

Christian Brothers High School

presents

# SEUSSICAL



Nov. 11-13, 18-20

Fri. and Sat. @ 7 pm

Sun. @ 2 pm

Original art by Chase Owens '24

# Christian Brothers High School Presents

## SEUSSICAL™

Music by STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Lyrics by LYNN AHRENS

Book by LYNN AHRENS and STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Co-Conceived by LYNN AHRENS, STEPHEN FLAHERTY,  
and ERIC IDLE

Based on the Works of DR. SEUSS

Seussical for Young Audiences premiered at  
The Coterie Theatre, Kansas City, MO; Jeff Church, artistic director.

Seussical TYA is presented through special arrangement with Music  
Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also  
supplied by MTI. [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

The videotaping or other video or  
audio recording of this production is  
strictly prohibited.

Flashing light effects are used in this performance

Original Cover art by Chase Owens '23

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### OVERTURE

"Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!"...Boy, Cat in the Hat,  
Company  
"Horton Hears a Who!"...Cat, Boy, Horton, Bird Girls,  
Citizens of the Jungle  
"Biggest Blame Fool"...Sour Kangaroo and Company  
"Here on Who"...Mayor, Mrs. Mayor, JoJo, Citizens of Who  
"How to Raise a Child"...Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Mayor  
"Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!" (Reprise)...Cat, JoJo  
"It's Possible"...JoJo, Cat, Fish  
"Alone in the Universe"...Horton, JoJo  
"The One Feather Tale of Miss Gertrude McFuzz/Amazing  
Mayzie"...Gertrude, Mayzie, Bird Girls  
"Amazing Gertrude"...Gertrude, Cat, Bird Girls  
"Monkey Around/Chasing the Whos"...Wickershams,  
Horton, Sour Kangaroo, Bird Girls  
"Notice Me Horton"...Gertrude, Horton  
"How Lucky You Are"...Mayzie, Cat  
"Mayzie's Exit/Horton Sit on the Egg/Dilemma/Hunters"...  
Mayzie, Horton, Gertrude, Bird Girls,  
Hunters.  
"Egg, Nest and Tree"...Sour Kangaroo, Bird Girls,  
Wickershams, Cat, Horton  
"Mayzie in Palm Beach"...Mayzie, Cat  
"Amazing Horton"...Mayzie  
"Alone in the Universe" (Reprise)...Horton  
"Solla Sollew"...Horton, Who Family, Company  
"All for You"...Gertrude, Cat, Bird Girls, Horton  
"The People vs. Horton the Elephant"...Company  
"Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!" (Finale)...Company  
"Green Eggs and Ham"...Company

The show runs 80 minutes with no intermission.

## CAST

In Order of Appearance

CAT IN THE HAT .....Alexxa Riley '23  
JOJO.....Cooper Miller '26  
HORTON.....Tanner Meade '23  
GERTRUDE.....Anna Deukmejian '23  
MAYZIE.....Aubriana Lene, '23  
SOUR KANGAROO.....Caitlin Fortin '24  
MR. MAYOR.....Josiah Foster '23  
MRS. MAYOR.....Madelyn Whitnell '24  
WICKERSHAM BROTHERS.....Tycho Fong '23  
                                  Cara McIntyre '23  
                                  Adam Sunderman '24  
BIRD GIRLS:.....Iliana Demas '25  
                                  Mia Gutierrez '24  
                                  Kate Ruecker '23  
ENSEMBLE.....Jaina Benton '23  
                                  Donnie Greason '26  
                                  Lynsey Goldberg '26  
                                  Millie Noufer '26  
                                  Hannah Parkinson '24  
                                  Natasha Reese '25

## ORCHESTRA

PIANO.....Graham Sobelman  
BASS.....Travis Maslen  
DRUMS.....Sean Baker '17  
VIOLIN.....Natalie Barberena '24  
VIOLIN.....Lauren Birkle '24  
FLUTE.....Lyka Pedersen '23  
ALTO/ TENOR SAXOPHONE.....Riley Blacklock '24  
PERCUSSION.....Colsen Nguyen '26

