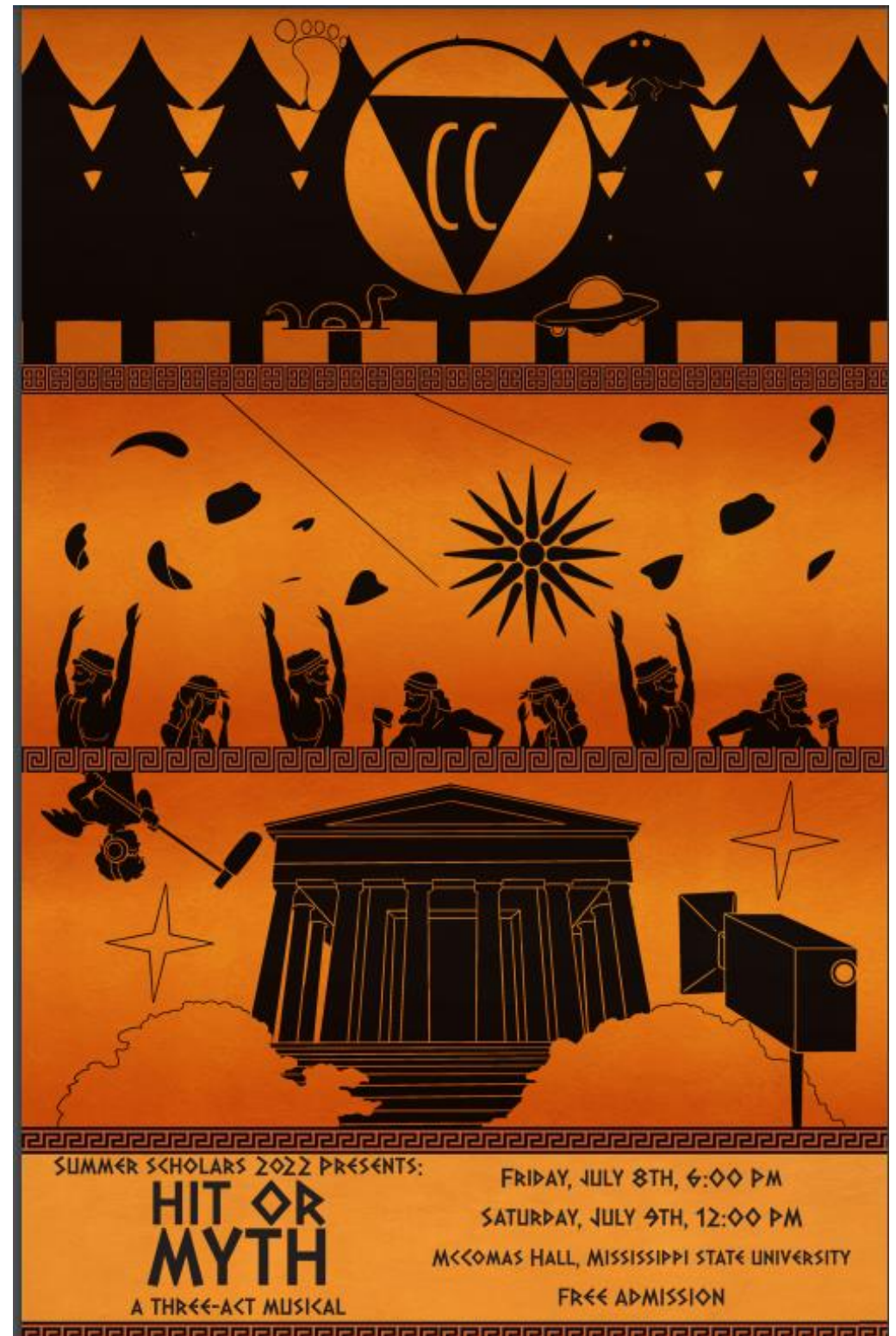


HALL OF FAME 2022



Our 2022 Inductee into the MSU Summer Scholars On Stage Hall of Fame is Leah Wright. Leah is currently a preschool teacher, and lives in Birmingham, Alabama, with her husband, Jonathan Wright, as well as her beloved dogs and cat. Leah first attended On Stage as a camper in 2004. For the next two years, she was selected by On Stage staff and fellow campers to serve as a Junior Counselor. Beginning in 2007, she served as a Girl's Counselor, a Lead Writer during Writer's Camp, and a Music Assistant during Production Camp. She was selected to be our Head Counselor (and "Camp Mom") in 2012 and has continued in this role since then. Last year, she additionally began serving as our Program Director.

This weekend, we honor Leah for all her contributions to On Stage and all the campers she has helped over the years. When asked why she continues to come back to On Stage, Leah states: "Camp changed my life, and I return year after year because I want to make sure that current and future campers have the same life-changing opportunities I experienced while a camper."



ABOUT THE PLAY

This year is not the first foray into mythology for Summer Scholars Onstage. Nay, it has been done before, back in 1992. See, a few years prior to that, a visionary camper named Muse Davis had the idea to write a show about what the Greek Gods might be doing in modern times. (Aphrodite would be an aerobics instructor, Hercules a furniture mover, etc.) No one bought it. The idea was laughed out of the room. And it was so ridiculed that campers put it back on the wish list each year for the next several as a joke—a placeholder monument to a lame idea. Only it wasn't lame at all. In 1992, the "Greek Gods Idea," as it was known, returned to the brainstorming list, as per tradition, and did not get crossed out during elimination. It remained and became the show "It's Greek to Me." Our director, Kris Lee, played Apollo. It remains one of my favorite camp shows of all time.

Leap ahead 30 years. I'm doing my usual script coordinator brainstorming session with our 13 magical writers and they're already headed in mythological directions. They've, in fact, dreamed up their own myth set in neolithic times with archetypal deities, quests and the whole bit. But this was an idea for only one of the acts. Someone suggested doing a reality show parody starring mythological beings, and we began narrowing what directions that idea might take. *Hell's Kitchen* set in Dante's Inferno? We soon got stuck.

