CAST



Kate Genco

London Alden

Naomi Duke

Nyla Shaw

LONDON ALDEN (Fight Ensemble/ Kaliope Understudy) is a junior at Midtown, and is excited to be in She Kills Monsters, her second play at Midtown. Previously, she was in Trap (Menachap Herald) and is currently working on Rent (Cop 2).

ANDREW ALEMAZKOUR (Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior at Midtown high school he has worked in both stage management and on stage. He previously was a part of Tuck Everlasting (Ensemble), Picnic (Assistant Stage Manager), Sweeney Todd (Man 2/Anthony US) and in January's Rent (Angel). He is so grateful for theatre and all the amazing people who have joined him in his journey so far.

RIYA BHATIA (Agnes) is a senior at Midtown High School and is thrilled to be performing in her final fall play. She's been part of every fall production and is very grateful for all the memories in theatre, with plans to study psychology after graduation.

ALEX BRENDLE (Narrator) is a junior and this is her second year in Midtown Theatre! She previously was in Sweeney Todd (Passerby 3) and soon will appear in Rent once it hits the stage. She is so excited for you to see the show and hopes she tells the story... dramatically!

BRITTINGHAM MARIN (Set Design/Prop Construction) is sophomore. She has done set construction and backstage crew for Sweeney Todd. Marin plays clarinet in wind ensemble and marching band. She thanks all the radiant techies for when SKM interfered with marching band, and her family. Love you besties!! Eniov the show!!

JAYDEN DAVIS (Sound Designer/Soundboard Op) is a senior at Midtown High School, and has had a blast working on numerous productions over the years. From set construction to the booth, cherishing time with his theatre family. Jayden wants to give a huge shoutout to everyone for coming out to support the show-you make it all worthwhile! Extra thanks to Marissa and Morgan for letting him jump in and help with their awesome productions. This iourney has been unforgettable, full of laughter, learning, and great memories. IT'S SHOWTIME!

ZOE DIAMOND-WILDING (Stage Manager) is a senior at Midtown and this will be her thirteenth production. She would like to share a short poem written by Jack Morris: "AYYE 5,6,5,6,7,8 - My name is Zoe and I'm here to say, I kill monsters in every type of way." Feel free to perform it at Coffeehouse if you give him credit. Zoe is scared of glow sticks and being a disappointment. Special shoutout to Marissa, who has persevered through life despite being raised in a barn (shoutout Elliott's grandmommy). And also thanks to Jack for "helping" write the bio.

ISABELLA DIMILLO (Program Design/Set Construction) is a sophomore at Midtown. This is her third time doing tech. She has previously worked on set construction for Picnic and Sweeney Todd. She is looking forward to continuing her theatre journey!

NAOMI DUKE (Fight Ensemble) is a sophomore this year and is thrilled to be in her second Midtown play! She would like to thank her family for all her support and hopes everyone enjoys the show.

KATE KRUGMAN (Kaliope Kelly/Choreographer) is a senior Midtown. Her previous acting roles in fall plays include Sherry (Our Place), Celia Brown (Trap), and Fabian (Twelfth Night). She was also Crew Chief for the 2025 spring musical, Sweeney Todd. When she's not acting or creating a run list, Kate is at mock trial, ethics bowl, or hanging out with her friends. She'd like to thank her friends and family and, of course, Dreiling for supporting her through her theatre journey. Enjoy the show!

MAGGIE MORRAN (Puppet Construction) is a sophomore at Midtown and this is her second year participating in the Midtown theatre department. Outside of theatre she enjoys playing softball and plays for Midtown's varsity team. She likes frogs and baby cows.

ALEX MOYER (Costumes/Prop master) is a junior at Midtown High School, they have had a wonderful time on this show, through the trials and tribulations of making a gelatinous cube they enjoyed it all and never complained! They want to thank Marissa for being a radiant tech director, Grace for being a wonderful head costumer, Ms. Collins for being the best shop foreman, Dreiling for his very nice words about the beholder (95 redirection necessary) and Morgan for definitely not writing this bio! Enjoy the show!!!!!

