

PLAYBILL

The Shawnee Playhouse



MEAN GIRLS JR.

July 25 - August 16th, 2025

Book by: Tina Fey

Music by: Jeff Richmond

Lyrics by: Nell Benjamin

SONGS

Act One

Mean.....	Janis, Damian, Ensemble
It Roars.....	Cady, Ensemble
It Roars (Reprise).....	Cady
Where Do You Belong?.....	Damian, Janis, Ensemble
Meet the Plastics.....	Regina, Gretchen, Karen, Cady
Stupid With Love.....	Cady
Apex Predator.....	Janis, Cady, Ensemble
What's Wrong With Me?.....	Gretchen
Revenge Party.....	Janis, Damian
.....	Cady, Ensemble
Rockin' Around the Pole.....	Regina, Gretchen
.....	Karen, Cady
Fearless.....	Gretchen, Karen
.....	Cady, Ensemble

NO INTERMISSION

Act Two

Whose House is This?.....	Kevin G, Ensemble
More is Better.....	Cady, Aaron
World Burn.....	Regina
I'd Rather Be Me.....	Janis, Ensemble
Do This Thing.....	Kevin G, Cady, Ms. Norbury
.....	Moderator, Caroline Kraft
.....	Mathletes
Do This Thing Part 2.....	Cady, Ms. Norbury, Ensemble
I See Stars.....	Cady, Ensemble

CAST

Cady Heron.....	Violet Kastner
Regina George.....	Kyra Lavine-Ertle
Gretchen Weiners.....	Isabelle Law
Karen Smith.....	Eloise Saab-Gothard
Janis Sarkinsan.....	Elizabeth Almonte
Damian.....	Finn Naughton
Aaron Samuels.....	Riley Kimler
Mrs. Norbury.....	Hannah Echevarría
Mr. Duvall.....	Wesley Leap
Kevin G.....	Luis Torres
Regina's Mom.....	Cadence Bohdal
Mathlete Moderator.....	Alexis Rodriguez
Martin/Cady's Dad/US Aaron Samuels.....	Tobias Ricks
Shane Oman/US Damian.....	Sebastian Pariso
Ensemble/US Cady Heron.....	Isabela Christoph
Ensemble/US Regina.....	Caroline Cortes
Ensemble/US Gretchen Weiners.....	Zoey Charles
Ensemble/US Karen Smith.....	Layla Lavine-Ertle
Ensemble/US Janis Sarkinsan.....	Maria Giordano
Ensemble/US Mrs. Norbury.....	Esther Vough
Ensemble/US Kevin G.....	Parker Krupski
Ensemble/US Regina's mom.....	Abigail Perry

ENSEMBLE

Bella Long, Delaila Simmonds, Hannah Corona
Anabella Fazio, A'naiyah Taylor, Cydney Smith
Anya Cameron, Allison Fazio, Olivia Morales
Olivia Durant, Cailyn Rosario, Jaelynn Bonilla
Madison Zorn, Layla VanDerVliet, Olivia Applewhite
Shereen Millama, Wihanny Fernandez

CREATIVE TEAM

Director.....Johanna Gelbs
Choreographer.....Cordelia D'Orsi
Stage Manager.....Peter Valcukas
Assistant Stage Manager.....Navaeh Fair
Lighting Designer.....Chris Hnasko
Costumer.....Della Baird & Johanna Gelbs
Spotlight Operator.....Lizzy Kesselring

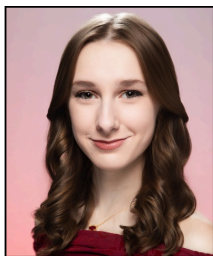
PLAYHOUSE STAFF

Executive Producers.....Ginny & Charlie Kirkwood
Executive Director.....Midge McClosky
Group Sales.....Tansy Morgan
Press Writer.....Samantha Cameron
Box Office.....Barb Dickinson & Cyndi Valcukas
Company Photographer.....Kenneth Card
Media Manager.....Robert McClosky

SPECIAL THANKS-

Midge McClosky, Mikaela Lipitz, Kay Evans, Mackenzie
Maula, The Cast of GREASE, The Shawnee Playhouse
Interns, Blair Academy, Lizzy Kesselring, and the
families of these kids!

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Violet Rose Kastner (Cady Heron)– is so excited to be playing the role of Cady Heron in Mean Girls, Jr.! Violet has been performing at the Shawnee Playhouse and In2YouArts since she was seven years old. Some of her favorite roles have been Gabriella in High School Musical, Spiker in James and the Giant Peach, and Anna in Frozen. Violet feels so blessed to be part of such an amazing local theatre community!



