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Utica University Theatre presents:

# Alice in Wonderland

Script by Jason Pizzarello

Based on the writings of Lewis Carroll

Fri, March 1 at 1pm and 7pm

Sat, March 2 at 1pm and 7pm

Sun, March 3 at 1pm

Strebel AUD



Produced by Special Arrangement with Playscripts Inc  
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Utica University Performing and Fine Arts Department

PRESENTS

## Alice in Wonderland

By Jason Pizzarello

Director  
Rachel M.E. Wolfe

Stage Manager  
Kate Vaughan

Stage Manager  
Jackie Gallman

Lighting Design  
Michael Diederich

Costume/Puppet Designer  
Kristin Palazzoli

Set Design  
Laura Salvaggio

### Crew Credits

Light Board Operator- Kate Vaughan

Sound Operator- Jeff Washburn

Sound Design- Derek Corsner

Props Master- Julia Tyrel and Sully Walker

Costume crew- Ethan Miller, Ash Tavarez, Kevin Chambers

Social Media Manager/Program- Cailee Blackington

Photography- Anita Biernat

Additional Crew Credits: Jessica Briggs, Dakota Wayne, Jessilyn Pereira, Juan Garcia, Patrick Hampe, Win Naing, Jeffrey Washburn, Ethan Miller, Jallen Wright, Julia Tyrel, Cassidy Forbes, Ava Natale, Angela Hawthorne, Cailee Blackington, Dante Palumbo, Ashley Tavarez, Marianne Tenney, Adam Liebers, Charles Buckley, Shadae Baker, Kevin Chambers, Grace Monaco, Ethan Miller, Jallen Wright, Cyra Burnett, Kate Vaughan, Yoaniel Berrios, Ella Stanton, Andrea May, Bridgett Fessenden, Students from THE115

Puppet Crew: Sully Walker, Jallen Wright, Dakota Wayne, Grace Monaco, Ethan Miller, Kevin Chambers, Allie Barone

# Help Animals in Need!



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**Follow us on social media for updates on our department!**

Instagram: @uticauniversitytheatre  
 Facebook: Utica University Theatre

**For updates on Pioneer Players, follow their accounts!**

Instagram: @uticapioneerplayers  
 Facebook: Utica Pioneer Players

**Be sure to come back for the Pioneer Players production of  
 “Baby” on April 4-6th at 7:30pm!**

Tickets are \$15 general admission and free for Utica University students!

Pioneer Players Presents:



Book By **SYBILLE PEARSON**      Music By **DAVID SHIRE**      Lyrics By **RICHARD MALTBY, JR.**

Based upon a story developed with **SUSAN YANKOWITZ**  
 Originally directed on Broadway by **RICHARD MALTBY, JR.**  
 Produced on Broadway by **JAMES B. FREYDBERG & IVAN BLOCH**  
**KENNETH JOHN PRODUCTIONS INC., SUSAN J. SCHWARTZ**  
 in association with **MANUSCRIPT PRODUCTIONS**

Directed By **DENNIS J. CLARK**      Music Directed By **JARED McFARLIN**

Strebel Auditorium at Utica University, April 4-6, 2024

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

**Cast List**

White Rabbit.....	Jerome Nembhard
Alice.....	Grace Monaco
Second Alice.....	Andi Spurr
Old Squirrel, Dormouse, Daisy.....	Linda Cunningham
Fish Footman, Soldier Card, Alice’s Sister.....	Sully Walker
Frog Footman, Gardener.....	Dakota House
Duchess, Soldier Card.....	Mariami Kentchadze
Cook, Mad Hatter.....	Dakota Wayne
Cheshire Cat, Daisy, Gardener.....	Ashley Mercado
March Hare.....	Alec Stechyshyn
Caterpillar, Gardener.....	Norman Booth
Rose, Knave of Hearts.....	Jacob Banas
Tiger-Lily, Executioner.....	Danniella Rivera-Litz
Tweedle Dee, Soldier Card.....	Joan Pricer
Tweedle Dum, General.....	Anna Zhang
Humpty Dumpty, King of Hearts.....	Charlie Buckley
Queen of Hearts.....	Morgan Mielnick



## Director's Notes

Welcome to Wonderland! We do hope you shall enjoy your stay here. As long as you've come down the rabbit hole, might we make a small request of you? We could surely use your help in painting the roses red. You see, we planted white roses by mistake, but the queen wants red ones.

