## RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S OKLAHOMA!

## Meet the Cast:





**Isaiah Baston** (*Dream Curly* and *U/S Curly*) is an 18-yearold, NYC-based singer, actor, and dancer. He is thrilled to be making his Pace debut in Oklahoma! Isaiah received the 2024 Roger Rees Award for Outstanding Performance by an Actor and was privileged to perform in the 2024 Jimmy Awards as a semifinalist. He has also performed at 54 Below and The Green Room 42. Some of Isaiah's favorite credits include Bobby Strong (Urinetown), Jack (Into the Woods), and Father (Children of Eden). He would like to thank LaQuet, Michael, Erin, and Ren for sharing their time and knowledge!

**Nadine Chia** (*Dream Laurey*) is a proud Malaysian-Australian artist who is extremely excited to be bringing the role of "Dream Laurey" to life. She is a graduating BFA Musical Theatre senior with a minor in Commercial Dance, and has been in various PACE shows including If/Then and Pippin. Nadine is extremely passionate about storytelling through movement, and is honored to be performing such an iconic piece of theatre and dance within the musical theatre canon. She is grateful for her incredible fellow cast members, the creative team, stage management, and her family.

**Sydney Reed de León** (*Ali Hakim*) couldn't be more thrilled to once again be doing boy-drag in a PACE mainstage. Previous university credits include "Arpad Lazlo" (She Loves Me) and "Harper" (BANKSY). They would like to thank their many friends and family, teachers, and oat milk cortados for getting them through this production. Yeehaw!



**Hope Hill** (*U/S Gertie* and *U/S* Ensemble) is so excited to be making her Pace Main-stage debut! Her recent credits include: Red Bucket Follies (BCEFA) and Alice By Heart (New Origins Workspace). Hope would like to thank her cast mates for being endlessly supportive while she tackled being a swing for the first time and the creative team for believing in her. She hopes ;) you all enjoy the show! #SWINGNATION



**Katie Howard** (*Ellen* and *Ensemble*) is so excited to be finishing her time at Pace performing Oklahoma! This process was filled with so much hard work and joy, and she's so honored to be performing alongside so many lovely and silly artists. You can find her performing at her senior showcase about a week from now! YHWH <u>Visit</u> <u>Katie's website</u> and <u>follow on Instagram</u>.



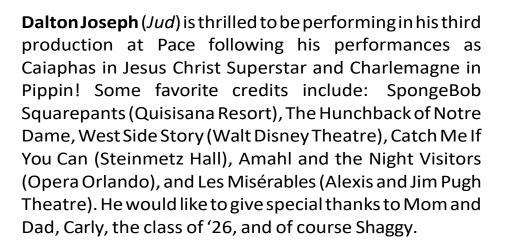
**Estell Huggins** (*Kate* and *Ensemble*) is a freshman at Pace and feels so fortunate to be apart of this wonderful production. She thanks Bryant, Audrey, Gabbie, and parents for their generous love and support.



**Aubrey Jones** (*Ado Annie*) is stoked to be participating in her second show at Pace. She can't think of a better way to close out her Junior year. Aubrey would like to thank the team of Oklahoma! For being the best ever. She would also like to thank her parents and grandparents for giving her the opportunity to chase her biggest dreams. She hopes you enjoy the show! Follow Aubrey on Instagram.







**Georgios Kalogeropoulos** (*Andrew*) is a junior at Pace University and is currently portraying Andrew Carnes in the university's production of Oklahoma!. He is excited to take on this role and grateful for the opportunity to work with the talented directors Erin Dilly and Michael Warner, as well as the entire production team.



**Sean Kato** (*Curly*) is thrilled to be making is Pace Musical Theatre debut! He is a Southern California native, and recent alumni of South Coast Repertory's youth conservatory and the Huntington Beach Academy of the Performing Arts. In 2022, he was honored to attend the Jimmy Awards for his portrayal of The Stoker in Titanic. Other recent shows include: Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime (Christopher Boone), Cabaret (Emcee), and Into the Woods (Cinderella's Prince). He is immensely grateful to his Teachers, Peers, Friends, and Family. Rep on Instagram <u>Clear Talent Group</u> and <u>INFIN8 Artists & Ent</u>.