Kyra Lavine-Ertle (Regina George)– is 14 years old and is going into freshman year at East Stroudsburg High School South. Kyra has played the Chef/ Ensemble in R&H's Cinderella, Miss Hannigan in Annie Jr. Snow White in Game of Tiaras, and Sharpay Evan's in High School Musical Jr. all at J.T Lambert intermediate school. This is Kyra third show at the Shawnee Playhouse. Her past shows include legally Blonde Jr. as Kate and Blue Whale as Kate. Kyra is so grateful for this amazing opportunity and fun role! I would like to thank my family and friends for always supporting me!



Isabelle Law (Gretchen Wieners)– is a 16-year-old rising junior at Bangor High School. She made her Shawnee debut in SpongeBob (2023) and returned as Angie in The Broken Window, Serena in Legally Blonde, and Chloe in The Blue Whale (world premiere). School credits include The Hunchback of Notre Dame (ensemble) and Beauty and the Beast (Silly Girl). Isabelle is active in honor chorus, Slater Chorale, varsity soccer and track, and multiple school clubs including NHS and Student Government.



Eloise Saab-Gothardis (Karen Smith)– is entering her freshman year of high school and has three years of theater experience, along with training in acting, voice, piano, and dance. Past roles include Gander in Charlotte's Web, Aunt Em in The Wizard of Oz Jr., and Dance Ensemble in Beauty and the Beast. Most recently, she played Romeo/Ethel in Newsies Jr.. She's excited to keep growing as an artist and is grateful for every opportunity to share the magic of live performance. Thanks to her family, friends, and the wonderful creative team for their support!

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Elizabeth Almonte (Janis Sarkinsan)- is excited to be playing the role of Janis in this year's production, Mean Girls JR. This is her first year performing at Shawnee and she is honored to be a part of this experience.



Finn Naughton (Damian)- Mean Girls is Finn's 22nd show! His favorite roles include: OLIVER in Oliver Jr. (NEPTA Award), YOUNG PATRICK in Mame (NEPTA Nominee) MUNGOJERRIE in CATS - Shawnee Playhouse. JESUS in Godspell - Notre Dame High School. SCARECROW in The Wizard of Oz Jr., JOJO in Seussical Jr., RACE in Newsies Jr. - Rebel Stages. He would like to thank Theater for giving him a safe space to express himself, and his family and friends for always supporting him.



Riley Kimler (Aaron Samuels)- is very excited to be in his second show at the Shawnee Theater! He has done multiple shows at East Stroudsburg High School South, including Descendants, Sweeney Todd, and 12 Angry Jurors. He was also in The Full Monty at the Shawnee Playhouse. He would like to thank the directors and cast for an amazing experience, as well as his family for always supporting him.



Hannah Echevarría (Mrs. Norbury)- has been performing locally since the spring of 2024. She has played memorable roles such as Natalie in Next to Normal and Nina in In the Heights. This is Hannah's first show with Shawnee as a company and she has had so much fun being a part of it. It's also one of her first AND last times being in a junior show, so it holds a special place in her heart.

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Wesley Leap (Mr. Duvall)- is 16 and is so excited to be a part of this amazing production. Wes enjoys watching movies and hanging out with his friends and family. He has been acting for 3 years. His favorite roles include, Beadle Bamford (Sweeney Todd The Demon Barber of Fleet Street) Juror 3 (Twelve Angry Jurors) and The Evil Stepmother (Roger's and Hammerstein's Cinderella).



Kevin G (Luis Torres)- is excited to be part of another fun show at the Shawnee Playhouse. Luis is 16 years old and has been performing locally since the age of 9. Most recently in the roles of Kristoff (In2YouArts) Disney's Frozen Jr, Uncle Fester (Stroudsburg High) in his High School production of The Addams Family, Killian (The Shawnee Playhouse) Broken Window and in the lively Ensemble of (Rebel Stages) In the Heights. Luis also performs with his High School Chorus and Show Choir. CONGRATS to our radical director Johanna G. and cast and crew members... Y'all got MAD Schquillz!



Cadence Bohdal (Regina's Mom)- is 16 years old and super excited to be apart of mean girls! She has been doing shawnee for 4 years now and has loved every second of it! Her first ever musical at the shawnee playhouse was Oliver Jr twist. She attends pocono mountain west high school and hopes to do more musicals in the future.



