

the Underground Theatre at the Hilberry presents...

SPRING AWAKENING

books and lyrics by Steven Slater
music by Duncan Sheik

based on the play by Frank Wedekind



**THEATRE
& DANCE
at WAYNE**

SPRING AWAKENING is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com

**THEATRE
& DANCE
at WAYNE**

Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance
College of Fine, Performing and Com-

Spring Awakening

By **STEVEN SATER & DUNCAN SHEIK**

Spring Awakening is based off of the original tale by Frank Wedekind

Spring Awakening is presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)

This production of *Spring Awakening* uses flashing lights and loud sound effects.

Spring Awakening contains scenes of intense intimacy, adult language and violence

Venue: Underground Theatre Runtime: 120 Minutes

Intermission: 15 Minutes No Late Seating

Scenic Designer
Donna Beagle

Costume Designer
Kylie Ann Stone

Lighting Designer
Jeff Shook

Sound Designer
Alex Belfie

Properties Master
Alec Ehnis-Clark

Stage Manager
CJ Caldwell

Directed by **DANI POPPE & XUEYUN CECILIA FINDLAY**

CAST

<i>Wendla Bergman</i>	OLIVIA PARYASKI
<i>Melchior Gabor</i>	ETHAN MAY
<i>Moritz Stiefel</i>	JACKSON MEADE
<i>Ilse</i>	FREDA MONROE
<i>Hanschen/Rupert</i>	SEAN STANISZ
<i>Erns t/Reinhold</i>	JOE SMENTOWSKI
<i>Otto/Ulbrecht</i>	JOSH POPPINK
<i>Georg/Dieter</i>	NICK EASTERLING
<i>Thea</i>	QUINN JACOB
<i>Martha</i>	ANN STEIN
<i>Anna</i>	ASHLEY POULIN
<i>Herr Rilow/Father Kaulbach/Doctor</i>	JOSH PRIM
<i>Herr Sonnenstich/Herr Stiefel/Herr Neumann</i>	GEOFFREY BESSER
<i>Herr Gabor/Herr Knochenbruch/Schmidt</i>	JACOB LIPSKI
<i>Fraulein Grossebustenhalter/Frau Knuppeldick</i>	JENNA GELUSO
<i>Fanny Gabor</i>	JAZZI BULLOCK
<i>Frau Berman/Frau Bessel</i>	PAIGE HEATH
<i>Swing</i>	JENNY KRAFT
<i>Swing</i>	LUKA COLLINS

PRODUCTION STAFF

Creative Director	KELLI CRUMP
Technical Director (Mentor)	JOHN KEISLING
Faculty Advisor	DANIELLE WRIGHT
Master Electricians	ANDREW CANAAN JEFF SHOOK
Marketing Lead	ACE THUMA
Intimacy Consultant	RYAN BERNIER
Marketing and Media Production Mentor	ALESYN MCCALL
Lighting and Sound Supervisor (Mentor)	BRIAN COLE
Scenic Advisor (Mentor).....	FRED FLORKOWSKI
Stage Management Area Head (Mentor)	DANA GAMARRA
Scenic/Props/Paints Area Head (Mentor)	SARAH PEARLINE
Assistant Lighting Designer	JEFFREY SHOOK
Head of Lighting (Mentor)	MATT TAYLOR
Assistant Stage Manager	JACK WELCHER
Scene Shop Manager (Mentor)	MATT GRIBBIN
Theatre Management Area Head (Mentor)	JOHN WOLF

*Appears by permission of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

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

Spring Awakening

By **STEVEN SATER & DUNCAN SHEIK**

PRODUCTION CREW

Light Board Operator JEFF SHOOK
Sound Board Operator ALEX BELFIE
Programmer ANDREW CANAAN
Stage Crew JAYSHONA BOXX
REID MCCOY
AMELIA FORD
Costume Crew KYLIE ANN STONE
SPRING AWAKENING CAST
Marketing and Social Media Liaison JESSICA KROUPA

