

MLT
MACON LITTLE THEATRE

OUR 2022/2023 SEASON

The best part of the magic of community theatre is that YOU can be a part of it. We're "pulling back the curtain" this year to give you great drama.

February 10-19, 2023

Like Sesame Street, for grownups*

Avenue



Directed by JP Haynie
Music Direction by Nestor Jaenz

***Mature content. It's just like your life, only funnier!**

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Avenue Q

Presented by Macon Little Theatre

With special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance material provided by MTI.

www.mtishows.com

Any video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Avenue Q

Music and Lyrics by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx

Book by Jeff Whitty

Based on an original concept by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx

Orchestrations and Arrangements by Stephen Oremus

The world premiere of Avenue Q was presented by the Vineyard Theatre and the New Group, New York City, February 2003. Avenue Q premiered on Broadway at the Golden Theater on July 31, 2003, produced by Kevin McCollum, Robyn Goodman, Jeffrey Seller, Vineyard theatre and the New Group.

Avenue Q has not been authorized or approved by the Jim Henson Company or Sesame Workshop, which have no responsibility for its content.

Puppets designed and provided by AvenueQRentals.com

Crew

Artistic Director – JP Haynie

Music Director – Nestor Jaenz

Sound Board – Tim Hinojosa / Holly Jaenz

Light Board – Cassidy Hall

Spot Operators – Annabelle Branch / Loona Abalos

Set and Lighting Design – JP Haynie

Band

Piano – Jim Pendorf

Bass – Bert Mims

Drums – Joey Bronner

Everything else – Nestor Jaenz

Puppet Characters

Princeton: Bryan Avila

Kate Monster: Gabrielle Sowell

Nicky: Tyler Vaughan

Rod: Ben Cole

Trekkie Monster: Laura Ashlyn Pridgen

Lucy: Josey Maddox

Bad Idea Bears: Taylor Loudermilk / Alan Jaenz

Mrs. T: Bethany Buck

Human Characters

Gary Coleman: Jahi Mendes

Brian: Elliott Wall

Christmas Eve: Michele Ortiz

Ensemble

Mikaela Pavin, Rachel Tisdell, Caleb Stallworth, Izzy Cusson, Jake Breeden, MC Hulgán, Simon Grant

Special Thanks

Theatre Macon, Sylvia Haynie, Tim Hinojosa, Laura Ashlyn Pridgen, Natalie and Kelly Land

Meet the Cast

Bryan Jaír Avila (Princeton) is excited to be returning to the stage here at Macon Little Theatre. Fresh off his leading roles in MLT's Little Shop of Horrors and Theatre Macon's The SpongeBob Musical, Bryan can't wait for you to see the hard work this cast has put into this production.

Jake Breeden (ensemble) This is Jake's third show at MLT, having also performed in Carrie and Beauty and the Beast. He has always wanted to be in Avenue Q and is incredibly excited to be a part of this production!

Bethany Buck (Ensemble) is happy to blend her love for puppets and ... other things this show provides. Her first shows on the MLT stage were in the late 1980's and she is the proud recipient of MLT's John Hruby Award for her participation in Little Women (2015). Bethany is excited to delve into new creative projects in 2023. Stay tuned!

Ben Cole (Rod) is so excited to be back for another MLT After Dark production! Upcoming: Matt - Calvin Berger (Marietta Theatre Company). Other highlights: Seymour - Little Shop of Horrors (Act1 Theatre Atlanta), Van - Dog Sees God (Los Angeles LGBT Center), Tommy Ross - Carrie (Macon Little Theatre). Find him this summer living in Bikini Bottom at Peach State Summer Theatre - or on Instagram @bencole! Many thanks to the cast, crew & creative team. So much love to my family.

Izzy Cusson (Ensemble) is the 19-year-old daughter of Tiffany and David Cusson, and is the younger sister of Carter Cusson. She has been in one other MLT show this season, Carrie, also in the ensemble. Izzy spends most of her free time singing and raising her guide dog in training, Cody. She will be attending the College of Coastal Georgia in the fall to pursue a degree in secondary education. Izzy loves musical theatre, and is so excited to continue her journey with Macon Little Theatre.

Simon Grant (ensemble) Simon is excited to be making his first appearance at Macon Little Theatre! Simon graduated from Peach County High School in 2019. Simon is currently a Kitchen Team Leader for Chick-Fil-A in Byron. He has been working there for almost 4 years. Simon has been a part of many theatre performances on and off stage. Some of his most recent performances were playing Lucas Beineke in The Addams Family and being the sound engineer for Seussical: The Musical both at Perry Players. Simon couldn't be where he's at without the support of his family and friends. Simon hopes you enjoy the show!!

MC Hulgán (Ensemble, Sun, O, One Nightstand, Newcomer) is a Macon-born chemist, artist, equestrian, trombonist, and most recently actor, who you may have seen in Carrie and hopefully didn't see behind the scenes of Beauty and the Beast. Welcome to Avenue Q!