Did you get a teacup? Oh good. Inside, you'll find a white rose and a red marker. Please use the marker to turn the rose red as quick as you can! Some gardeners will be by later with the rose bush, so you can just stick yours back on and the queen will be none the wiser. Thanks ever so!

And if you should be so fortunate as to be celebrating your unbirthday today, a very merry unbirthday to you!

## Meet our Director

**Dr. Rachel M.E. Wolfe (Director)** is an Assistant Professor of Theatre here at Utica University, where she teaches acting, directing, dramaturgy, play analysis, and theatre history. Her professional work as a director and dramaturg has been seen on stages in New York, California, and Seattle, WA. At Utica, she has directed *Arcadia*, *Ghost Stories* at Yotsuya, *War of the Worlds*, *Trifles*, *Chicago*, and *In the Blood*. *Alice in Wonderland* is her lucky seventh production here, and her first children's play. She hopes you will enjoy!

## Upcoming Utica University Arts Classes!!

### Later this semester

Stage Management (1 credit, begins March 19 and not too late to sign up!)  
Bharata Natyam: South Indian Dance (1 credit, begins March 27 and not too late to sign up!)

### Fall 2024

Intro to Theatre  
Elements of Acting  
Theatre for Social Justice  
The Black Experience in August Wilson's Cycle Plays  
Basics of Theatrical Lighting  
Performance Showcase  
Intro to Art  
Early Art History  
Intro to Music  
Choir  
Band  
String Ensemble  
World Music

Are you a high school student interested in earning college credit by taking any of these classes? If so, reach out to Laura Salvaggio ([Im salvag@utica.edu](mailto:Im salvag@utica.edu)) to learn more about how to be involved in our high school bridge program.

## Introducing our “Bells and Whistles” campaign!!

Lights, camera, action! The stage is set, the actors are ready, and the spotlight is on YOU! The Utica University Theatre Program needs your help to ensure our students shine brightly and reach their full potential. We are launching an exciting fundraising campaign, and we invite you to be a star in our story.

Every donation, no matter the size, brings us closer to our goal. Let's create unforgettable moments, ignite imaginations, and celebrate the power of theatre. Be a hero behind the scenes – donate today and help our students take center stage!

### Come see your donations in action later this semester at

- ★ Utica Pioneer Players Production of “Baby”
- ★ Student Directed One Act Festival April 25-27



## Meet the Cast

**Jerome Nembhard (White Rabbit)** is a Freshman at Utica University who is a proud member of the Utica pioneers football team. He is the White Rabbit with no prior acting experience but earned the role regardless.

**Grace Monaco (Alice)** is a Senior at Utica studying Communications and Media. She's honored to be portraying Alice, as this is one of her favorite stories. Grace would like to thank Rachel, Kate, Jess, Jackie and everyone else involved in making this production possible. She hopes you enjoy your adventure in wonderland!

**Andi Spurr (Second Alice)** is a second year at Utica university, majoring in education with hopes of becoming an elementary school teacher. This is their first play here at Utica, however she has been in many productions while in high school including “Clue”, “Momma Mia”, “Mary Poppins”, and “Singing in the Rain”.

**Linda Cunningham (Old Squirrel, Dormouse, Daisy)** retired from teaching after 37 years and became involved in community theater following a high school dream. She has been in plays in Utica, Rome and Ilion. She is excited about her first experience with Utica University.

**Sully Walker (Fish Footman, Soldier Card, Alice's Sister)** This is Sully's debut acting performance on Utica University's stage. Very active in theater, you may recognize them most recently as assistant director of Fun Home with Brick 2 Theater. An MBA student here, her passion for the arts comes both behind and on the stage, acting in film, as well as writing and drawing works of her own.

**Dakoda House (Frog Footman, Gardener)** is a student studying Animal Behavior at Utica University. They are currently employed by Glimmerglass Festival Opera House in the summer as a Parker. This job introduced Dakota to theater and gave them the encouragement to join UU's theater program. This their first production and they are excited to jump off the Lilly pad and dive straight into the theatre scene.