**Zaidy Kennedy** (*U/S Eller* and *U/S Laurey*) is a junior at Pace and this is her second musical that she has been a part of. She is incredibly excited to be the swing for Laurey and Aunt Eller. She would like to thank all of the people who were a part of this production!



**TJ McCarthy** (*Dream Jud* and and *U/S Ensemble*) is thrilled to be part of this production! Favorite credits include: Romeo in Newsies (The Rev), Ensemble in Mukti (Lincoln Center), Rum Tum Tugger in CATS The Musical, Anatole in Great Comet of 1812 (Interlochen Ctr. for the Arts), and Dancer in The Today Show with Hugh Jackman (NBC). TJ is a recent Interlochen Arts Academy graduate and a current PACE University freshman! He is very grateful for this opportunity and for the support of his incredible mom, Jackie, CTG, family, and friends! <u>Follow TJ on Instagram</u>.





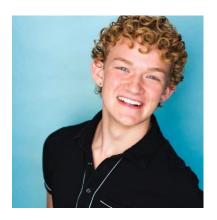
Kay Nelson (*Virginia, U/S Ali Hakim,* and Dance Captain) is thrilled to be a part of Oklahoma! This marks her second production at Pace University, following her role as an ensemble member and dance captain in Pippin. A junior in the Musical Theater program with a minor in Dance, she is signed with Bloc Talent Agency for Theater & Dance. Her career highlights include performances in the Justin Bieber Purpose Tour, New York Fashion Week, and I Put a Spell on You Live, among others. As she approaches her senior year, she's excited for what's ahead. Kay is deeply grateful for the huge support from her loved ones, especially her parents, who have always believed in her dreams! Let's do this show! Ahhh

**Maeve Nielsen** (*Gertie*) is overjoyed to be in her first production at Pace University! Some of her favorite roles she has played is Linda in The Wedding Singer, Rizzo in Grease, and Dorothy in The Wizard Of Oz. She would like to first off thank the cast and entire Oklahoma team for making her first show at Pace so unforgettable! She would also like to thank her family And friends for their endless support!



**Mason Olshavsky** (*Will*) is currently a Junior achieving his BFA in Musical Theatre at Pace! He is delighted to be performing in his first Pace main stage production as part of the company. Mason has appeared on Saturday Night Live, America's Got Talent, and is most recently featured as Tiresias in the EPIC: The Musical Official Concept Album. <u>Follow him on TikTok</u> (with 250k+)!

A very warm and loving thank you to Erin Dilly and Michael Warner for trusting me in this wonderful production.



**Matt Rees** (*Ike Skidmore* and *U/S Will*) is excited to return to Pace's MainStage for his third Spring production. Some of his favorite credits include performing Off-Broadway as Quincy in Dreams of Dracula(Nevermore Immersive), Boston Ballet's The Nutcracker, Jem Finch in To Kill a Mockingbird(Hale Centre Theatre), Christian Bechdel in Fun Home(Salt Lake Acting Company), and The Music Man(Pioneer Theatre Company). He is grateful for this opportunity to participate in storytelling and creating art! Matt sends his love and gratitude to Mom, Dad, Nana, Papa, Jackson, and Gentry.



**Ross Rosetti** (*Cord Elam* and *Ensemble*) is excited to work alongside the cast of Oklahoma! Ross is also super thankfultoworkincollaborationwith the creative team as assistant choreographer on this production. His other recent credits include Dance Captain in Big Fish and Ensemble (U/s Theo & Lewis) in Pippin. Ross would like to thank his Mom, Dad, Ava, and Grandi for their constant love and support! Follow Ross on Instagram.







Jonah Ruderman (U/S Andrew) is a current sophomore and is thrilled to be part of his second Pace production! His recent credits include Falsettos (Marvin), The Prom (Barry), Big Fish (Don, u/s Edward), Fiddler on the Roof (Tevye), Chicago (Billy Flynn), Into The Woods (The Baker), as well as directing at The Summit Playhouse, Matilda & Once Upon A Mattress. He would like to thank Erin, Michael, and Ren for allowing him to watch my peers kill it. He would also like to thank the entire cast, crew, and stage management team for making this experience so special. "Territory folks should stick together!" Follow Jonah on Instagram.

