



Meet the Cast



Eliza Abernathy (she/her)

Eliza is a New York City based actress originally from Knoxville, Tennessee. She is so excited to share all of the heart and hard work that has gone into this adaptation of Ava Wrestles the Alligator. Eliza feels privileged to introduce Ava Bigtree to you all, a character inspired by all of the loud, earnest, messy, too-smart-for-their-own-good little sisters of the world. She hopes you will love her as much as she does!



Margeaux Appleton

Margeaux Appleton (Ossie) is very excited to be performing in Ava Wrestles the Alligator alongside the awesome cast and creative team who made this show happen. would love to thank my family, friends, and amazing partner for always supporting me wholeheartedly <3



Sebastian Cromwell (he/him)

Sebastian Cromwell is a sophomore BA Actor in the International Performance Ensemble. He has come from Naples, Italy to study what he loves at the heart of theater in New York City and is proud to be a part of this year's Night of Original Work. Sebastian is loving the opportunities this program has provided and is very much looking forward to the semester abroad in Barcelona, Spain in Fall of 2026. He has also worked in shows with Stand Up! Productions and was recently a part of New Ensemble Works!



Nicholas Ferrari (he/him)

Nicholas Ferrari is excited to join for another NOW Festival. He is a sophomore Directing major in the IPE program. This will be Nic's third IPE show: Last year he could be seen as a foley artist for We Men of Science, and last semester could be seen as Director Duvar in DOME. He would like to thank his family and teachers for their support. Enjoy!



Oliver Jones (he/him)

Oliver is from Tacoma, Washington. He is ecstatic to be in his first year at Pace University as part of the International Performance Ensemble program. This is his first appearance in a Pace production, and hopes there will be many more. Go Seahawks!



Allie McCracken (she/her)

Allie is a Sophomore BA Actor, double majoring in Economics. She recently performed in Dome, an original production where she devised and choreographed alongside the Sophomore BA class. She is very grateful she was brought on to work alongside the seniors and get a glimpse of their process and have another opportunity to devise.



Quinn Mullis (he/him)

Quinn is a current BA Actor from North Carolina. He is the President of Stand Up! Productions, and his most recent credits include Dramaturg for New Origins Workspace's production of Fun Home, ensemble member of Dome as part of New Ensemble Works, and Caretaker Dan in Stand Up! Production's staging of Incarnate (iykyk). Quinn harbors a strong passion for devised and original work, and he hopes you enjoy these pieces!



Kat Pappas (he/him)

Ethan Brandwene is a sophomore in the Commercial Dance program, and he is incredibly excited to be performing in DancesPace. He extends his gratitude towards Alexandra Damiani for creating a beautiful work environment and cannot wait to share this repertoire from Ballet Jazz Montreal!



Leo Perry (they/them)

Leo is so excited to help contribute to these incredible senior pieces! They are a Freshman BA Actor so it's been a wonderful experience to see the kind of work they will be doing down the line!



Inez Ricciuti (she/her)

Inez Ricciuti is a senior acting major in the Pace University International Performance Ensemble. She is founding member of the theatre company TOWNNN with several other IPE seniors. Inez is extremely excited for everyone to see the show.



Luis Martinez Rodriguez (he/him)

Luis Martinez Rodriguez is a Mexico-born actor and dancer currently pursuing his BA in Acting at Pace University. Recent credits include playing Phillip in DOME: iPE New Works and performing the role of Raimis in DANCE, EDITA, DANCE! at The Chain Theatre, a production he also choreographed. Luis is so excited to join the seniors on the two beautiful pieces he is performing in this year and sends so much love to Ianthe and Adrienne. Looking ahead, he will be appearing in The Collective Showcase and serving as the Dance Director for Kingdom Faire in upstate New York.



Arwen Saenz (she/her)

Arwen Saenz is a Latina-based artist, actor, and dancer based in NYC. Passionate about movement, justice, and identity, she is excited about working and developing new projects. She is currently studying at Pace University's BA Acting Program.



Hannah Schultz (she/her)

Hannah loves acting, acting is her passion. Creating The King with her ensemble was a highlight of her time at Pace University and she hopes you enjoy!



Lucian Sheldon-Wesley (they/she)

Lucian is a senior actor in the international performance ensemble. They are also a producer and co-founder of TOWNN NYC a non profit theater company focused on experimental new works and reimaged classics. She is so excited to present The King after almost a year of working on this project, they would like to thank Dani, Micheal and Hannah for always putting in so much hard work and love into this show.



Kat Spencer (she/her)

Dreamfarmers: The Moon and their Children (Ensemble), For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide / When the Rainbow is Enuf (Lady in Purple), NOSH PIT (Choreographer). Kat would like to thank her IPE instructors and Class of '26 ensemble for helping shape her into the artist she is today. She'd like to thank everyone whose effort went into creating this piece she is so proud of. She'd like to thank her friends and family for their endless love and support for her craft. Kat would like to dedicate her performance to her brothers who she would cross oceans to find.