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ACE THUMA
Co-Treasurers JUSTIN BUGEJA
SKYLAR DEMING
Members ALEXIS PRATT, TYLER BLACK, JOSHUA POPPINK, JOSHUA
PRIM, MIKE DANAJ, ERIN GALL, ASHLEY POULIN, CJ CALDWELL QUINN
HYSNI, NICK EASTERLING, OLIVIA WATSON, NICOLE TURNER, KAYLA
SMITH, OLIVIA PARYASKI, RACHEL PAULIN, LUKA COLLINS, QUINN JACOB,
JOE SMENTOWSKI, NICK SMATHERS EMMA ORR, IAN BEDNARSKI, FREDA
MONROE, KYLIE STONE, CARL VICTORY

Land Acknowledgment

Wayne State University rests on Waawiyaataanong, also referred to as Detroit, the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy. These sovereign lands were granted by the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi, and Wyandot nations, in 1807, through the Treaty of Detroit. Wayne State University affirms Indigenous sovereignty and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit. With our Native neighbors, WSU can advance educational equity and promote a better future for the earth and all people.

FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dani Poppe



Spring Awakening has always held such a special place in my heart and has been one of my favorite shows ever since I performed in it in 2019. Every time I read this script or see a production I am amazed by the storytelling that originated in the 1800s, and still appears relevant, (if not more relevant to today). I've definitely nerded out over Spring Awakening to the cast and others one too many times in this process, but I guess that just means I'm passionate. During this process, Xueyun and I have been working hard at creating an atmosphere in our rehearsals where the actors feel supported when handling such

Our number one rule going into this is that the actor's comfort came first. In rehearsals, we started every scene with an open-ended discussion and allowed the actors to make decisions and observations. A lot of these topics are difficult, yet important to discuss so we wanted to create an atmosphere where safety and support are given when discussing scenes, especially as fellow students. In terms of vision, we wanted the themes of childhood imagination to shine through. We've staged the songs to feel and look like dreams and snippets of the children's imagination, where they are often interacting and speaking to the audience, but the scenes are very raw and grounded in reality. This show has been so insanely rewarding, watching the actors grow and learn and really find their characters as well as seeing the designers' art come to life has made my heart so full. I hope you all enjoy the show. Xueyun, the cast, the designers, and I have all poured our entire hearts into this production and I am so excited to now be sharing it with you all.

Xueyun Cecilia Findlay



Hi! Thank you so much for coming to see Spring Awakening. This show and the characters have become so important to me during this process, and I think their story is so important to keep telling. I'm so glad that I had the opportunity to direct such a beautiful show, and especially alongside Dani Poppe. We were able to collaborate and work together so well, bringing to life both of our visions for Spring Awakening. While this show faces a lot of hard topics, I believe that Dani and I both honored the themes of this show by creating the safest space possible for our actors.

We always started with an open dialogue about the scenes and songs we were working on for the day, and pausing was always an option if it became too heavy on anyone. With these safety measures, I think our cast became much more comfortable dealing with these topics, and they were able to bring so much vulnerability and honesty into their acting. Something I really love about this show is the duality between what you see in the scenes versus the songs. While the scenes are rooted in reality, the songs are a dreamy respite for the teens to speak their truth, in a world that doesn't care about what they have to say. It's been so exciting to see all the ideas the actors and designers have about this concept of imagination against real life. To say I am proud of the work they have put into this show is a massive understatement. This whole journey has helped me grow so much as a person and artist, and I am beyond grateful to everyone who helped make this show a reality. With a show like Spring Awakening, it truly takes a village to build this world and bring these characters to life, and I am so appreciative of all the hard work everyone put in to make this show what it is today. Thank you again for coming to see the fruition of our labor, and I hope you love and learn from this show as much as I did.

Maggie Allesee

Our Namesake



In recognition and appreciation of Maggie Allesee's history of generous support of the arts at Wayne State University and of theatre and dance in particular, the WSU Board of Governors approved the renaming of the theatre and dance department in 2012. They had originally named it the Maggie Allesee Department of Dance in 2000 when Dance and Theatre were separate departments.

Maggie's contributions as a volunteer, philanthropist, and community and civic leader have been vast and varied. An avid supporter of the arts, she has served as a board member for the Cranbrook Academy of Arts, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Detroit Metropolitan Dance Project, Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, Meadow Brook Theatre, Michigan Opera Theatre, Music Hall, Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, Oakland University Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, Kendall College of Art and Design, the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary, Wayne State Hilberry Understudies, and many more.