## TECHNICAL CREW

DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER... Michael D. Jackson  
STAGE MANAGER.....Isabella Davis '23  
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER...Zoey Frasca '26  
SET DESIGN.....Heather Christianson '01  
LIGHTING DESIGN.....Heather Christianson '01  
SOUND DESIGN.....John Buggy-Agresti '24  
COSTUME DESIGN.....Michael D. Jackson  
PROP DESIGN.....Anna Hashimoto  
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR.....Jack Herne '23  
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR.....Araceli Freidman-Pitti '23  
SPOTLIGHT OPERATOR.....Madison Martin '23  
                                  Tyler Sperry '26  
STAGE CREW.....Marco Murphy '26  
                                  Oscar Galvin '26  
DRESSERS.....Arsan Pu '23  
                                  Alyson Smith '26  
MIC DRESSERS.....Isabella Gandara '25  
                                  Jonathan Tomeldan '26

## SEUSSICAL DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Theodor Seuss Geisel, known better to us as Dr. Seuss, emerged as an illustrator and political cartoonist in the 1930s. His first children's book, *And to Think I Saw it on Mulberry Street*, was published in 1937 and started him on a long journey that revolutionized children's literature. During World War II his work was centered around the war effort, but he returned to children's books with *If I Ran the Zoo* in 1950. What followed was an output of over 60 children's books, including a series of early readers that finally replaced the stilted "Dick and Jane" series with imaginative and clever characters and stories. His books have inspired 11 animated TV specials, 5 feature films and the musical you are about to see.

*Seussical* draws its story mostly from the Horton the Elephant books. As Horton does his best to help save the community of Whoville living on a speck of dust, a myriad of other Seuss characters representing 20 Dr. Seuss books, interact with Horton's story—all pulled together by the emblematic emcee portrayed by "The Cat in the Hat." A musical based on Dr. Seuss books seemed obvious, for after all, the TV specials all had wonderful songs, but the composition duties went to Broadway veterans, Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, who had made important contributions in the 1990s with *Once on this Island* and *Ragtime*. This all seemed like a hit in the making, but the premier in 2000 was panned by critics and closed in the red.

The authors went back to work on the show for a subsequent national tour headed by Cathy Rigby as The Cat in the Hat and it did well. That version went into secondary licensing and has been popular with regional and educational theaters ever since. The authors went back to work on the show again for a smaller Theatreworks U.S.A. produced tour, which is the version we are presenting for you now.

This phenomenon of continuing to work on a musical after it closes on Broadway to get it right was unusual at the time. Typically, once a show premieres it is set in stone. However, treating the Broadway production of *Seussical* as a learning experience to go back and make the show work has ensured that this musical has an enduring place in the cannon. I myself watched this transition in real time. The Broadway production was grandiose and was even confusing as too much of the elements not directly connected to Horton's story with the Who boy, Jojo, muddied the waters. The first national tour tightened the material a lot and took a more sensible approach to the scenery. The Theatreworks U.S.A. production streamlined the entire enterprise again with a less-is-more concept that clearly focused the story around Horton helping Jojo's plight. This version was my personal favorite and as an agent handling the show during my time in New York, working for Music Theatre International, I brought this version to the attention of anyone inquiring about the title.

Dr. Seuss didn't just make reading fun—with a careful hand, he also enlightened young minds by instilling empathy for people's differences, advocating for diversity, promoting the welfare of the environment and asking us all to be good citizens in a turbulent world. This musical not only captures the whimsy and imagination of Dr. Seuss, but also his sense of humanity.