Alice K. Tinari (she/her)

Alice is a playwright, director, essayist, and it girl. She has been conducting field work on men, sex, and dating for the past year and has written several essays on the topic. Alice has won three Pace University writing awards during her time here. She is insanely proud of Jay and Claude and their commitment to this project. She loves Aidan Pixley and wants to thank lanthe for guiding the process. She says hi to Mom and Dad!

Meet the Creative Team

Maggie Brockman (she/they) - Director "The Yellow Wallpaper"

Maggie Brockman is a NYC-based director, deviser, and stage manager. Raised in North Texas, she grew up exploring the outdoors, caring for reptiles, and watching horror films - interests that continue to shape her artistic voice. She discovered theater through technical work in middle

school and quickly found her passion in directing and stage management. Maggie is drawn to creating work that explores discomfort, oddities, and the unknown, finding the most excitement in telling strange and unusual stories.

Tristan Collins (they/them) - Director "Tristan Collins"

Tristan Collins is a BA Director with Pace IPE. They are excited to show their ensemble's devised work on Ava Wrestles the Alligator!

Jay Giffin (they/she/he) - Director "Harrison Bergeron"

Jay is a graduating senior from the BA Directing program. After graduation, they hope to spend their life producing and directing as many unique live performances as possible. Then again, who ends up doing exactly what they plan on doing right out of college? Let this bio be a time capsule. Jay wants to thank Claude and Alice for being who they are; IPE '26 for teaching him so much over the past four years; Ianthe and Adrienne for their radical support of their students' artistry; and the entire production team for their dedication to this festival <3

Sylvie Goodblatt (she/her) - Director "Haunting Olivia"

Sylvie Goodblatt is a director and writer in her final semester at Sands College. Her work aims to find the beauty in the abject, while playing with form and a heightened aestheticism. She is co-founder and artistic director of TOWNN theatre company, and is passionate about the development of new works and bold restaging of classics. She will be graduating in May with a degree in directing from Pace University's International Performance Ensemble.

Michael Ryterski (he/him) - Director "The King"

Michael is a NYC director and producer. He is so grateful to have been part of the process that brought "The King" to life. He wants to thank his brilliant collaborators, his bagged men, and his lovely friends.

Carter Sessions (she/her) - Director "Ava Wrestles the Alligator"

Carter is a director musician in based NYC. When she's not in a rehearsal room you can find her tarring up the dance floor.

May Harris (she/they) - Lighting Designer

May is a Lighting Designer and Programmer currently studying at Pace University. They have worked on productions such as Urinetown, Apple Tree, and Seagull. Some funky stats to keep you entertained: This will be her 4th time working on IPE Now, Her 11th production in Schaeberle Theater, and Their last show in Schaeberle theater!

Charlee Lawrence (they/them) - Lighting Designer

Charlee Lawrence is a junior lighting focus with a minor in stage management. Previous PACE productions include Dance sSpace, Oklahoma, Picnic, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Dance Out Loud, and The Seagull, among others.

Richard Lehman (she/her) - Production Stage Manager (Act I)

Rich is in his 7th MainStage production at Pace University and his 1st as a Production Stage Manager.

Aidan Pixley (he/him) - Production Stage Manager (Act 2)

Aidan is a Sophomore Stage Management student here at Pace and is beyond thrilled to be experiencing his first mainstage show as the Production Stage Manager with all the lovely people in the Ensembles and his wonderful Assistants! He is thankful for the family that got him here, the educators that built him up, and all the friends who have been there for him at every turn. A biggest thank you to Alice and Jay for inspiring so much within!!

Maggie Baker (they/them) - 1st Assistant Stage Manager

Maggie Baker is a freshman Stage Management major. This is their third show at Pace and they are really excited to be an asm on IPE Now! They hope you enjoy this night of new works!

Misa Seto - 1st Assistant Stage Manager

Misa Seto is currently a first-year stage management major and is excited to be working on her 2nd production here at Pace. She is thankful for the opportunity to work with this amazing team!

Apollo Adler (they/them) - 2nd Assistant Stage Manager

is so excited to be part of the Stage Management team for this production! As a Stage Management minor they are thrilled to see how the NOW process operates from a technical standpoint and be able to use what they learn from this process when they are able to go through a similar development later this semester and next year as a BA Acting major! Enjoy all the work!!

Julia Erikson (she/her) - 2nd Assistant Stage Manager

Julia Erikson is a third year Directing major and Stage Management minor. She loves any chance to support weird and wonderful devised theater. Congrats to the IPE seniors on an amazing show!