## Meet the Cast

**Mariami Kentchadze (Duchess, Soldier Card)** is a Cybersecurity Student minoring in Criminal Justice and Computer Science. Besides being involved in many distinct areas on campus, she loves to explore her abilities on stage. With previous roles in university productions and beyond, she embraces each opportunity life brings and is honored and very excited to grace the stage once more as a cast member of 'Alice in the Wonderland.' Mariami is grateful for the chance to be part of this production, and she looks forward to sharing the magic of theater with audiences once again.

**Dakota Wayne (Cook, Mad Hatter)** is a transfer to Utica University. He took some time off from school to travel and see the world, and decided he was ready to get back into it. He has been in shows since high school which include Shrek The Musical (Humpty Dumpty/Pied Piper), The Little Mermaid (Flounder), Once Upon a Mattress (The Minstrel), Beauty and the Beast (Lumiere). He was once again in Once Upon a Mattress (Dauntless) and is looking forward to portraying The Mad Hatter! He loves spending time with his Fiancé and his GoldenDoodle Hero.

**Ashley Mercado (Cheshire Cat, Daisy, Gardener)** is a Psych - Child Life major. She is the Secretary of Fuerza Latina. She transferred here last semester from New Jersey. This is her Utica University debut.

**Alec Stechyshyn (March Hare)** is a senior majoring in the field of cyber security. He spends a majority of his week with his daily responsibilities, keeping up the school work, as well as attending part-time work on the side. He spends his recreational time playing games, reading books, attending the gym, or partakes in impulse purchases.

**Norman Booth (Caterpillar, Gardener)** is a third year student here at Utica University. He is currently a construction management major who plays on the football team and is a SCA as well. This is Norman's fourth major involvement in a play since he's been at college and his fourth. Norman has taken on roles in "Chicago" and "Almost, Maine" and "In the Blood". He is very excited to take on the roles of the "Caterpillar" and "Five" in this performance. FTM

## Meet the Cast

**Jacob Banas (Rose, Knave of Hearts)** is a high school junior and is super excited to be participating in this show. Jacob has participated in 2 high school productions in his drama club as minor ensemble roles. Jacob wishes best of luck to the cast and crew of Utica University's production of Alice in Wonderland!

**Danniella Rivera-Litz (Tiger-Lily, Executioner)** is thrilled to be a part of her first show with Utica Unis as Tiger Lily, and Executioner! She has also been a part of 3 consecutive shows at Sauquoit Valley Drama Club starting with Greece as an ensemble, Curtains as an ensemble, and most recently The Wizard of Oz as a tree. She appreciates the support from her friends, family, and the cast and crew of this show and hopes to come back again soon!

**Joan Harlen (Tweedle Dee, Soldier Card)** (they/them) This is Joan's first show with Utica University, they are a huge fan of Alice in Wonderland, and were super excited to be a part of this cast. When not on this stage they can be seen at Rome Community Theater, Players of Utica, Rome Capitol Theatre, and wherever they can fit. They are a junior at Sauquoit high school and look forward to more shows at Utica College!

**Anna Zhang (Tweedle Dum, General)** is a student at Perry Junior High, in year 7. They have participated in Rising Stars, as Little Bo Peep, and multiple characters in a szopka by former Hollywood producer John James Hickey. Currently plays Tweedle-Dum and The General.

**Charlie Buckley (Humpty Dumpty, King of Hearts)** is a Senior at Utica University and a very active member of the theater community. He's played in previous shows such as "Into the Woods" and "Chicago" and he's also an active writer for the Utica University newspaper, the Tangerine.

**Morgan Marris-Mielnick (Queen of Hearts)** is a Clayville native, a Sauquoit Valley graduate, and a lifelong drama queen. Her very first performance was right here on this very stage when she was 8 years old in The Boxcar Children. Since then her performances have included Les Mis, Urinetown, Kismet, Jekyll and Hyde, and The Prisoner of Second Avenue. When not on stage, Morgan enjoys traveling and teaching. Lewis Carroll's stories have always been incredibly meaningful for her, so it's an honor and a blast to be playing the Queen of Hearts!