ZOE NORWOOD (Tilly Evans) is a freshman at Midtown High and this is her first year doing acting for Midtown Theatre.

ALEJANDRO NUNEZ (Set Construction/Backstage Crew) Is a junior at midtown and is in his third year of working in technical theatre. He has previously worked on Twelfth Night and Sweeney Todd in Set construction and Backstage crew. He loves playing Dungeons and Dragons, so he was extremely excited to work on She Kills Monsters.

MARISSA RAINEY (Technical Director/Scenic Design/Backstage Crew) is a senior. Her previous tech credits include Sweeney Todd (Technical Director) and Picnic (Head Carpenter). Currently she is also working on RENT (Technical Director) and Horse Girls/It's Not You It's Me (Technical Director). She has enjoyed working with the absolutely radiant crew on this show! She would like to thank Quinn for being a rockstar ATD, Zoe for being a marvtastic Stage Manager. Ms. Collins and her tech classes for being so helpful, Dreiling for being a radiant director, the Fog Machine for its moral support, and most of all her family for being so supportive and radiant! Keep it xanth!

E ROGERS (Fight Ensemble/Orcus Understudy) is a sophomore. This is their 1st year being an actor for a performance at Midtown. Aside from pretending to fight onstage, they enjoy zip lining on the catwalk, they love to laugh, and taking naps. They give out many thanks to the theatre teachers Jake Dreiling and Brooke Collins, and to their friends and family!!!!!

DANNY VERMENTON (Set Construction/Backstage Crew) is a freshman at Midtown and this is her first year doing tech. She's on construction for the set of She Kills Monsters.

FERRIS SHARP (Puppet Design/Backstage Crew) is a freshman at Midtown High, this is her first year involved in theatre. She's excited to see what's to come in her theatre career.

NYLA SHAW (Fight ensemble/ Chuck Understudy) is a freshman at Midtown High School. She has prior experience in theatre, but hopes she does well in her first Midtown production.

GIANNA SOAVE (Vera) is a senior at Midtown this year. She has been involved in 9 previous shows, and is currently involved in "Rent" and "Horse Girls." Her hobbies include theatre, soccer, and passenger princessing. She would of course like to thank all of her friends and family for their love and support. She would especially like to thank her dad for buying her 12 packs of Yerba Mate from Costco, and all of her Sugar Mamas for making sure she never goes hungry. Blessings!

EVELYN TANKERSLEY (Set construction/Sound design) is a sophomore. This is her first year doing theatre. She hopes you enjoy the show!

ELLA THOMAS (Head Carpenter/Backstage Crew) is a sophomore. She is grateful to the theatre department for giving her access to power tools, something not many sane people would do. She is also thankful to her family and friends for their support, and her cat for being, well, her cat.

JUNE URBAN (Puppet Design) is a senior at Midtown. This is his last fall production but he is sure to pursue more theatre at college. He wants to thank his mother for giving him a car to get to theatre with, his sister for occasionally coming to shows, and all the techies that make shows like this possible. He is super excited for you to see this absolute nerd-fest show.

KATE WASICK (Lilith/Lily) is a senior. She's been in two region-winning oneplavs: Circus Olvmpus act (Persephone), for which she won Best Supporting Actress, and Twelfth Night (Valentine). She died in Sweeney Todd, epically. Kate did tech for Chicago, Senior One Acts 2023-2024, and Matilda. Her upcoming shows include Horse Girls (Margaret) and RENT (Homeless Man). She's very active in film, Moot Court, guitar, and Voxology. She is also the PR Head on Drama Board and is hosting the November Coffeehouse! At ThesCon, she will be Quiz Bowl captain and on Troupe 5074's improv team. Enjoy the show, lunch meat!

CLAIRE WASICK (Dramaturgy/Lobby & Design/Lobby & Costume Construction/Videography) is excited to finally be a senior technician and filmmaker at Midtown. Some of the shows she has previously been a part of include Sweeney Todd (Costume Construction/Backstage Props), Twelfth Night (Assistant Stage Manager), Circus Olympus (Set Construction/Backstage Crew), Senior One Acts (Backstage Crew). She is endlessly grateful to have gotten to pick the music for this show, and hopes you fulfill your 90s nostalgia!

