

PICNIC

PACE
UNIVERSITY
Curtis School of Performing Arts

MEET THE CAST



Sam Clerihue - Hal Carter (he/him) Sam is thrilled to be making his debut at Pace University. Some of his former credits include *American Idiot* with the Summit Playhouse, *Nice Work If You Can Get It* with New Providence High school, and *Spring Awakening* with the Summit Playhouse. He is a Sophomore in the BFA program Class of 2027.



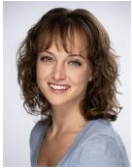
Annabelle Delaluna - Howard - Ms. Rosemary (she/her) is beyond ecstatic to be making her Pace MainStage Debut as Ms. Rosemary Sydney in the marvelous world of *Picnic* ! Last spring she had the opportunity to be a swing in Pace's production of *Tartuffe* , and has spent her last two years as a part of Pace's "YesAnderson" improv troupe. Annabelle gives all the love and sparkles she has to her fabulous people; a huge thank you to Mom and Henry, incredible partner, and adored friends. She especially wants to thank the entire cast and crew of *Picnic* , especially director Lester Shane. She wishes she could stay in Independence, KA for the rest of time! Marvel! Magic! Moonlight!



Felipe Guzzo - Bomber (he/him) is thrilled to be a part of *Picnic* , directed by the most incomparable Lester Shane. This production has been an absolute joy to be a part of, and working with this talented cast has been a dream. Felipe has previously appeared in *RENT* (Paul/DC) and *Into the Woods* (Jack). He would like to thank his family and friends for their constant love and support. Shoutout 1713 <3



Grace Love Hickey - Madge (Junior BFA) is positively giddy to be prancing down to Kansas this crisp winter. You may have previously glimpsed her on the Pace MainStage as Ashlee in *Dance Nation* or often around the city frolicking too and fro. Grace is boundlessly grateful for the trust and wisdom of her director Lester as well as the dedication and unwavering joy of SM Umayra. She is sending extra special hugs to each of her radiant cast-mates (and lovely understudies and crew-members) and will cherish the memories and friendships made by the teakettle always. Shoutout to the stump.



Aren Iverson - Millie (she/her) is thrilled to be making her Pace mainstage debut! She is grateful for the hard work and talent of the cast and crew, and would like to thank Lester for trusting her to be a part of his vision. She would also like to thank her parent s for their constant support, without which none of this would be possible. She hopes you enjoy the show just as much as she enjoyed creating it, even with all the omery bastards!



Kristopher Jai Pruitt - Howard (they/she/he)! They were born and raised in the beautiful state of Alabama where they found their love for the arts, performance, and transformation at the age of 6 starting out at Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church of Fairfield, AL. They continued to perform at school, church, and the local performing arts center, Red Mountain Theatre Arts Company, until they were accepted into the Alabama School of Fine arts which they attended from 9th-12th grade. They are now a junior at Pace University NYC majoring in BFA Acting doing their second main stage production and hope to continue to inspire all the beautiful dreamers out there to dream on! You wanting and going after it WILL make it happen. All things are possible through Christ who strengthens me, Amen.



Katelynn Kennedy Staggs - Mrs. Potts (she/her) is a Junior BFA Acting major and this is her first production at Pace! She is very excited to be a part of this production! She would also like to thank her mother; Lynda and her father Tom for their love and their support, she couldn't do it without them!



Michael Kosmas - Alan Seymour is thrilled to be performing in his first mainstage production at Pace University. A Junior in the BFA acting program, he has previously been seen at Pace in the winter 2023 staged reading of *I Close My Eyes and Do My Duty* and as an understudy in *Antigo-Nick* . He would like to thank his family for their support in all his endeavors and his director Lester Thomas Shane for his mentorship and clear, powerful vision.



Sophia Markstrom - Understudy Rosemary, Understudy Millie Gee Wizz! Sophia (she/her) is so so excited to be working on *Picnic* ! Previously at Pace, she was seen as Marianne in *Tartuffe* (2024). Sophia wants to extend her endless gratitude to Lester , the crew, and the understudy gang. Enjoy the show!



Danica Millar - Understudy Flo, Understudy Urma (she/her) is so excited to be a part of *Picnic*, this is her first play and she's honored to be doing it under the incredible direction Lester Shane and with such an incredible cast. She would like to thank her mom and dad for trusting her, and the rest of her family and friends for supporting her dreams!!



Irma Kronkite, Understudy Mrs. Potts (she/her) is thrilled to be making her Pace debut! Grace is a junior in the B.F.A. Acting program and previously worked on *Dance Nation* understudying the Moms and Zuzu! Grace is proud to be a member of the Pforzheimer Honors College and Phi Mu Fraternity. When Grace, a Resident Assistant, is not on duty you can find her reading at the Seaport or exploring the city. Grace wants to thank her family for always being supportive and Lester Thomas Shane for the opportunity to perform with this talented cast. Enjoy the show!