In addition to donating her time, talents, and knowledge, she also a generous financial contributor to many organizations, particularly in arts and education. She has given individual gifts of \$1 million or more to The Parade Company, Oakland University for the Maggie Allesee School of Nursing to establish a Chair in Gerontology, WSU for the Bob Allesee (Allison) Endowed Chair in Media Studies, Detroit Historical Museum, Music Hall and \$2 million plus gifts to WSU for the Dance Department, Florida State University for a major statue and the establishment of the Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography, and Michigan Opera Theatre for the reception room and library. Mrs. Allesee was recognized for her \$3 million gift to Hospice of Michigan with the unveiling of the Maggie Allesee Center for Quality of Life. She has received four Honorary Doctorate Degrees from Kendall College of Art and Design, Wayne State University, Oakland University, and Florida State University.

**Everyone in our cast
is vaccinated!**

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DECEMBER 10-12



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AT THE HILBERRY

*The Old Man and
the Sea*

*Spring
Awakening*

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Hilberry,



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Geoffrey Besser, LaRaisha DiEvelyn Dionne,
X. Alexander Durden, Tommy Favorite,
Marcela Garzaro, Adam Graber,
Taurean Hogan, Alexis Primus, Katy Tye

DesignDonna Beagle, Andrew Canaan,
Mike Collins, Stacey Constanzo,
Trey Eikleberry, Cat Foley,
Phillip Hall, Shaina Kasztelan,
Kaden Reynard, Jeff Shook

Stage Management Devon Currie, Brandi
Shook,
Lindsey Sigler, Zoe Steenwyk

Theatre Management Emily Clark, Jessica
Kroupa,
Kymberli Skye, Hannah Zeiss

ADMINISTRATION

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boxoffice@wayne.edu

For bios of our faculty and more details about our academic programs, please visit ***theatre-anddance.wayne.edu***

Spring Awakening

Song Order

Act 1:

Mama Who Bore Me
Mama Who Bore Me Reprise
All That's Known
The Bitch of Living
My Junk
Touch Me
The Word of Your Body
The Dark I Know Well
The Word of Your Body Reprise 1
And Then There Were None
Mirror Blue-Night
I Believe

Act 2:

The Guilty Ones
Don't Do Sadness
Blue Wind
Don't Do Sadness/Blue Wind
Left Behind
Totally Fucked
The Word of Your Body Reprise 2
Whispering
Those You've Known
Song of Purple Summer

A Note from the Directors on Intimacy:

Traditionally, *Spring Awakening* includes intense intimacy onstage, with scenes being questionable and controversial regarding consent. Due to COVID-19 and Underground productions being run and directed by fellow students, the directors have decided to take an alternative approach on intimate scenes to allow actors to feel safe and supported. Dani and Xueyun would like to thank intimacy consultant Ryan Bernier.

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*December Dance
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Capstone*

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Heathers, 2019-2020
Chuk Nowak Photography



Cast & Creative Team



Donna Beagle [She/Her] (*Set Designer*) is a first year Graduate student at Wayne State University. She is currently pursuing her MFA in Theatre Design. Spring Awakening is Donna's first design in Grad school and is excited to be a part of an all student run production.



Geoffrey Besser [He/Him] (*Her Sonnenstich/Herr Stiefel/Her Neumann*) is a Detroit and New York City based Actor, Singer, Writer, and Educator. A graduate of Brown University with a BA in History, Geoffrey prefers to focus on creating politically and personally impactful theatre and film. Past credits include: Brown University's Hamlet (Hamlet) and The Seagull (Sorin), Staten Island Shakespeare's King Lear (Oswald), Head Trick Theatre's Much Ado About Nothing (Claudio), Glass Horse Theatre Project's The Shape of Things (Phillip), Spectrum Theatre Ensemble's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (Billy Bibbit), and Wayne State University's Twelfth Night (Sir Toby Belch). Geoffrey is happy to be starting his second year as an MFA Acting Candidate at Wayne State and will graduate in 2023. He believes actors are practitioners of radical empathy and hopes his work will help create a more empathetic and beautiful society.