"We should think about the ideas we see on the list every year that we never use," one wise camper said. I laughed, then, and told them the story of the long journey of the Greek Gods Idea to the stage, noting that this year was the 30th anniversary of it.

"Huh," someone said in a tone of realization.

"Keeping up with the Olympians," someone else said. We all laughed and wrote it down. And when we began eliminating the ideas from consideration, it did not get crossed out.

The third idea, about a support group of America's folkloric monsters, came early Monday morning, inspired by a short play written by Anthony Kirkland, one of the campers. All three stories were voted on and approved with nary an argument and barely any discussion. The writing went swiftly after that, with all three acts basically at draft stage by Wednesday morning—a camp first for my experience. We remained ahead of our usual schedule for the rest of the week. We even had time to do a readthrough of the whole show on Friday, accompanied by live performances of the nine amazing original songs composed for the show by our talented songwriting track campers. It will be the first time this camp has used all original music in a show.

We tell the campers every year that they'll never have another experience quite like Summer Scholars Onstage. Well, this is my ninth time to serve as script coordinator and I've never had an experience quite like it either. It all came together smoothly and harmoniously. It was a pleasure to work with these talented writers, actors, and musicians. But a large part of me is simply thrilled that they've written a spiritual sequel to the Greek Gods Idea.

--Eric Fritzius, Script Coordinator and former camper himself.

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
TELEVISION CENTER

KONICA MINOLTA

RISO
ComColor

KONIC VISION



Magnolia Business
Systems

"Local People Serving Local Business"

Office Technologies
Copy - Print - Scan
Software Applications
Computer Repairs

- Sales
- Service
- Supplies
- Purchase
- Rent
- Lease

662-244-8894

www.magnoliabusiness.com
1540 Gardner Blvd. Columbus, MS



mac
mississippi arts commission



Trinity Presbyterian Church

Acceptance. Inquiry. Service.
We welcome all.