Zachary - Understudy Hal, Understudy Alan, Understudy Howard, Understudy Bomber (he/him) is a junior in the Musical Theatre BFA Program at Pace University. Zach is a trained gymnast of 10 years and can be seen in commercials and background work of TV shows such as *Jessie* and *Sonny with a Chance*. Recent credits include: *Kinky Boots* (Charlie), *West Side Story* (Tony), *All Shook Up* (Chad), *Spring Awakening* (Ernst), and *Newsies* (Finch). He is thrilled to be performing in his third show with Sands Performing Arts, and he hopes you enjoy the show!



Elena Tarpley - Understudy Madge, Understudy Christine, Fight Captain, Dance Captain (she/her) is thrilled to be a part of this production of *Picnic*! Elena is a junior BFA Acting Major and was most recently in last season's *Dance Nation* (Sofia). She is excited to be back in Schaeberle Theatre yet again. She congratulates all of the cast and crew for their wonderful work, and especially to Lester Thomas Shane for leading the way of this beautiful piece.



Isabella Tedesco - Flo Owens (they/she) (Class of 2026) is so honored and excited to be a part of their third mainstage production! Previous productions include *Tartuffe* (Dorine) and *Rent* (ensemble swing). They are so grateful to their friends, family and the entire *Picnic* team!



Seine Young - Christine (she/her) is an 19 year old actress who is currently at Pace University pursuing her BFA in Acting! She has performed in various roles such as Mary Warren in *The Crucible*, Lala in *The Colored Museum*, Olivia in *Twelfth Night* and Ben Affleck in *Matt & Ben*. She also was a finalist for the August Wilson Monologue Competition and the Next Narrative Monologue Competition. She is excited to play as Christine in *Picnic* and this whole production has been a learning experience that she is grateful for.

CREATIVE TEAM & CREW

Lester Thomas Shane - Director: Lester's directing credits include over fifty productions ranging from the classics to premiere productions. Credits include: Artistic Director, Shakespeare at the Met, Jacksonville, FL; Cleveland Public Theatre; Halle Theatre, Cleveland, OH; Charlottesville New Play Festival. In New York: T.Schreiber Studio; Manhattan Theatre Club; The Production Company; Vineyard ; 45th St Theatre; and The Basic Theatre where he served as Director in Residence. At Pace he directed *Translations*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*. His collaborations with playwright Dennis Bush repeatedly won Outstanding Director and Outstanding Production awards at The NY Fresh Fruit Festival. His award-winning one-man show, *Mortal Coil* was translated into Norwegian as *Livets Lenker* and Lester directed the European premiere. He is on the Sands faculty teaching Voice, Speech and Dialects. Lester has also worked extensively as a dialect coach for stage, film, and television. Lester is a member of AEA, SAG-AFTRA, SDC and VASTA.

Jarod Smith - Choreographer (he/him) Jarod is beyond excited to be choreographing his second main stage BFA Acting Production, after a successful turn as choreographer for *Dance Nation*. His choreographic work has been seen across the country on competition teams, collegiate dance programs, high school dance teams, and professional dance companies. He is thrilled to be working with Ady Masoud as co-choreographer to bring this production to life.

Mak M. Kemper - Scenic Designer: Mak is a freelance Scenic Designer, Props Artisan, Production Technician, and professional cat fan. (We love you Apollo!) Originally hailing from Pittsburgh PA, they are currently pursuing a degree in Production Design at Pace University. Previous credits include *Cafe Americano* (dir. Jayson Cahillane) and *Firehawks* (dir. Jessi Hill).

Kat Belfer - Costume Designer (she/they) has been busy whipping up the perfect costumes for this production of *Picnic*, and now is the perfect time to roll out the blanket for a eye-candy feast! Cooking up these period-accurate looks has been no walk in the park, but with a little dash of creativity and a little hint of love, we're serving effortless looks! Kat would like to thank the cast and crew for making this process a real treat—it's been a basket full of fun!

Samuel Maynard - Sound Designer is honored to have been the Sound Designer for Pace's production of *Picnic*! Recent credits include: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Westside Theatre), *From Here* (Signature Theatre), *In The Heights*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, and *Cinderella: A Traditional English Pantomime* (Winnepesaukee Playhouse), *Living and Breathing*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Two Sisters* and a *Piano* (Two River Theater), *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Big Fish* (Pace University), *TITANIC The Musical* (NYU.) Samuel would like to thank his partner, family, and friends for their unconditional love and support.
[Visit Samuel's website.](#)

Lucy Furch - Props Head (they/them) is a sophomore design student. Previous shows include **Spring Awakening** (Pace), *Alice By Heart* (New Origins Workspace), *Big Fish* (Pace), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Pace), *RENT* (Pace).

