louisa McCarthy
Citizens of Whoville	Louisa McCarthy, Johanna Wells, Mary Dendinger, Elizabeth Park, Helen Daoust, Anastasia Wambeke
Things 1 and 2.....	Lopez, Philip Neri Morris
Cadets.....	Louisa McCarthy, Anastasia Wambeke, Helen Daoust, Mary Dendinger
Fish.....	Louisa McCarthy, Anastasia Wambeke

PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM

Director	Katelyn Slater
Musical Director	Robert Giracello
Choreographer	Megan Geier
Set Builders	Chuck Slater, Dave McGuire, Jessica Harbour, Christian Youth Theatre
Scenic & Prop Designers	Therese Grettencort, Moira Godfrey, Darla Lopez, Jessica Harbour
Costume Designer	Zoe Voelker
Costume Team	Katharine Placke, Veronika Meilaender
Head of Hair	Madalyn O'Campo
Head of Makeup	Marisol Juarez
Lighting Designer	Bryson Armstrong
Stage Manager	Tessa Haubert
Stagehands	Moira Godfrey, Mia Meza
Production Assistant	Mary Wenner

SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBER

Act One

Overture	Orchestra
Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!	All
Horton Hears a Who!	Cat, Boy, Bird Girls, Jungle Citizens, Horton, Mayor
Biggest Blame Fool	Sour Kangaroo, Horton, Cat, Gertrude, Mayzie, Wickershams, Bird Girls, Jungle Citizens
Biggest Blame Fool Playoff / Gertrude McFuzz	Jungle Citizens, Gertrude
Here on Who	Horton, Mayor, Mrs. Mayor, Whos
Meet Jojo the Who	Cat, Jojo, Whos
Oh, the Thinks You Can Think! (<i>Reprise</i>)	Cat, Jojo
It's Possible	Jojo, Cat, Fish
How to Raise a Child	Mayor, Mrs. Mayor
The Military	General, Cadets, Jojo
Alone in the Universe	Horton, Jojo
The One Feather Tail of Miss Gertrude	Gertrude
Amayzing Mayzie	Mayzie, Bird Girls, Gertrude
Amayzing Gertrude	Gertrude, Bird Girls, Cat
Monkey Around	Wickershams, Horton
Chasing the Whos	Sour Kangaroo, Horton, Wickershams, Bird Girls, Jungle Citizens, Cat, Jojo, Mayor, Mrs. Mayor, Whos
How Lucky You Are	Cat, Whos
Notice Me, Horton	Gertrude, Horton
How Lucky You Are	Mayzie Cat
Finale	All

SPECIAL THANKS

Jessica Harbour, Blake McCarty & The Blindspot Collective, Mary Ellen Cortellini, Saint Stephen's Thrift Store, Thomas & Bridget McKenna, Wright Middle School, Christian Youth Theatre, Students in FASH329 Stage Makeup & Hair, Derry & Lidy Connolly, the facilities team, and our generous donors.

SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBER

Act Two

Entr'acte	Orchestra
Egg, Nest, and Tree	Cat, Jungle Citizens, Horton
The Circus McGurkus	Cat, Circus Animals, Horton
The Circus on Tour/ How Lucky You Are (<i>Rep.</i>)	Circus Animals, Bird Girls, Horton, Cat
Mayzie in Palm Beach	Mayzie, Cat
Amazing Horton	Mayzie, Horton
Alone in the Universe (<i>Rep.</i>)	Horton
Solla Sollew	Horton, Jojo, Circus Animals, Mayor, Mrs. Mayor
Green Eggs and Ham II	General, Cadets, Jojo
The Grinch Carved the Roast Beast	Grinch, Whos
A Message from the Front / Solla Sollew (<i>Rep.</i>)	General, Cadets, Mayor, Mrs. Mayor
Jojo Alone in the Universe	Jojo
Havin' a Hunch	Cat, Jojo, Hunches
All For You	Gertrude, Cat, Bird Girls, Horton, Circus Animals
The People Versus Horton the Elephant	All
Yopp! / Alone in the Universe (<i>Rep.</i>)	All
Oh, the Thinks You Can Think! (<i>Rep.</i>)	All
Green Eggs and Ham (<i>Finale Bows</i>)	All

There will be one 15 minute intermission

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST & CREW

EMILY RANSCHAERT (*The Cat in the Hat*). Emily is a senior acting student. Beyond acting, she spends time playwriting, sewing, skateboarding, and trying to keep plants alive. She is grateful for her experience here at JPCatholic and all it has taught her.