SAWYER SCOFIELD (Light Design) She has worked on the lighting of the school's renditions of Twelfth Night, Sweeney Todd, and now She Kills Monsters. She would like to thank the people she's worked with in lighting, namely the lighting director for this show, Cait St. Clair, and the light booth dummy Gregory for just being there. She hopes you find this show to be humorous and touching.

JOHNNY DUNAWAY (Steve) is a senior with a previous role as a musician in last year's production of Twelfth Night. Johnny plays the drums and is in Atlanta's local band Magnolia Black, who released their album "Point and Laugh" earlier this semester. In his free time, Johnny enjoys reading, practicing music, and spending time with friends. His favorite movie is Army of Darkness and his favorite album is "Hold Your Horse Is" by Hella.

SAM FOWLKES (Set Construction/Backstage Crew) is a sophomore working on his second show at Midtown. He previously worked on Sweeney Todd where he served as backstage crew. He is looking forward to continuing his work in theatre through high school.

ZARA FOX (Farrah the Faerie) is a freshman, and this is their first year in Midtown Theatre. After performing in several middle school productions, they are thrilled to be part of their first high school show. They would like to thank Jake Dreiling for his constant support and guidance with the cast.

TWEED FRISTOE (Evil Gabbi) is a freshman and so excited to make her Midtown theatre debut!

KATE GENCO (Fight Ensemble/Lilith Understudy) is a freshman and is so excited to be a part of Midtown's theatre program!

HARPER GENTRY (Light Design/Light Construction/Light Performance) is a freshman at Midtown, thrilled to debut backstage and grateful for support from family and friends.

VICTORIA HICKS (Set Construction/ House Manager) is a sophomore at Midtown High School and mainly does set construction and house manager. She is in orchestra, chorus, and theatre at Midtown and loves music.

LARA HODSON (Fight Ensemble/Agnes Understudy) is a junior and this is her third year being a part of the theatre program at Midtown. She has previously acted in "Tuck Everlasting," "The Blue Bar," "Twelfth Night," and "Sweeney Todd." She also can't wait to appear in "RENT" this winter! In addition to acting, Lara serves on the drama board as a PR coordinator. She would like to thank her family and friends for their constant love and support!

ELLIE KAIMAN (Promotion) is a sophomore and her second year on tech. She did prop/set construction for Picnic and was background actor for film Between Heaven and Hell. She loves doing chorus and journalism and is proud of everyone who made this show come to life.

GRACE KRAUTH (Costume Design Head/Makeup) is a junior. She previously acted in Sweeney Todd (Ensemble) as well as costumed. She also was on props backstage for Matilda. She is pursuing fashion and costume design all the time every day. She is also in Rent (Homeless Woman Number Three) which will preview January 15, 16, 17. She hopes you enjoy the show, because she does!!

YUMI GRABOWSKI (Lighting) is a freshman at Midtown and this is her first production with the Midtown Theatre. She is excited to work on the lighting for She Kills Monsters and is looking forward to future productions.

THEO WEBER (Orcus/Ronnie) is a senior at Midtown High School his previous roles at Midtown has been in Regina Flector Wins the Science Fair (Bradley Sheriadlev). Circus Olympus 2b), (Mythapalooza Speed Dating (Jefferson), If you were last (Zach), Picnic (Hal), Matilda (Parent & Big Kid), and Sweeney Todd (Police Man 1) and has loved his time doing theatre at Midtown and he would like to give a special thanks to Mr. Dreiling for producing such a fun show to perform.

AVA WOLGEMUTH (Set Construction/Backstage Crew) is a junior at Midtown. This is her third year (and show) she's worked on. Her favorite color is red and she is very fond of polyhedrons. She is so thankful for her friends and family who are the reason she is in theatre today. Thanks you guys!!!!!!!