607 Hospital Road • Starkville • 662-323-9340
www.trinitypcusa.org
"TrinityPresbyterianStarkville"
on Facebook

Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship & Refreshments 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 a.m.
Youth Group Sunday evening during school year

BACKSTAGE



PATRONS AND SPONSORS

whose donations helped make this camp possible.

Pattye Archer

Carnathan Law Firm

Anne Cross

Harry Dieckmann, III

Melissa Dunn

Brent & Deborah Funderburk

Linda K. Hannah

Hannah Pote Memorial Fund

Harrison Law Office PLLC

Elizabeth Hawkins

Judi Housley

Malcom Moody

Melanie Moody

Marco & Mary Sue Nicovich

Leslie Palmer

Linda Ratliff

Rockie Smith Endowment

Starkville Area Arts Council

SPECIAL THANKS

Backstage Music

Camp Volunteers

Mayhew Tomato Farm

MSU College of Education

MSU Department of Communication

MSU Conference Housing Staff

MSU Television Center

Trinity Presbyterian Church

University Screenprint

A NOTE FROM THE CAMP DIRECTOR

We are excited to have you for the 40th production of Summer Scholars! If this is your first show, then welcome! If you are a veteran fan or alumni of camp, thank you for sticking around with us! The 2022 Summer Scholars On Stage Production Camp is a 3-week performing arts experience for students in grades 7-12. This year, 37 campers from Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia have written, rehearsed, and rehearsed again for the performance you are about to experience. From song, dance, lyrics, set, and more, these campers have done it all with the help from dedicated camp staff. Even though the costumes and set are minimal, the creativity is exceptional. Enjoy the show!

Joe Ray Underwood
Camp Director

Videography and flash photography are strictly prohibited during the show. It is distracting for both performers and attendees. A video of the performance will be available for purchase later this summer.

ACT I—*Cryptids & Coffee*

Cast, in order of appearance:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Devin..... | Phoebe Jones |
| The Ohian “Grassman” | Lindy Peterson |
| Jo Steeples..... | Albany Mercer |
| Moth Mann..... | Megan Blalock |
| Roz..... | Taylor McIlwain |
| Wyll..... | Myrto Sergi |
| Big Foote..... | Anna Beth Hirshfeld |
| Loch Ness “Nessie” Monster..... | Amelia Rodgers |
| Hunter..... | Kylin Ellis |
| Sam Superfan..... | Carissa Palmer |
| Dr. Elizabeth Foote..... | Alex Williams |
| Griffin Mann..... | Chyla Hanna |

ACT I ORIGINAL SONGS

A Good Cuppa Joe

- Written by: Christian Dunne, Carter McIlwain, & Ansley Preston
- Performed by: Albany Mercer & Phoebe Jones

I’ve Never

- Written by: Christian Dunne, Lia Jones, & Keylon Mays-Moore
- Performed by: Amelia Rodgers

Change

- Written by: Thomas Dieckmann, Carter McIlwain, & Ansley Preston
- Performed by: Chyla Hanna, Carissa Palmer, & Alex Williams

CAMP STAFF

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Camp Director..... | Joe Ray Underwood |
| Program Director/Head Counselor..... | Leah Wright |
| Associate Director..... | Sean Richmond |
| Associate Director..... | Joel Rutherford |
| Director of Operations..... | Lauren Gerhart |
| Girls’ Counselors..... | Emma Crumpton & Liz Jones |
| Boys’ Counselors..... | Louis Codling, Jacob Jordan, & Rick Jordan |
| Staff Assistants..... | Jaylon Ashford, Kiki Efantis, Erin Harrison, Will Norris, & Sally Stafford |
| Graphic Artist..... | Jaylon Ashford |
| Photographer..... | Liz Jones |
| Junior Counselor..... | Shelby Stafford |
| Senior Intern..... | Carter McIlwain |