Hannah (Mrs. "T") is the cofounder of Macon Puppets Talk, your source for Middle GA puppets. You may have seen Hannah as co-host of The Grand's Broadway Does The Movies, or in her stage debut in Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind. Her most challenging role was in Mercer's Phoenix Project. She also enjoys standup comedy and greeting at church, which are one in the same. "JP, do you know how hard it is for puppets to climb stairs?"

Alan Jaenz (Boy Bear), currently in his senior year at Houston County High School, is happy to be returning for his 5th mainstage production in a row here at Macon Little Theatre. He can't wait to show off all the hard work he and his fellow classmates have put into this production and hopes that you enjoy the show.

Taylor Loudermilk (*Bad Idea Bear #1*) is excited for her second MLT after dark production! Previous roles at MLT include Sue Snell in *Carrie*, Margaret in *9 to 5*, Marilla in *Anne of Green Gables*, and D.A. Joyce

Riley in *Legally Blonde*. This production in particular has been such an amazing experience for her and she's so excited to bring Avenue Q to life. Taylor would also like to take a moment to thank her supportive family, friends, and the entire cast and crew.

Josey Maddox (Lucy the Slut) has enjoyed every moment of MLT's production of Avenue Q. She was last seen as Julia in MLT's production of *Carrie: The Musical*. She would like to thank her mom, family, and friends that have supported her throughout this journey. She is excited for you to see the hard work everybody has put towards making this show memorable.

Jahi Mendes (Gary Coleman) Jahi is a English teacher at Central High School and is finishing his Masters in Technical Writing. I am extremely appreciative of the chance to work with our wonderful directors and talented cast/crew. It has been a great experience acting as a role not a lot of actors get the chance to become. As a Black Guy.

Michele Ortiz (Christmas Eve) is a Management Analyst at HQ/AFRC Robins AFB and has been performing at every level for the past two years at Theatre Macon. From *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind* to most recently *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, she has enjoyed being a part of each and every production. This is her first principal role as well as her first time performing at Macon Little Theatre Michele would like to take this time to thank this fantastic cast and crew, her daughter Yoshiko, and many friends for supporting her. I am especially grateful to JP for his direction and opportunity and Nestor for his patience and guidance.

Mikaela Pavin (Ensemble, Trekkie's Right Arm, Mitment) is a graduate of Mercer University with her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. She currently teaches in Bibb County as a special education teacher in inclusion pre-k and kindergarten. Past shows at MLT include *Ragtime* and *Beauty and The Beast*. She would like to thank her friends and family for their endless love and support, especially her mom who always said that it's okay to say bad words as long as it's in a song. She'd also like to wish a "break-a-leg" to all her delightful and talented neighbors on Avenue Q!

Laura Ashlyn Pridgen (Trekkie Monster) is very excited to be in her first musical on MLT's stage. She is so happy to be a part of this wonderful cast and crew, while adding yet another chaotic character to her list. You may have seen her as Mr. Boddy in *Clue: On Stage* here a couple years ago or in *The Goat (or Who Is Sylvia?)*, *Evil Dead: The Musical*, or *Romeo and Juliet* at Mercer University. She would like to thank her friends and family for their unrelenting support, regardless of what she says on the stage.

Gabrielle Sowell (Kate Monster) is the 20 year old daughter of Deirdre and Randy Sowell and is beyond excited to have the opportunity to be in this production of Avenue Q. This has been one of her dream shows for close to six years and she is grateful she gets to portray one of her favorite characters for an audience. She was most recently seen as a Phantom in "The Rocky Show" at Theatre Macon and Crystal in MLT's "Little Shop of Horrors". She would like to thank the cast, crew and JP Haynie for making this show such a memorable time. She hopes you enjoy this show as much as she has for so many years.

Caleb Stallworth (Ensemble) is aiding in his first role at MLT after two years at Perry Player.

Rachel Tisdell (Ensemble) She is new to the MLT stage and is excited to be working with this talented cast. She has grown up on the stage and considers any community theatre her home. She has participated in numerous dance recitals, choral concerts, plays and musicals throughout her life, and she

has enjoyed performing for many years. Rachel's credits include *The Addams Family*, *Shrek the Musical*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *All Shook up*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*!

Tyler Vaughan (Nicky) is a 26 year old from Ringgold, GA. He 4th year medical student at Mercer University. Some other shows he has performed at MLT include *Carrie*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Legally Blonde*. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Elliott Wall (Brian) Elliott is a music therapist practicing at The Medical Center Atrium here in Macon and has been performing at every level for the past 30 years. Past shows include playing Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast*, Matthew Cuthbert in *Anne of Green Gables*, Mr Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Mayor Josiah Dobbs in *Bright Star*. Elliott would like to thank this fantastic cast and crew, JP and Nestor, his wife Sheree' and daughter Lorelai for continuing to allow him to explore and expand his love of the stage.

Next up:

Right Up Your Alley is a brand-new stage play by local playwright Bethany Buck. Come experience MLT's magical table read of this hilarious adventure of two bowling teams who only want to successfully honor their dead friend's last wishes. This show uses sarcasm and humor to open up conversations on inclusivity and self-acceptance. Be part of this historical opportunity by providing your feedback on the script and possibly catapulting it to a full stage production! Rated R for really damn funny.