Alexis Rodriguez (Mathlete Moderator)- — is 14 years old and entering her freshman year at East Stroudsburg High School South. This is her first musical with Shawnee, but she has been involved in other performances and shows. She is honored to be part of such an amazing show and can't wait to do many more!

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Tobias Ricks (Martin/Cady's Dad/US Aaron Samuels)- is an upcoming senior in high school and is excited to make his debut at the Shawnee Playhouse. He previously appeared in *The Addams Family* with Stroudsburg High School, where he performed as an ancestor. When he's not on stage, Tobias enjoys skiing and playing the drums. He's thrilled to be part of this production and grateful for the opportunity to grow as a performer. Enjoy the show!!



Sebastian Pariso (Shane Oman/US Damian)- is thrilled to be back on stage! Some of his favorite past roles include Baloo in *The Jungle Book Kids*, Sebastian in *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, Flick in *A Christmas Story*, Rowley Jefferson in *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, Tamatoa in *Moana Jr.*, Bruce Bogtrotter in *Matilda*, and the Snail in *A Year with Frog and Toad Kids*. Sebastian loves FaceTiming his besties, dominating in Roblox, and spreading joy wherever he goes. He sends a big thank you to his family and directors for their support!



Isabela Christoph (Cady Heron Understudy/Ensemble)- is an incoming 8th grader from Astoria, Queens, and is beyond thrilled to make her Shawnee Playhouse debut as Cady. Past roles include Jasmine in *Aladdin Jr. (Inside Broadway)* and Store Manager/Pforzheimer in *Legally Blonde Jr. (A Class Act NY)*. She began her musical journey with two years in the National Children's Chorus, NY Chapter. Isabel is deeply grateful to Midge, Johanna, and her dad for making this incredible experience possible!



Caroline Cortes (Ensemble/US Regina)- is teary-eyed with gratitude to be back on the Shawnee stage as part of this incredible cast. Recent roles include Morris Delancey/Ensemble in Rebel Stages' production of Disney's "Newsies, Jr." and Miss Argentina in ECCS's production of "Beetlejuice Jr." Following "Mean Girls Jr.", she looks forward to reprising her role in Rebel Stages' revival of "In The Heights". She wishes to extend a special thanks to Kyra for her kindness and encouragement as Caroline walks in her shoes- literally!

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Zoey Charles (Ensemble/US Gretchen Weiners)- is a rising junior and excited to be spending another summer here at the Shawnee Playhouse. She has appeared in *Spongebob Jr.*, *Legally Blonde Jr.* (Pilar), as well as in the *Addams Family* (Ancestor) at Stroudsburg Highschool. When not on stage, her time is spent as a member of many organizations, including the Stroudsburg High School Colorguard, where she enjoys dancing with her friends. She would like to thank her parents for always putting up with her late rehearsal times. Enjoy the show!!



Layla Lavine-Ertle (Ensemble/US Karen Smith)- is 16 years old and a rising senior. This is her second production at Shawnee Playhouse. She was last seen as “Jane” in *Descendants* at High School South. Some other previous productions she has been in are *Sweeney Todd*, *Legally Blonde*, and *Broken Window*. She thanks her friends and family for supporting her throughout this journey.



Maria Giordano (Ensemble/US Janis Sarkinsan)- began her theater journey at age six and has since performed in numerous theater and dance concerts with Pennsylvania Youth Theater (PYT) at venues like the Zoellner Arts Center, Moravian University, and the Historic Ice House, studying Jazz, Tap, and Broadway styles. In 2024, she expanded into film, landing multiple roles in NYC, NJ, and PA. Most recently, she played Elsa in *Frozen Jr.* at In2YouArts—her first show with the company. This is her first understudy role and debut at the Shawnee Playhouse, and she’s had a blast learning the role of Janis!



Esther Vough (Ensemble/US Mrs. Norbury)- (she/her) is 14 years old. She is in the ensemble and u/s Mrs. Norbury. A few of her past performances at the shawnee playhouse include; *The Blue Whale* as Emily, *Legally Blonde Jr.* as Chutney and *A Christmas Story* as Mary Beth. She was last seen as Specs in *Rebel Stages*, *Newsies Jr.*

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Parker Krupski (Ensemble/US Kevin G)- is 14 and has been performing for 7 years. He likes movies and hanging out with friends. He's excited to be understudying his best friend, Luis Torres. His favorite roles include, Bad Haircut Guy (The Wedding Singer), Antonio (The Tempest: It All Started With The Magic), and Robin Hood (Robin Hood).