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

LYNN AHRENS won Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards and received two Grammy nominations for Broadway's *Ragtime*. For Twentieth Century Fox's animated feature film *Anastasia*, she was nominated for two Academy Awards and two Golden Globes. She and longtime collaborator Stephen Flaherty received the Oscar Hammerstein Award for Lifetime Achievement, and in 2015 they were inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame. Broadway: *Anastasia*; *Once On This Island* (Olivier Award, Best Musical; Tony nominations, Best Book and Score); *Seussical* (Grammy nomination); *My Favorite Year*; *Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life*; *Rocky*; *Madison Square Garden's A Christmas Carol*; *Ragtime* (2010 Broadway revival). Off-Broadway and regional: Lincoln Center Theater's *Dessa Rose*, *The Glorious Ones* (both Drama Desk-nominated) and *A Man of No Importance* (Outer Critics Circle Award, Best Musical); *Lucky Stiff*; *Little Dancer* (Kennedy Center world premiere). Film and television credits include *A "Christmas Carol"* (NBC-TV); *Camp* (IFC Films); *"Schoolhouse Rock"* (ABC-TV) and others. (Emmy Award and four Emmy nominations). She is a Council member of the Dramatists Guild of America, a co-founder of the Dramatists Guild Fellows Program, and a Lilly Award winner for Lyrics. [www.ahrensandflaherty.com](http://www.ahrensandflaherty.com)

STEPHEN FLAHERTY is the composer of the Broadway musicals *Ragtime* (Tony, Drama Desk, OCC Awards, two Grammy nominations), *Seussical* (Grammy, Drama Desk nominations), *Once on This Island* (Tony nomination, Olivier Award, Best Musical) and *Rocky*. Additional Broadway includes *Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life* (original songs) and Neil Simon's *Proposals* (incidental music). Stephen has also written four musicals at Lincoln Center Theatre: *The Glorious Ones* (OCC, Drama Desk nominations), *Dessa Rose* (OCC, Drama Desk nominations), *A Man of No Importance* (OCC, Best Musical, Drama Desk nomination) and *My Favorite Year*. Other theater includes *In Your Arms* (Old Globe), *Little Dancer* (Kennedy Center), *Lucky Stiff* (Playwrights Horizons) and *Loving Repeating: A Musical of Gertrude Stein* (Chicago's Jefferson Award, Best New Musical.) Film includes *Anastasia* (two Academy Award and two Golden Globe nominations), the documentary *After The Storm* and *Lucky Stiff*. Mr. Flaherty's concert music has premiered at the Hollywood Bowl, Boston's Symphony Hall, Carnegie Hall, the Guggenheim Museum and Symphony Space. Stephen and Lynn are members of the Dramatists Guild Council and co-founders of the Dramatists Guild Fellows Program. In 2015 they were inducted into the Theater Hall Of Fame.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW



JAINA BENTON '23 is thrilled to be a part of *Seussical* as her second CB musical. She works at Evangeline's Costume Mansion in Old Sac on the weekends and thinks you should stop by! Her final words of wisdom are that she would love it if you paid special attention to ensemble member/nurse, Hannah Parkinson '24! Enjoy the show!



ILIANA DEMAS '25 is very excited to be a Bird Girl in her second production at CB. She has done many shows since first grade, with her debut role as a vine in *The Secret Garden*. In her free time, she likes to make jewelry, participate in Model UN, and go rock climbing. She would like to thank her family for putting up with her and driving her around.



ANNA DEUKMEJIAN '23 is excited to play Gertrude in her sixth CB production. When she isn't acting, Anna can be found playing guitar, reading, and writing songs. She just released her debut album, *Doggone & Dreamin'*. She thanks her family, friends, and amazing boyfriend Josiah Foster '23 for their support.



TYCHO FONG '23 is nervous yet excited to get back into theatre. After a 3 year break from acting, he is making his mark at CB as a Wickersham Brother. Tycho made his break landing the lead role in Missoula Children's Theatre's production of *The Frog Prince*. Before his big role, he played minor roles in other Missoula productions from 2nd to 8th grade.