**Grace Ohwensadeyo Rundberg** (*Laurey*) is excited to be in one last show at Pace before graduating! Recent roles include Marcia (Sally) Josephine Bloom (Big Fish), Ensemble & u/s Taylor (Foxbrier Lane: A New Folk-Rock Musical), Maggie (A Chorus Line), and Liesl (The Sound of Music). Grace is also a certified yoga teacher. Love and gratitude to my family, Kailin, and the talented artists involved in this production! Follow Grace on Instagram.

**Brienna Russ** (*U/S Dream Laurey*) is so excited to be apart of Oklahoma! She is a Freshman musical theatre major and a commercial dance minor here at Pace. She has loved every moment of working on this show and being surrounded by such an amazing cast, crew, and creative team! Brienna would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her through everything!



**Yemie Woo** (*Aunt Eller* - she/her) is a senior in Pace University's BFA Musical Theatre program. Recent credits at Pace include She Loves Me (Mr. Maraczek) and Pippin (Ensemble). Yemie would like to congratulate the cast, crew, and creative team on Oklahoma! What a great last hurrah! Thank you to my mom, dad and two sisters, Yerin and Yena, for always supporting me:)

## Meet the Creatives and Crew

**E. Renée Gamez** (*Musical Director / Conductor, Keyboard 1* - they/them) is a NYC-based conductor, music director, keyboardist, and educator. As a conductor and music director, their work has spanned the NYC area and across the US in regional theaters and major touring houses. Recent credits: RAGTIME (STAGES St. Louis); THELMA LOUISE; DYKE REMIX (Diversionary Theatre); ANYONE CAN WHISTLE (Montclair State); LIZZIE (TheaterWorks Hartford); NEXT TO NORMAL (Greenbrier Valley Theater); AIDA (STAGES St. Louis); THE HARDERTHEYCOME (The Public Theater); ON YOUR FEET! (Engeman Theater). 2025 Award Recipient for Outstanding Musical Director for RAGTIME from the St. Louis Theater Circle. MM in Conducting from San Diego State University; BA in Music Education from Fresno State. Proud member of Local 802 AFM, Maestra, and MUSE. Many thanks to my friends, family, and Erin and Michael for this opportunity. Cheers! <u>Visit E. Renée Gamez's website.</u>

**LaQuet Sharnell Pringle** (*Choreographer* - They/Them/Theirs) A Seasoned and celebrated Professional dancer/singer/actor with 20 years of experience working on and off Broadway. For 11 years, I've been a celebrated dance, musical theater, acting, and voice educator. I trained at William Esper Studios, NC School of the Arts, and a proud SUNY Empire State College graduate with a BA in Theater & Dance. CREDIT HIGHLIGHTS - Broadway/National Tour: *Mrs. Doubtfire The Musical, Beautiful The Carole King Musical, Lysistrata Jones, Memphis, The Lion King, Sweet Charity.* Television/Film: *Blacklist* (NBC), *Girls on the Bus* (HBO), *I.F.* (Paramount Pictures), *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt.* Playwright: *Lifting a Burden, Drivin', and Hearing The Pause. Choreopoem: Freedom of Expression, Together Marching.* Director/Choreographer: *Oklahoma The Musical, Little Women The Musical, Big Fish The Musical, Welcome Here* (Music Video), *Hair The Musical, Addams Family The Musical, Figure Skating of Harlem, Austin City Pops, and the Bruce Wood Dance Company.* Producer: *The Submission, The Dead Guy, and Closer* through their production company, Fearless Young Artists Studios. Be Bold. Be Brave. Be Playful. BE FEARLESS

**Eliana Estevez** (*Scenic Designer*) is a production design junior and is thrilled to announce Oklahoma is her first big proscenium theater scenic design. This is Eliana's eighth show at Sands and her second time as scenic designer on a main stage production. She'd like to thank her wonderful assistants Shawn and Scarlett for all their hard work; and a big thank you to Justin West, her mentor. She hopes you have ROOTIN TOOTIN time watching *Oklahoma!* 

**Costume Design I Class** (*Costuming*): The Costumes for Oklahoma were collaboratively created by the Costume Design I Class, comprised of second- & third-year design students: Neven Bilaver, Ryan Birnbaum, Francesca Cannava, Berkeley Crosby, Lucy Furch, May Harris, Lindsey Hough, Mak Kemper, Charlee Lawrence, Sam Maynard, Ashley Ponzetti, Takara White, Shawn Young, and Mel Zago. Each student created the full design for one character, and each student custom-built one costume piece. We sincerely hope that this work transports you to a different time, and that you come to know and appreciate each character the same way wehave.