KALEB WRIGHT (Miles) For the past four years, Kaleb has been involved in high school theatre at Midtown High School, and it has been one of the best experiences of his life. Every year, he has had the chance to play different roles in exciting plays and musicals. Kaleb remembers his first role: he was so nervous, but he encouraged himself. Working with other students has made him appreciate teamwork and creativity. We have spent many late rehearsing, laughing, and sometimes getting a little stressed, but it has all been worth it. Kaleb has learned a lot about acting and even about himself. Theatre has helped him become more confident and expressive. He loves the thrill of being on stage and sharing stories with the audience. Overall. Kaleb's time in theatre has been fun and memorable, and he will cherish these moments for as long as he can remember.

AVERY WUESTE (Crew Chief/Set Construction) is a sophomore who has previously worked on tech for Twelfth Night and Sweeney Todd. He's doing tech leadership for the first time, so fingers crossed it goes well! Big thanks to mom, dad, McKinley, friends, and radiant Marissa for making the show possible!!!

CAIT ST. CLAIR (Light Director) is thrilled to be the lighting director for she kills monsters! She has previously worked on Trap, Tuck Everlasting, Twelfth night, and Sweeney Todd. She was thrilled to work with her amazing lighting team and can't wait to continue her lighting journey in RENT!

OLIVIA HODSON (Ensemble/Tilly Understudy) is a freshman and is excited to be in her first production at Midtown. Olivia has recently appeared in several productions at Orbit Arts Academy and loves her dance classes. She wants to thank her family for their love & support.

QUINN CAMPISI (Assistant Technical Director) is a senior at Midtown. They are so thrilled to be a part of such a unique and dynamic production, especially as ATD. Usually Quinn stage manages or acts, so this is a cool new experience for them! Quinn plans to pursue film after high school at somewhere. Thanks to Marissa for NOT writing this bio.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I was very much into Dungeons and Dragons from a very early age. Oh yeah. For those old enough to remember Saturday morning cartoons, there was a short-lived animated series of the same name that I never missed. It fueled a love for the game that turned into D&D sessions in college (I had a sports era in high school – if Taylor Swift can have eras, so can I) and now D&D with my own children.

For those of you who aren't familiar with D&D, don't worry: you won't be lost. There are a lot of easter eggs for those who know the game, but the play is also set in 1995. There are some eggs for those who were around then, too. Seems like most of the shows I've produced lately are from the 90's. I promise the next play I produce won't be set in that decade. Pinky swear. Okay, maybe the next next one.

However, you might not be familiar with either D&D or the 90's. That's okay too. Here's a quick primer:

I asked ChatGPT to sum up the decade, and it said: "The 1990s were a decade of cultural transformation marked by technological breakthroughs, grunge and hip-hop, globalization, and the uneasy optimism of a world shifting from analog to digital." Not too bad. And it also had Blockbuster Video.

D&D is a role-playing game. One of the early influences of Dungeons & Dragons is arguably J. R. R. Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings, where a fellowship of companions with different talents banded together on a fantasy quest. In D&D, players pick a character and play through an adventure with a DM (Dungeon Master) fighting monsters and improvising dialogue with the DM, who plays other speaking characters in the game.

Sound familiar? You're about to watch actors playing characters supported by technicians and led by a director. There are differences of course, but the idea of students auditioning for roles and joining the tech team regardless of who they are and working together to produce a play (finish a quest) is very close to D&D.

This play has more going for it than just D&D; it's about loss and how we process it. It's also about jumping to conclusions about people if they are different than us before getting to know them as people. Before we band together for a common goal. Theatre, at its heart, is collaboration — and what I love most is how extraordinary it becomes when that collaboration is optimal. When tech work comes together seamlessly with actors who perform effortlessly it's a representation of people coming together for one purpose, one goal, needing every other person to do their part to achieve it. It may not be perfect every night, but this production's collaboration was exceptional.

There were other collaborators too. This production would not have been possible without the support of our incredible parent volunteers, the school administration, our resource officers, and my amazing colleague, Brooke Collins, whose technical theatre classes—along with my students and our after-school technicians—helped design, build, and paint the set you see tonight. Finally, my greatest thanks go out to my wife. For over a decade, my wife Erin has been the one who keeps our family running during show week — she is truly the best. And to Xander and Connor, who know that Dad often comes home long after bedtime: I love producing shows, but I miss spending time with you.



-Jake Dreiling