CAITLIN FORTIN '24 is really excited and grateful for the opportunity to be playing the Sour Kangaroo. She thanks her friends and family for getting her into another CB production. Shoutout to Mia Gutierrez '24 for all the love and support.



JOSIAH FOSTER '23 is thrilled to play Mr. Mayor. He has performed in four other CB productions. When not performing, Josiah is partying it up with Falcon Force, leading his culinary club, or hanging out with friends. Josiah is grateful for the support of his family, friends, and Anna Deukmejian '23.



LYNSEY GOLDBERG '26 is thrilled to be in her first production here at CB. Past roles include Nancy in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Young Nala in *The Lion King Jr.* And Cindy Lou Who in *Seussical*. She enjoys dancing and singing in her free time.



DONNIE GREASON '26 is excited to be making his CB theatre debut. Favorite past plays include *Aladdin* and *Alice In Wonderland*. When not onstage he can be seen playing volleyball.



MIA GUTIERREZ '24 is exhilarated to be in her second production at CB. She has been dancing and doing theatre since she was three and cannot wait for what CB performing arts have to offer. She thanks her friends and family for always supporting her. The end.



AUBRIANA LENE '23 is grateful for the opportunity to be playing Mayzie in her final musical at CB. She has been performing since she was four years old. When not performing or rehearsing, Aubri loves to sing, play instruments, volunteer, be with her church family, and write. She thanks her friends and family for all their support.



CARA MCINTYRE '23 is ecstatic to be playing the smallest Wickersham Brother in her 3rd CB production. When she is not singing and dancing, she likes to glassblow and have fun with her friends. She would also like to pursue a career in Audiology. She is thankful for her family's support.



TANNER MEADE '23 is thrilled to be playing his dream role, Horton the Elephant, in the CB production of *Seussical*. He is passionate about acting and has been on stage for many years. When he is not acting he enjoys creating films and hanging out with friends. He would like to thank his family for always supporting him in theatre and all the CB theatre and music teachers for believing in him.



COOPER MILLER '26 is so excited and grateful to be playing Jojo in *Seussical*, his first CB production! He's been doing theatre since he was 6 at several companies in the Sacramento area. He thanks everyone who has supported him in his theatrical endeavors through the years.



MILLIE NOUFER '26 is excited to be in her first show at CB. Her favorite past productions are *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, *Aladdin Jr.* And *The Lion King Jr.* She thanks her family for always being supportive of the arts.



HANNAH PARKINSON '24 is making her debut with *Seussical* ! She is so incredibly happy to be in the show this year. She's in the ensemble, but would have been glad to play a tree. She wants to thank her main supporters, her parents, her friends, nana, and big sister. Yertle the Turtle was the best, Jaina Benton!



NATASHA REESE '25 is excited to be in her first musical! She loves theatre as well as the people in it. Natasha wants to thank all the supportive people that have brought her to this moment. When not in rehearsal, she is balancing grades and being a Lasallian Student Ambassador.



ALEXXA RILEY '23 is excited to participate in her 6th CB production! She intends to pursue Acting as her career, and has since participated in the Young Professionals Conservatory with Sacramento Theater Company, ARC's production of "Something Rotten", and Music Circus' summer internship program. She thanks her parents for their continuous support.



KATE RUECKER '23 is excited to be playing a Bird Girl in her third and final CB production. She has also played Smee in *Peter and the Starcatcher* (2019) and Cecilia Sebastian in *Call Me Madam* (2021). She wants to thank her friends and family for always supporting her dreams.



ADAM SUNDERMAN '24 is excited to monkey around as a Wickersham Brother in his first CB production. Outside of rehearsal, he enjoys writing and recording his own original songs. He would like to thank his family, friends, and teachers for supporting his passion for theatre.



MADELYN WHITNELL '24 is so excited to be Mrs. Mayor in this year's CB production of *Seussical*. Some of her favorite roles she has stars in are Ursula in *The Little Mermaid*, Princess Maria in *Call Me Madam* and many more! He is so happy to be with all of her friends in this production.