REGINE MODINA (*Jojo, Wickersham Brother*). Regine is a senior Communications Media Major with an emphasis in Digital Music. Recent credits include *Newsies* (Seitz), *The Little Mermaid* (Flounder), stagehand for STAR Repertory Theater's *James and the Giant Peach* and *13: the Musical*, and Head of Hair and Makeup for JPCatholic's *Wit* and *The Revlon Girl*. She thanks Mary, Katelyn, and all her friends in the production for making her final show here at JPCatholic an incredible experience. God Bless!

RON-PAUL TAMAYO (*Horton the Elephant*). Ron-Paul is very excited to be Horton in JPCatholic's production of *Seussical the Musical*. As a veteran of musical theater, he has enjoyed exploring the deep themes and fascinating characters in what may seem a simple play at first glance. Previous roles include *Petruchio* (*The Taming of the Shrew*), *Davey* (*Newsies*), *Fagin* (*Oliver*), *Harold Hill* (*The Music Man*), and *Shrek* (*Shrek the Musical*). He would like to thank Katelyn Slater and Megan Geier for this wonderful opportunity and their wonderful direction, all his talented cast mates, the wonderful crew, and his loving family. He loves to perform and is grateful for the opportunity to entertain you!

LISA RUITER (*Gertrude McFuzz*). Lisa is a senior acting student here at JPCatholic that will graduate this weekend! In her time here she has been part of 10 stage productions, the most recent being Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* (Bianca) and her Acting Practicum, *Mary's Wedding* (Mary). She thanks everyone that has been with her during these past three years, especially Profs. Katelyn Slater & Lee Eskey, as well as Joe Sleman, who has the best humor in the 220 building, and all her friends. She will miss you all greatly! *You'll be in my heart... (cue in Phil Collins)*

MARY LESKOWICZ (*Mayzie LaBird*). Mary is a musician and senior at John Paul the Great Catholic University. With recent credits *Mary Poppins* and *HONK* (pit orchestra), *Beauty and the Beast* (ensemble) and *Little Women* (Marmee), she is ecstatic to take on this role as her

final role at JPCatholic. She wants to thank her parents, Paul and Olivia, and her boyfriend, Diego, for supporting her.

DAVID THOMAS (*Mayor of Whoville*). David is an acting and cinematography major who has been a part of multiple productions in his time here at JPCatholic. Some of his favorites include his senior project, *Every Brilliant Thing*, which he performed last May. He was also *Hortensio* in *The Taming of the Shrew* (2026), *Scabs/Stage Manager* in *Newsies* (2025), and more. He loves his family, his faith, and his fiancé Liz Sumrow. Thank you all so much for coming and enjoy the show.

DARLA LOPEZ (*Mrs. Mayor, Thing*). Darla is so excited to dive into the colorful world of *Seussical*! She's a senior acting student at JPCatholic, and her recent theatre credits include Neil Anthony Docking's *Revlon Girl* and Shakespeare's *A Comedy of Errors*. As Darla closes this chapter of her life, she would like to thank everyone who made this journey that much more exciting ;)

PHILIP NERI MORRIS (*General Genghis Khan Schmidt, Wickersham Brother, Thing*). Philip is a graduating senior with an emphasis in Film Producing and Digital Music and a minor in Business. Past theatre credits include *Little Women* (John Brooke) and Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* (Lucentio). In his downtime he enjoys hanging out with his friends, playing soccer, working out, singing, and sleeping. He thanks his family, friends, and most importantly God for this awesome opportunity!

ANNIE BAUR (*Sour Kangaroo*). Annie is grateful to be a part of her first JPCatholic Production! She is a transfer from The Norwalk Conservatory where she studied acting for a year. She was also involved in Musical Theatre for ten years. Her recent credits include *DaySpring's The Little Mermaid* (Ariel), St. Gabriel's *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy), Rosati-Kain's *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (Sally).

JOHANNA WELLS (*The Grinch, Citizen of Whoville*). Johanna is thrilled to make her JPCatholic debut in *Seussical*. She has loved being part of the ensemble and looks forward to future opportunities to perform with the school.

HELEN DAOUST (*Yertle the Turtle, Citizen of Whoville*). Helen is an Acting and Producing student at JPCatholic. She is so excited to act in

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST & CREW

her first ever musical production and hopes you enjoy the colorful world of Seuss. When not acting or producing, she spends her time reading books about adventure and bravery and living her life as fully and presently as she can with her friends and family. She is thankful to everyone in her life who has supported her in her acting journey thus far, and thankful to be a part of this amazing and talented cast and crew.

LOUISA MCCARTHY (*Vlad Vladikoff, Bird Girl, Wickersham Brother, Citizen of Whoville, Cadet, Fish*). Louisa is grateful to be in one last show at JPCatholic. Some of her favorite past credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Cecily), *Newsies* (Henry), and *The Revlon Girl* (Jean). She would like to thank her family for supporting her, every dance teacher she's ever had, and Megan Geier for her awesome choreography.