Umaya Loving - Production Stage Manager (she/her) is a junior Stage Manager from San Jose, California who is over the moon to be working with the fantastic company of *Picnic* ! Professional credits include *Sesame Street the Musical* at Theatre Row, *M4M* with Rogue Arts NYC, Film at Lincoln Center. Previous educational credits include *Jesus Christ Superstar* (ASM), *Tartuffe* (ASM), *Pippin'* (ASM), *9 to 5* (Flyman), and *Urinetown* (Flyman). Big love to the sweetest SM team and the most beautiful and hardworking group of cast and creatives.

Simon Gottlieb - Assistant Director (he/him) is THRILLED to be getting the chance to assistant direct *Picnic* ! This is his second show here at Pace, but his first as an assistant director. He is truly grateful to get to work with such a supportive, dedicated, and talented cast and crew. HUGE thanks to Lester and Umaya for all that they do.

Ady Masoud - Assistant Choreographer (she/her) | Dancer: Ady grew up in Tampa, FL and started dancing at the age of 2. Now, Ady is continuing her dance studies, training, and jump start her career at Pace University NYC as a part of the BFA Commercial Dance Program! Ady is incredibly excited to work alongside Jarod Smith as a co-choreographer for *Picnic* . Ady thanks you for coming to support a wide variety of amazing artists and hopes you enjoy the show! Ady would also like to give special thanks to her family and boyfriend.

Francesca Cannava - Assistant Scenic Designer (she/they) is a multi focus designer specializing in costume and scenic design. She's worked run crew for many shows now and is excited to officially join the scenic design team this semester to assistant design. They've really enjoyed the process of this design especially the part where the scenic designer was able to put tiny houses in schaeberle. Thank you to my scenic designer for making this process so easy and always keeping me up to speed and to the other creatives to really bring this show to life.

Mel Zago - Assistant Costume Designer (they/them) is a sophomore costume design student, who has previously designed props on Sr. Film "Keturah", as well as worked wardrobe on past Pace productions: *Big Fish*, *Pippin* , *dance sPace* 2024, and *Dance Out Loud* 2023. They had a great time working with everyone on the team, and hopes everyone breaks aleg!

Charlee Lawrence - Assistant Lighting Designer (they/them) is a sophomore lighting and sound focus. They have thoroughly enjoyed working with the whole team of this play and look forward to the next adventure.

May Harris - AME/ Programmer (they/them) is a Sound and Lighting focus at Pace and has worked on many shows including, *Into the Woods* , *Urinetown* , and *The Apple Tree* . They have just finished as a programmer on *IPE Now 25'* . They are looking forward to working with the wonderful team on *Picnic* ! This will be their 7th show in Schaeberle Theater (Funfact: Schaeberle used to be the cafeteria for the New York Times)

Samantha Dixon - Light Board Op. This is my second show with Pace! I'm super excited and grateful to have an opportunity to expand my skills and learn more. I want to thank everyone who allowed me to program lights for this show and be the board operator. I also want to thank May Harris for being my mentor on this and helping me through it! Can't wait to work more with everyone in Pace next semester!

Spencer Adrade - Wardrobe Supervisor (he/him) is a Production Design student at Pace University, and this is his third show! He hopes you enjoy the show!

Brooklynn Boyle - Head Dresser is a Freshman at Pace University, this is her second show here. She is so excited to explore the different elements of tech in her time at pace and she hopes *Picnic* is a wonderful show!

Lily Isaacson - Props Build and Run This is my second show at Pace! I had a wonderful time working on *Picnic* ! Working with Lucy was great!! Can't wait to work on more productions at Pace in the future!

Ashley Ponzetti - A1 Ashley is a current sophomore within the Production Design major and is also doing a secondary major of mathematics. She is excited to be working as A1 on *Picnic* , as she previously at Pace worked as A2 for *Pippin'* and *Big Fish* last school year. She hopes you enjoy the show.

Richard Lehman - 2nd Assistant Stage Manager This is his 7th production at Pace University. His other credits at Pace include *Pippin'* , *Putting It Together* , *Emergence '23*, *Firehawks* , *Jesus Christ Superstar* , and *Emergence '24*.

Ayla Moses - Production Assistant (she/her) is a Freshman in the B.A Stage Management program and is the Production Assistant for *Picnic*. Ayla has 6 Stage Management credits including *The Importance of Being Anxious* (Hollywood Fringe Festival) and *What The Chuck* (Hollywood Fringe Festival). Ayla is a native born Angelino and is extremely proud to now be in New York. She is extremely excited to be working on *Picnic*

Marisa Berrones - Company Manager is very excited to Company Manage for *Picnic* ! This is her 6th show here at Pace University and she has loved getting to work with each and every member of the team. Her past productions include *The Apple Tree*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Big Fish* , *Dance Out Loud* 2024, and *dance sPace* 2023. She will also be working on *dance sPace* 2025 as 2nd assistant stage manager in May, so be sure to get tickets for that production as well!

Abby Brogan - Assistant Company Manager (she/they) is a freshman stage management major at Pace University. Previous credits include: *The Husband* *Stitch*, *Urinetown*, *Right Before I Go* , and *The Laramie Project* . They're excited to be a part of the *Picnic* team!