Eric Blovits [He/Him] (*Dream Melchior/Co-Choreographer*) is a fourth-year dance major at Wayne State, pursuing his BFA degree. Eric has performed in multiple dance companies, such as Dance Workshop and apprenticing with Company Baira. He has also had the opportunity to perform in a variety of venues throughout his career at Wayne, including the Detroit Music Hall and Judson Church in New York City. Performing as a dance double in Spring Awakening will be Eric's first time performing in a theatre event at Wayne, and he is excited to perform for and interact with a new audience!



Jazzi Bullock [She/Her] (*Frau Gabor*) is a fourth-year BA Theatre Major with a Musical Theatre Minor, and she's beyond excited for live theatre to come back to Wayne State. Previously she's been seen in MTWorkshop's "Pancakes on a Sunday" as well as The Winter's Tale. She would like to thank everyone who supported her throughout her journey. Enjoy the show!



CJ Caldwell [She/Her] (*Stage Manager*) is in her final year here at Wayne. Her past credits include stage managing Trivoya Gold with Motor City Cabaret, Bus Stop, and Company of Fools. She has also been backstage as an ASM with Mamma Mia! and Blithe Spirit. This process has been the most rewarding she has been part of at Wayne State. Watching the wonderful cast, designers, and directors create a show that has impacted her every day has reminded her why theatre is so special. She would like to thank the cast and directing team for making this show possible. She would also like to thank Dani, Xueyun, Danielle, and Brandi for all the hours they have put into this show and how they have helped her along the way. She hopes you fall in love with the story as much as she has in these past few weeks.



Luka Collins [He/Him] (*Swing Melchior, Moritz, Ernst, Georg*) is a first-year Theatre Major at Wayne State University. He is extremely excited to be a part of Spring Awakening as his very first production at Wayne. Luka's more notable roles in past performances include Nasty Interesting Man / Lord of the Underworld in Eurydice and Josh in Zombie Prom. Luka will be playing Swing for Melchior, Moritz, Georg, and Ernst and is very honored to be the understudy for the four amazing people playing those roles. He couldn't have asked for a better group of people to be doing his very first college production with, this cast has truly become a family in such a short amount of time and he wouldn't trade this experience for anything. He is so thankful for every single member of the cast, as well as his amazing directors and stage manager and everyone else that helped make this production happen.

Cast & Creative Team



Nick Easterling [He/Him] (*Georg/Dieter*) is a third year BFA acting student. He's now been in 4 productions with Wayne state including playing Ram in Heathers the Musical (2019), Clemones in The Winters Tale (2020) and Braden Pierce in the virtual performance of Pingree's Past (2021) This show is very close to his heart, being one of his favorite musicals and one of the first he really got into. He thinks the message and themes of the show are poignant and worth discussing no matter the discomfort. He hopes you enjoy the show! (Headshot courtesy of San Sarkis Photography)



Alec Ehnis-Clark [He/Him] (*Props Master*) is currently a fourth-year BFA theatre technology and design major and art history minor at Wayne State University. Previous works include scenic design for Everybody and props design for Sweat. He is very appreciative for his role on the production team for this show and thankful for the opportunity to work with his peers in person again. He hopes you enjoy the show!



Xueyun Cecilia Findlay [She/Her] (*Co-Director*) is a fourth year BA Theatre major and she is so excited to be one of the directors for Spring Awakening! Some of her past credits include assistant directing Reckless, playing Nell in A Company of Fools, and being in the ensemble for Xtigone, all at Wayne State University.



Paige Heath [They/Them] (*Frau Bergman/Bessel*) is a fourth year theatre student at Wayne State University. They were in a virtual performance last year of Almost Alcatraz and they were in one stage performance in 2019, which happened to be Christmas Carol. Paige has not performed in the Underground yet and is incredibly excited to play Frau Bergman and Frau Bessel in the 2021 performance of Spring Awakening and make this production happen.