HANNAH EHLINGER (*Bird Girl*). Hannah is so excited to be part of such a fun and nostalgic show! Past theatre credits include Star Repertory Theatre's *Into the Woods* (Jack's Mom/Granny), and Cotter High School's *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy Gale). As well as Twin Lakes Playhouse's productions of *All My Sons* (Ann Deever), *Romeo & Juliet* (Tybalt), *A Pirate's Life For Me!* (Claude), and *Wee Pigs Three* (Pigglety).

ANDREA MENDEZ GONZALEZ (*Bird Girl*). Andrea is excited at having the opportunity to take on Birdgirl and this story.

CATHERINE McDONALD (*Bird Girl*). Catherine is super excited to be working on *Seussical* with JPCatholic. In the past she played Vincentio in *The Taming of the Shrew* and Mrs. Kirke in *Little Women* the Musical. She has always enjoyed working with Katelyn Slater and the other JPCatholic actors whether it's for a class, a film, or a stage production. Catherine can be found on Instagram @mcdonaldsreel. She would love to thank her friends and family for always helping her to become a better actor, and she would like to thank God for always leading her to where she needs to go.

GEORGIANA NAADEN (*Bird Girl*). Georgiana is excited to be part of this show! She is a Double Major in Acting and Business in Finance. She danced ballet for six years before turning to theater. Past roles include Ruth (*Pirates of Penzance*), Malvolio (*Twelfth Night*), Benedick

(*Much Ado About Nothing*), and Elsa (*Frozen*). She would like to thank her sister Charlotte, her role model for a strong work ethic.

ANASTASIA WAMBEKE (*Wickersham Brother, Citizen of Whoville, Cadet, Fish*). Anastasia is thrilled to perform in *Seussical*. Past credits include *The Secret Garden* (Martha), *Tuck Everlasting* (Young Winnie), and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Bianca). Anastasia is originally from Minnesota and enjoys filmmaking, playing piano, and drinking matcha in her free time. Special thanks to her family for their endless support even from miles away!

MARY DENDINGER (*Citizen of Whoville, Cadet*). Mary is making her musical debut! She often appeared in Shakespeare through Omaha Homeschool Learning Center, such as *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Tempest*, *Macbeth*, & *Twelfth Night*. She's produced/directed/acted in *Hamlet*, *Comedy Of Errors*, & *Midsummer Night's Dream* through her own company, 3-D Theater! Thanks to her family for encouraging her to pursue acting!

ELIZABETH PARK (*Citizen of Whoville*). Elizabeth is having so much fun bringing a character to life in the background of Who! Some of her past credits include Alternate Theatrical Productions' *Cinderella - Str8 Outta Cottage* (Cinderella) as well as high school productions of *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava), *Oliver!* (The Artful Dodger), and *Annie Jr.* (Annie).

KATELYN SLATER (*Director*). Katelyn's past directing credits at JPCatholic include *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Little Women*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Uncle Vanya* and *Wit*. Directing credits through Words Players Theatre in MN include *A Christmas Carol*, and she has assistant directed at Open Window Theatre in the Twin Cities. She loves working alongside her students to find honest exploration of the human condition, which involves both pain and deep joy.

ROBERT GIRACELLO (*Music Director*). Robert is an award winning composer, performer, and educator. He received his PhD from the University of California, Riverside where he specialized in the theatrical works of Stephen Sondheim, the compositions and writings of Arthur Farwell, and electronic music composition using Chuck music programming. He has recorded six

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studio albums and written two novels, most notably *Three Landscapes*, for which he received a MACRO award.

MEGAN GEIER (Choreographer). Megan graduated from JPCatholic in 2018. She spends her time choreographing musicals, teaching dance classes, acting in LA, and running her own small business. She is so grateful for all the opportunities God has granted to her, and loves to share her love for the arts with the world. She's grateful to have been able to work with such a talented cast and crew on this production!

MARY WENNER (Production Assistant). Mary is an actor and alum of JPCatholic. For the past 3 and half years, she has stage managed/assistant directed the university's theatre productions and is thankful to have learned so much about acting, theatre, and her own humanity. She thanks God, Katelyn, and new beginnings.

ELENA CHIRKOVA (Costume Mentor). Elena has over 25 years of experience in the fashion, modeling, and TV industries, and over 20 years of teaching experience. As a professional educator, Elena loves to share her experience and knowledge in the industry as a Theatre Production Designer, as well as intern student advisor, and teacher.