Abigail Perry (Ensemble/US Regina's mom)- an incoming 7th grader, is excited to return to the Shawnee Playhouse in Mean Girls Jr. She recently played Snyder in Newsies Jr. (Rebel Stages) and danced in the Bowery Brigade. Shawnee credits include Legally Blonde Jr. (spotlight), A Year with Frog and Toad, The Little Mermaid Jr., and A Christmas Carol. Favorite past roles include Leona in Diary of a Wimpy Kid, a Wolf in Beauty and the Beast, and Snow White's understudy in Descendants. She loves crocheting, dancing, and spending time with family. Thanks to Midge, Johanna, and Cordi!



Bella Long (Ensemble)- is a rising 8th grader at Pocono Mountain West and an avid dancer and performer. She has a passion for the stage and has enjoyed bringing characters to life in productions such as Finding Nemo (Dory), The Music Man (Marcellus), and The Lion King (Zazu). A proud participant in Odyssey of the Mind, Isabella loves combining creativity with performance. She is thrilled to be returning to the Shawnee Playhouse with such a wonderful cast and production team. Bella would like to thank her parents for their constant love and support.



Delaila Simmonds (Ensemble)- has a background in dance, gymnastics, and theater. She has previously performed on stage in dance recitals at Fusia Dance Center featuring ballet, contemporary, and tap dancing. She is a passionate young performer with a growing list of theater and musical credits. She has taken the stage in several local productions, in bringing energy and heart to each role. This includes lead parts as Molly in Annie Jr. and Ivy the Invisible Woman in Spooky on Monster Island. Additionally, she has performed in Lion King Jr. and a student-created drama production. Her dedication to the performing arts continues to grow as she hones her craft and embraces every opportunity to perform.

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Hannah Corona (Ensemble)- is thrilled to be making her musical theatre debut as ensemble in mean girls! A lifetime lover of song and dance, she is excited to join the cast of mean girls and share her passion of storytelling. Shawnee playhouse has always been a place she admired, and she is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this production. Special thanks to her family and friends for there support!



Anabella Fazio (Ensemble)- is ecstatic to be performing in Mean Girls at the Shawnee Playhouse! She attends Stroudsburg Middle School and would like to give a special thanks to her sister, Allison for pushing her to audition, and to the cast for being so supportive and positive! She hopes you enjoy Mean Girls!



A'naiyah Taylor (Ensemble)- has performed in many shows since she was 8 years old. She has worked with the Shawnee Theatre, Rebel Stages, The Act Out Theater Company and Inzyouarts. She loves singing and acting and would like to thank her parents for their love and support of her and her love for the Arts over the years.



Cydney Smith (Ensemble)- is thrilled to be included in “Mean Girls” as ensemble. Her last show being “Descendants”, she is excited to be in her first shawnee performance.

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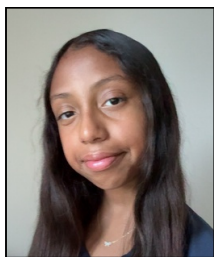
Anya Cameron (Ensemble)- is so excited to be in this wonderful production of “Mean Girls Jr”. She has recently been seen in “Newsies”, “Cats”, and “The Wizard of Oz Ballet”. She would like to thank her friends, family, Johanna, Cordy, Noel, Midge, and all of her past directors for always supporting her! Enjoy the show!



Allison Fazio (Ensemble)- is so excited to play the role ensemble in Mean Girls at the Shawnee Playhouse! She attends Stroudsburg High School and would like to give a special thanks to her parents for supporting her and her friends in the cast for making her first show a memorable one! Allison hopes you enjoy the show!



Olivia Morales (Ensemble)- is excited to perform her first show with Shawnee! Olivia is very excited and proud to be with this show and is thankful for all her family and friends for flexibility and patience throughout the process



Olivia Durant (Ensemble)- is 14 years old and entering high school. She is so excited to be featured in Mean Girls Jr. as a part of the ensemble. This is her first Shawnee show, but she has previously been in Cinderella as Cinderella, Singin’ in the Rain Jr. as Broadway Melody Host, Moana Jr. as Chief Ancestor, and The Wizard of Oz as a Jitterbug. She is excited for everyone to see this show and hopes you enjoy it.

MEAN GIRLS JR.



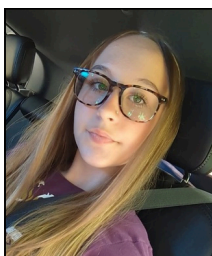
Cailyn Rosario (Ensemble)- is 14 years old and entering high school. This is Cailyn's second show with Shawnee, she was in Beetlejuice Jr earlier this summer. She has also been in numerous other plays including Moana Jr and In The Heights among her favorites. She is excited to be a part of this show and continue performing with the Shawnee Playhouse.