Quinn Jacob [She/Her] (*Thea*) is a first-year theatre major at Wayne State University. Quinn is playing the role of Thea in Spring Awakening, and is so proud to be working alongside such talented people in her first college performance! Some of her favorite credits include Sharpay Evans in "High School Musical: On Stage!", Brooke Wyndham in "Legally Blonde: The Musical", and Cinderella in "Rodger's and Hammerstein's Cinderella". Quinn wants to say thank you to everyone who has supported her in her theatre journey. She hopes you love this beautiful show as much as she has come to over these past few months!



Olivia Kimes [She/Her] (*Choreographer, "Dream Wendla"*) is a fourth-year dance major at Wayne State University. She has performed annually in the WSU December Dance and Spring Dance Concert Showcases, performed student work in various Student Capstone Showings, as well as been a company member in the Congolese Dance Company To Sangana. Since coming to WSU she has also performed in the community at the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Oakland Dance Festival, and the Historic Detroit Music Hall. Olivia is so grateful to have been able to choreograph Spring Awakening, and is also so excited to dance as "Dream Wendla." She is so excited to share and hopes that you enjoy the show!

Cast & Creative Team



Jenny Kraft [She/Her] (*Swing Ilse, Martha, Thea, Anna*) is a Senior BFA theatre major at WSU. You may have seen her last spring in MCC's virtual production of *Trivoya Gold*. Her previous credits include Lorraine in *All Shook Up* and Elvira's understudy in *Blithe Spirit*. Jenny is ecstatic to be back in the thick of LIVE THEATRE again and is grateful to be a part of such a powerful show as she closes out her college career. She would like to thank Dani, Xueyun, and Danielle for believing in her and for this rewarding opportunity. LIVE THEATRE IS BACK BABY!



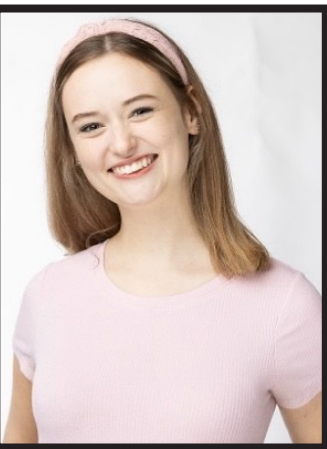
Jacob Lipski [He/Him] (*Herr Gabor/Herr Knochenbruch/Schmidt*) is a third-year BFA Acting major at Wayne State with a minor in Musical Theatre. Some of his favorite roles from past shows include Adrian Tiberio in "Frankie! The Musical," The Warden in "Almost Alcatraz: The Musical," and Aiden in Motor City Cabaret's production of "Trivoya Gold." Jacob is extremely excited and grateful to be back and performing in-person again after a year of online learning! He is incredibly honored to work alongside a wonderful cast and creative team to tell such a beautiful story. Jacob would like to thank his directors, Dani Poppe and CeCe Findlay, along with Danielle Wright for giving him this opportunity, and he hopes that everyone enjoys the show!



Ethan May [He/Him] (*Melchior Gabor*) is a fourth-year BFA Acting Major with a minor in musical who is beyond thrilled to be a part of this wonderful show. Due to the pandemic and the fact that he transferred to Wayne as a sophomore, this is Ethan's first (in-person) show at Wayne State! Endless thanks to his cast mates and the wonderful creative team for all of their support. Ethan has recently performed as Torbjorn Bjornsen in Motor City Cabaret's production of *Trivøya Gold*, as well as the Hitman in MT Workshop's production of "The Hippie and the Hitman". When not on stage, Ethan enjoys rock climbing, snowboarding, and playing the drums.



Jackson Meade [He/Him] (*Moritz Stiefel*) is a third-year CFPCA student at Wayne State University, majoring in Theatre and Film. He also attends the university's Honors College Jackson has previously performed in Wayne State's production of *Heathers: The Musical*. He was also cast as Robertson Ay in the university's production of *Mary Poppins* that never went up due to COVID-19 restrictions. Jackson would like to thank all his family, friends, and wonderful castmates (who are both) for their support during this rehearsal process. He is very excited to be a part of this production of *Spring Awakening*, especially since the subjects of the show are very personal to him. He hopes this production might help to raise awareness around the topic of suicide, and that he might be able to initiate a healthy dialogue about depression. Jackson is very grateful for the opportunity to explore these topics in a safe and supporting environment.