## WHO'S WHO CONT'D

MICHAEL D. JACKSON (Director/Choreographer) has been the Artistic Director at CBHS since 2014. Mr. Jackson worked for a decade with Broadway Sacramento in a variety of capacities before living and working in New York City as Director, Playwright, Theatre Critic and Licensing Agent for Music Theatre International from 2000 to 2014.

HEATHER CHRISTIANSON '01 (Technical Director) Heather is a proud graduate of Christian Brothers and the USC School of Dramatic Art. Her technical theatre background began at CB, (under Choral Director Christian Bohm!) and gave her the opportunity to study in Los Angeles and London and to work at Sacramento Theatre Company, Broadway at Music Circus, and Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company. She is in her ninth year as Technical Director and Theatre Arts teacher at Christian Brothers High School.

ISABELLA DAVIS '23 (Stage Manager) is very excited to fulfill the job of Stage Manager in *Seussical* this year. She was the Assistant Stage Manager for the last two CB productions, and she enjoys working with the casts and crews (and bringing them treats!). She thanks the cast for welcoming her into the family and hopes to have a successful run.

ZOEY FRASCA '26 (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be Assistant Stage Manager for her first show at CB. When not in rehearsal she is a visual artist and enjoys drawing, but her favorite activity is reading. She thanks her family, friends, and the cast and crew for their love and support.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR STUDENTS IN THE TECH FACTOR FOR THEIR WORK ON SETS AND LIGHTING

Isabella Davis '23, Oscar Galvin '26, Marco Murphy '26, Iliana Demas '25, Shae Scully '26, Ansley Kriss '26, Zoey Frasca '26, Anna Katsandres '26, Aubriana Lene '23, Jason Ellermeyer '26, Isabella Tran '24, Austin Miller '25, Caitlin Fortin '24, Mia Gutierrez '24, Tanner Meade '23, Matthew Ziegler '24

## AND TO OUR ADULT SUPPORT

The staff and administration of Christian Brothers High School, Friends Of The Arts, Joe Sousa and the custodial staff, Jaime Gutierrez, Bob Fortin, Angelica Fortin, Liesl Schulz '01, Alan Milligan, Lorna Hannon, Terry Clark, Cay Cay Lawrence, Marianna Giokas, David and Linda Christianson, and all of the parent volunteers who donate their time and energy to the arts.

## Be a Friend of the Arts!

Volunteering can have a significant impact on a person's health and well-being. It can reduce stress, improve mood, help people stay active, give them a sense of purpose ... and ... assist our selfless and dedicated educators. Friends of the Arts is a group of parents and community members who support CB's wonderful Arts program. From Instrumental Arts to Visual Arts our educators can use our help and just a couple of hours of your time makes a huge difference. Join us by emailing [CBFOTA@gmail.com](mailto:CBFOTA@gmail.com) and learn about the opportunity to support a Child's Love of Art.



Become a CB volunteer! Just a few hours makes a big difference. Scan the QR code to start your registration.

## In Loving Memory of Jerry Kirrene '53



His steadfast support of Christian Brothers High School and his enthusiasm for seeing our students shine in their activities will be dearly missed. Thank you, Jerry, for your many years of love and service.



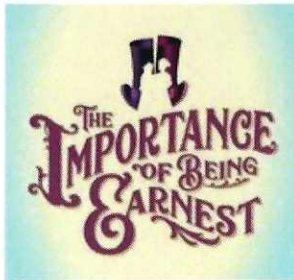
# Join us for our upcoming events!



Instrumental Christmas Concert  
Thursday, December 1 @ 7pm

Choral Christmas Concert  
Saturday, December 3 @ 5 and 7pm

Christmas Open Mic  
Friday, December 9 @ 7pm  
Tickets at the door



March 17-19, 24-26

Tickets online at  
[www.cbhs-sacramento.org/ticket-hub/](http://www.cbhs-sacramento.org/ticket-hub/)