**Grayson DiNino** (*Lighting Designer*): Originally from Andover, MA, Grayson is currently pursuing his BFA in production design at Pace University. He currently works at Pace University as a Lead Electrics and Carpentry Production Assistant, and just finished a wonderful year with the Blue Man Groupon their LX team. Grayson's recent works include *dance sPace 2024* (dir. Scott Jovovich), *Houses* (dir. B Carty) and *Missionary Woman* (dir. LD Kelley). Huge thanks to our amazing directors, Erin and JV, and the entire creative team-you guys are the dream!

**Lily Mihnos** (*Production Stage Manager*) is a senior Stage Management major and is looking forward to graduating this spring. Her previous Pace credits include *Dance Nation*, *IPE NOW 2024 Festival*, *IPE NEW 2023 Festival*, and *9 to 5*. She wants to thank the cast, crew, and creative team for making her last show so wonderful. Special thanks to the Stage Management team for all of their hard work!

**Molly Mackenzie** (*Assistant Director*) is extremely excited to be assistant directing her first Pace mainstage production! Molly has most recently appeared in *Falsettos* (Jason u/s) with New Origins Workspace, and *On Earth As It is in [404 ERROR]* with Pace University's International Performance Ensemble. Currently, she is directing *She Said She Said* with TOWNN NYC, which is premiering at The Tank this weekend! Previously, Molly has worked at The Shakespeare Theatre Of New Jersey, where she has performed in *The Book Of Will*, and worked on the stage management team of *A Gentleman's Guide To Love and Murder*. Break a leg cast andcrew!

**Shawn Young** (1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Scenic Designer) is a current Sophomore and is excited to help out with Oklahoma! His past productions include *IPE NOW, Rent, Big Fish,* and Spring Awakening. He wants to thank Eliana for her outstanding work on this production and to thank his co-assistant Scarlett for her work as well. Giddy up!

**Scarlett Rotondo** (2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Scenic and Charge Artist) is a sophomore who recently transferred into the Production Design program this past Fall. Scarlett is grateful to have had the opportunity for her first Pace production assignment to be the 2nd Assistant Scenic Designer for Oklahoma. Scarlett has learned so much from Eliana Estevez and Shawn Young throughout this process and would like to thank them for making this such an enjoyable and inspiring experience. Scarlett looks forward to continuing to grow as a production designer alongside the incredibly talented students and staff at Sands College of Performing Arts.

**Lily Isaacson** (*Projection Coordinator*) This is my first time designing at Pace and I had an amazing time collaborating with everyone. Working alongside Michael, Eliana, Grayson, and Kari to bring the show together has been a great opportunity. Thank you to everyone who has supported me through this process! I can't wait to work on more productions at Pace!

**Charlee Lawrence** (*Light Board Programmer*) 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. **Abby York** (1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior stage management major here at Pace, excited to be working as the 1st Assistant Stage Manager for Oklahoma! Recent Pace credits: *IPE N.O.W '25, Rent, IPE N.O.W '24, dance sPace '23,* and Antigonick. She is so thankful for the opportunity to work with this company and crew!

**Nathan Kabrhel** (2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Stage Manager) They are thrilled to be a part of this wonderful production! Select previous credits include *Puffs, Sister Act, Guys & Dolls,* and *Hello Dolly*! They hope you enjoy the show!

**Miles Menendez** (2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Stage Manager) is a Sophomore Stage Management student here at Pace University. He recently worked on *IPE NOW 25', IPE NEW 24', Big Fish, Putting it Together, Emergence,* and 2 films – "Promenade" and "Queen Mother". He has worked on other educational projects in the past and is so excited to work on *Oklahoma!*. He would like to thank his mom, sister, and friends for always supporting him in all his endeavors as well as the cast and crew for putting in so much work and energy to make this show what it is.

**Thomas Baia** (*Production Assistant*) is a Freshman at Pace University. He has worked on multiple Stage Management teams as an Assistant Stage Manager, Deck SM, and Production Assistant both at Pace, and outside of Pace. Highlights include *Falsettos, Footloose*, and *Much to Do About Nothing*.