Freda Monroe [She/Her] (*Ilse*) is a fourth year BFA Acting major at Wayne State. Her favorite roles here include Miss Andrew in *Mary Poppins*, and Beatrice in *Pettycoats*. She is so honored to be part of such a talented student run cast and production team. She'd like to thank her friends and family for the support!

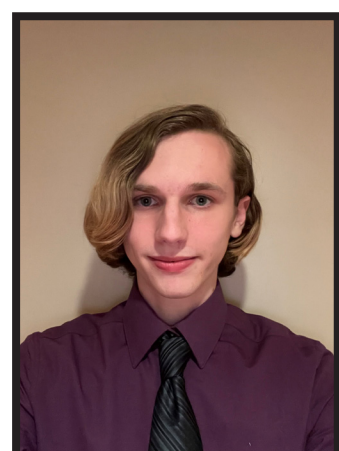


Olivia Paryaski [She/Her] (*Wendla Bergman*) She/Her is a Junior BFA Acting student at Wayne State University with minors in Dance and Musical Theatre. Previously, you might have seen her as Heather Duke in WSU's production of *Heathers: The Musical*, or as Lucy Martin in Motor City Cabaret's virtual production of *Trivoya Gold*. Olivia has always been a big fan of *Spring Awakening* and she'd like to give a huge thanks to Danielle Wright, Dani Poppe, and Xueyun Findlay for this opportunity to tell *Wendla's* story. She hopes you enjoy watching all of the hard work and artistry that went into this show.

Cast & Creative Team



Dani Poppe [She/Her] (*Co-Director*) She/Her is a 4th year BFA Acting student at Wayne State University. Dani is very excited to be sharing this beautiful story and with such an amazing team of people. Past directing credits include assistant directing in Spark Theatre Company's Willy Wonka Jr. and The Lion King Kids, Assistant Directing Mary Poppins at Wayne State University and Directing CC Reviews by Nick Stockwell at Wayne State University. Dani would like to thank Xueyun Cecilia Findlay for tackling this project with her, CJ Caldwell and Jack Welcher for their help with stage management, Danielle Wright for some stellar advising, the cast, designers and crew for being so wonderful to work with as well as her family and friends for showing constant support in her theatre endeavors.



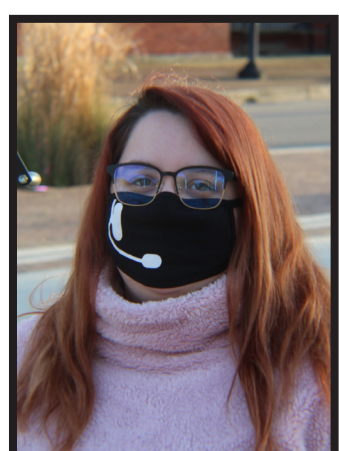
Joshua Poppink [They/Them] (*Otto/Ulbrecht/Co-Music Director*) is a third-year theatre major, and is excited to perform their sixth show and first show back in person at Wayne State! Josh is studying for a BFA: Acting with a minor in Musical Theater as well as going for departmental and university honors here at Wayne State. Josh has notably played Detective in Hotel and Evan in Frankie! the Musical. They feel incredibly blessed to both be cast as Otto/Ulbrecht and to have been co-music director with Ann Stein for Spring Awakening. They hope you enjoy being taken along the journey to 19th century Germany.



Ashley Poulin [She/Her] (*Anna*) She/Her is thrilled to be back on stage and to have an opportunity to play Anna in The Underground Theatre's production of Spring Awakening! She was most recently seen as a part of MCC, Undone (Heck Rabi's), Freedom Players, Company Fresh, MT Workshop and on the board of the Underground Theatre. Ashley has had the opportunity to train and compete in places such as Scotland, New York, and Los Angeles. Past credits include Nightrain in Techies (original workshop Sam Carner & Derek Gregor) and Patsy in Spamalot (Edinburgh Fringe Best Young Cast). Love and gratitude to Dani, Xueyun, Ann, Josh, CJ, Danielle, the creative team, cast and her family! Enjoy the show! Ashley is a sophomore BA theatre student in the CF-PCA at Wayne State University, also pursuing a minor in Musical Theatre and Forensic Investigations. Proud Canadian. Fusion Talent Agency.