ZOE VOELKER (Lead Costumer/ Costume Designer). Zoe is delighted to serve as Costume Designer for *Seussical*. Previous theatrical design credits include costume design for *Little Women* (2025). As a Fashion Design student, Zoe is passionate about using costume to enrich storytelling and bring characters to life. She extends her gratitude to the cast, crew, and creative team for their collaboration and dedication to this production.

MADALYN O'CAMPO (Costume Crew). Madalyn is a graduating senior studying Theology & Philosophy, and serving as one of the Lead Makeup Designers has been a dream come true! Ever since her mom talked her dad into buying her first Jaclyn Hill eyeshadow palette back in 7th grade, she's been hooked. Bringing her childhood love for makeup to the stage for this musical was pure joy. She loved every second of the process and is so thankful for the fun, theatre, and her love for Jesus that made it all possible!

KATHARINE PLACKE (Costume Crew). Katharine is very excited to have helped bring the costumes of JPCatholic's *Seussical* to life. She has been a part of *Irena's Vow* (Costume Assistant), Jay Muldoon's *Are you Going to Leave?* (Professor Nester), and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Costume Crew). She is grateful to her friends and family, especially her mother for being an unyielding support throughout her many hobbies and endeavors.

VERONIKA MEILAENDER (Costume Crew). Veronika is in her second year pursuing a degree in fashion design. Previously, she has helped costume JPCatholic's *The Taming of the Shrew*. She is thrilled to once again be working on a show and has greatly enjoyed making the *Seussical* costumes. She would like to extend her thanks to her crew members, Prof. Chirkova, and most of all to her family.

MARISOL JUAREZ (Stage Makeup). *Seussical*. This is Marisol's first time doing Stage Makeup! Marisol is an acting major and trained in Stage Hair & Makeup class taught by Prof. Chirkova. Special thanks to Prof. Chirkova, Katelyn Slater and the entire crew for their hard work and for making this show a reality!

TESSA HAUBERT (Stage Manager). Tessa is excited to be a part of JPCatholic's *Seussical the Musical*! Previous credits include Katherine (*The Taming of the Shrew*), and Vivian Bearing (*Wit*). Directing credits include *Julius Caesar* (ts@NCRT). This is her first time stage managing a production. She would like to thank Katelyn for entrusting her with this opportunity, and Mary Wenner for her support and guidance.

MIA MEZA (Stagehand). Mia is a junior at John Paul the Great Catholic University and is excited to be part of the *Seussical* tech crew! She loves being involved in theater and is looking forward to helping bring the production to life behind the scenes!

MOIRA GODFREY (Stagehand). Moira lives for the backstage life and is thrilled to be involved with so many facets of this show! This is her second time crewing a JPCatholic show and you can also catch her work in some props and makeup.



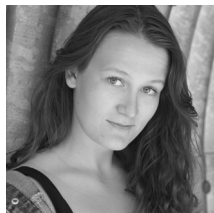
EMILY RANSCHAERT



REGINE MODINA



RON-PAUL TAMAYO



LISA RUITER



MARY LESKOWICZ



DAVID THOMAS



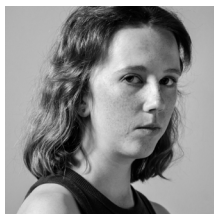
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PHILIP NERI MORRIS



ANNIE BAUR



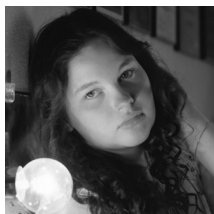
JOHANNA WELLS



HELEN DAoust



LOUISA MCCARTHY



HANNAH EHLINGER



CATHERINE MCDONALD



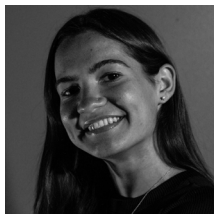
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MARY DENDINGER



ELIZABETH PARK



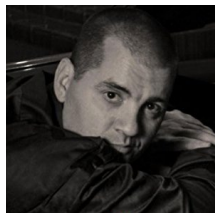
ANDREA MENDEZ



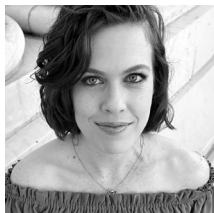
KATELYN SLATER



MARY WENNER



ROBERT GIRACELLO



MEGAN GEIER



ELENA CHIRKOVA



ZOE VOELKER



MADALYN O'CAMPO



KATHARINE PLACKE



VERONIKA MEILAENDER



MARISOL JUAREZ



TESSA HAUBERT



MIA MEZA



MOIRA GODFREY



COMING THIS FALL

SILENT SKY

Steel Magnolias

SEE BEHIND
THE SCENES



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