Jaelynn Bonilla (Ensemble)- is a soon-to-be senior in high school. She is excited to be in her first show at the Shawnee Playhouse. This is the eighth musical she's been in, following "Descendants" at High School South.



Madison Zorn (Ensemble)- is fourteen and going into ninth grade at Pleasant Valley Highschool. She has previously been in Legally Blonde JR. at Shawnee, does shows at In2youarts, is a part of the In2youarts theater company, and is a part of her school's drama club. Mean Girls JR. is her tenth show.



Layla VanDerVliet (Ensemble)- is an active student who loves participating in musical theater. This is her first Shawnee show but she previously was Step Mother in Cinderella Jr. and an Ancestor in Moana Jr. She is excited to show people this amazing show with new friends showing everyone what she loves to do!

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Olivia Applewhite (Ensemble)- is the daughter of Raven Applewhite and lives in the Pocono Mountains Pennsylvania with her 3 siblings. Olivia is a rising Junior at Stroudsburg High School and loves Wrestling, the arts, Dancing, Girl Scouts and her two cats. Olivia hopes to one day act in major films.



Shereen Millama (Ensemble)- is so thrilled to be a part of this FETCH production! PA raised and trained, Shereen started performing at a young age with a passion for singing, acting, and writing. Some credits include Annie, Wizard of Oz, Beauty and the Beast, In the Heights, Macbeth and more. Shereen's favorite role so far is Lady Macbeth in Macbeth. Mean Girls JR. is Shereen's first show at Shawnee Playhouse and she appreciates everyone who has welcomed her kindly!



Wihanny Fernandez (Ensemble)- is fifteen years old and has been in seven shows, this is her second show at the Shawnee Playhouse. She is now going to Lehigh Valley Charter Arts. Wihanny is excited to be a part of Mean Girls.



Cordelia D'Orsi (Choreographer)- (she/her) is a rising senior at Dean College. In her fourth summer with Shawnee, she's excited to be back performing (and choreographing Mean Girls Jr!). Most recently, she was Miranda in Breath of Stars, a dancer in Dean's Musical Theatre Troupe, ADC for Freaky Friday, and co-choreographer for Stroke of Luck.

MEAN GIRLS JR.



Johanna Gelbs (Director)– is a recent graduate of Commonwealth University Bloomsburg Campus earning her degree in Theatre Arts. She is so thankful to be spending her summer with some of her very best friends and with some classical musical theatre! Her favorite credits include Gooch – Mame (Broadway World Award) Sarah Bernhardt – A Divine Kerfuffle (Kennedy Center College Theatre Nomination) and Sponge – James and the Giant Peach. For all the dreamers!

Directors Note

Growing up as a Shawnee kid, a (perhaps overly enthusiastic) fan of Lindsay Lohan movies, Saturday Night Live's iconic comedy, and someone who's always loved leading people toward a shared goal—I knew this show would be a perfect fit for me. What I didn't anticipate, however, was the overwhelming warmth and generosity I've received from this incredibly talented cast, crew, and their families throughout the entire rehearsal process.

It's been a joy to direct this company, and I could never have done it without my phenomenal team and dear friends: Cordelia D'Orsi, Noelle Vallario, and fabulous Stage Managers, Peter Valcukas and Nevaeh Fair. I'm also endlessly grateful for the constant support, wise eyes, and kind encouragement from Midge McClosky, who's been cheering me on since I was twelve.

In my life, I've learned that when we all work together using enthusiasm, patience, and kindness, that is when the magic happens. Having the company be on board for my silly ideas, allowing themselves to make large choices, and bringing their authentic selves to the rehearsal room has been so much fun to witness and a gift to help foster.

While this show isn't the most meaningful or impactful piece of theatre in the world, its relatability, truthfulness, and messages, help encapsulate the typical teenage experience with a curt humor and a lovely resolution with fabulous music and costumes, of course! The line I keep referring back to as a director and human is – “calling someone ugly won't make you any prettier, and calling someone dumb won't make you any smarter”. If we could all learn to lead with more kindness and patience, how much better would this world be?

To my cast, thank you for trusting me and for sharing your talents with me and for being on board throughout all of my silly ideas! Through the long packed days, hot choreography rehearsals, and last minute changes, you've faced it all with a joyful dedication. Continue to shine bright on and off this stage. Today's word is.... FETCH! Xo your incredibly lucky director,

–Johanna Gelbs

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