Joshua Prim [He/Him] (*Herr Rilow/Father Kaulbach/Doctor*) is a first-year theatre student, and very excited to be working with everyone for this great show. He performed last semester in the online play Pancakes on a Sunday, but this is his first on stage show with Wayne State. The whole cast and crew has been so amazing to work with, and he has been so incredibly happy to work with all of them. Break a leg everyone!



Brandi Shook [She/Her] (*Production Manager*) is excited to be the Production Manager for the Underground at Wayne State University. Selected Production Management Credits include: Old Man at the Sea at the Underground Theatre, Working at the Goode Theatre; Will & Judy, A Night with Edgar Allan Poe, and the Amateur Drag Show with the Technical Theatre Association; and The Winter's Tale with Limelight Theatre Productions. Selected Stage Management Credits include: Tales from Shakespeare at WSU; Broadway Favorites with Charlottesville Opera; HOMESick at the Goode Theatre; Hairspray at LTVB; The Laramie Project with the Technical Theatre Association. Visit her website for more information at www.brandishook.weebly.com.



Joe Smentowski [He/Him] (*Ernst*) is a first year Theatre and Special Education student. He is proud to be performing alongside this talented cast of people and is thankful for how welcome he has felt. Some of his favorite credits include Jamie in The Last 5 Years, Juror 3 in 12 Angry Jurors, Shrek in Shrek The Musical, and Leaf Coneybear in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Joe is beyond excited for this to be his first college production and to be portraying Ernst in Spring Awakening! He hopes that those who come see the show will feel an emotional connection to the characters and listen to each of their stories. Enjoy the show!

Cast & Creative Team



Sean Stanisz [He/Him] (*Hanschen*) is a Senior BA Theatre student with a minor in Gender, Sex, and Women's Studies who is beyond elated to share this performance with you all. Prior to the pandemic, you've most likely seen him in Wayne State productions such as *The Winter's Tale* (Shepard's Son), *Heathers* (Ensemble), and *Unethical* (Jason). He would like to thank the directors as well as the cast, management, and creative teams who've curated a safe and loving environment to showcase our true artistic selves on stage. Especially, he extends his love to family and friends that have been nothing short of amazing. @seanstanisz



Ann Stein [She/Her] (*Martha/Music Director*) is a senior BFA Acting student at Wayne State University. Some of her previous credits include *Mamma Mia* (Sophie u/s), *Heathers* (Officer McCord), *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* (Bette), and *Trivoya Gold* (Hal-dor). She is so excited to be performing in live theatre again, and is immensely grateful to be creating art with such a beautiful cast of individuals. As her time at Wayne State comes to an end, she would love to thank those who have helped her become the person she is today. Liam, thanks for being the best hype man. To the rest of the fam, I love you endlessly. Ps 67:1 Selah.



Kylie Ann Stone [She/Her] (*Costumer*) is a fourth-year BFA Actor at Wayne State University. She has been seen as Martha in *A Christmas Carol* and will be seen as the Robber Queen in the upcoming production of *Snow Queen*. This is her first time as the costumer of a show and she is really excited to see it come to life!



Ace Thuma [They/Them] (*Marketing Director*) is a Junior BFA Acting student at Wayne State University. Ace is also getting minors in Musical Theatre and Theatre Management. Some of their previous credits include Child in "Undone", Grace in "Hotel", D in "Granna". This is their first time as a marketing director for a show here at Wayne State and they hope you are as moved by this beautiful show as much as they have been.



Jack Welcher [He/Him] (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is a third-year student at WSU and going into his junior year in the Theatre and Dance program. He's always had an interest in what happens on the stage, as well as what happens backstage! Spring Awakening is Jack's second production as Assistant Stage Manager, and he is having a blast! Jack is ecstatic to be back in the underground theatre, and he can't wait until the next one. He hopes you enjoy our production of Spring Awakening!