Staff Ensemble (*Crazy* by Gnarls Barkley)

Emma Crumpton, Kiki Efantis, Calloway Ellis, Joe Evans,
Liz Jones, Jacob Jordan, Rick Jordan, Will Norris,
Sean Richmond, Joel Rutherford,
Joe Ray Underwood, & Leah Wright

PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL STAFF

| | |
|--|---|
| Director..... | Kris Lee |
| Assistant Director..... | Louis Codling |
| Production Coordinator..... | Joe Evans |
| Director of Music..... | Calloway Ellis |
| Technical Director/Set Design/Light Design..... | Patrick McFadyen |
| Pit Coordinator/Music Arranger/Sound Design..... | Drew Dieckmann |
| Drama Instructors..... | Jaylon Ashford, Louis Codling, & Sally Stafford |
| Music Assistants..... | Emma Crumpton & Jacob Jordan |
| Sound Technician..... | Kiki Efantis |
| Choreographer..... | Jonette Shurden |
| Dance Assistants..... | Erin Harrison & Liz Jones |
| Stage Manager..... | Emma Crumpton |
| Props Master..... | Will Norris |

PIT MUSICIANS

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Guitar..... | Drew Dieckmann, Thomas Dieckmann, & Christian Dunne |
| Keyboard Piano..... | Thomas Dieckmann, Christian Dunne, & Sean Mackin |
| Bass Guitar..... | Jacob Jordan |
| Percussion..... | Joe Evans & Keylon Mays-Moore |
| Saxophone..... | Anna Beth Hirshfeld |
| Background Vocals..... | Christian Dunne, Carter McIlwain, & Ansley Preston |

ACT II—*Dawn of the Sun*

Cast, in order of appearance:

| | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Whit..... | Lia Jones |
| Thespis..... | Sophia Fabel |
| Flora..... | Emilee Nichols |
| Love..... | Ansley Preston |
| Ash..... | Jonah Evans |
| Flint..... | Carter Denison |
| Unity..... | Paulina Roman |
| Unnamed..... | Davis Moody |
| Arrow..... | Clara Williams |
| River..... | Belmont Phelps |
| Sky..... | Keylon Mays-Moore |
| Wrath..... | Thomas Dieckmann |

ACT II ORIGINAL SONGS

Rising Sun

- Written by: Thomas Dieckmann, Christian Dunne, & Paulina Roman
- Performed by: Keylon Mays-Moore, Belmont Phelps, & Paulina Roman

You Make Me Bad, Baby

- Written by: Thomas Dieckmann & Ansley Preston
- Performed by: Thomas Dieckmann & Ansley Preston

Flora's Song

- Written by: Thomas Dieckmann, Lia Jones, Keylon Mays-Moore & Paulina Roman
- Performed by: Davis Moody & Emilee Nichols

ACT III—*Keeping Up with the Olympians*

Cast, in order of appearance:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Zeus..... | Colin Kennedy |
| Poseidon..... | Anthony Kirkland |
| Aphrodite..... | Maggie Pike |
| Dionysus..... | Kade Neely |
| Athena..... | Ainsley Bourgeois |
| Hera..... | Addison Manning |
| Artemis..... | Cameron Gray |
| Apollo..... | Carter McIlwain |
| Ares..... | Jace Fye |
| Hephaestus..... | Daniel Swanson |
| Hermes..... | Cooper Snell |
| Hades..... | Christian Dunne |
| Producer..... | Shelby Stafford |

ACT III ORIGINAL SONGS

I'm Not Gonna Tell Anyone

- Written by: Lia Jones, Keylon Mays-Moore, Carter McIlwain, & Ansley Preston
- Performed by: Jace Fye, Maggie Pike, & Cooper Snell

The Hades Show

- Written by: Thomas Dieckmann, Carter McIlwain, & Ansley Preston
- Performed by: Christian Dunne

Magic or Myth

- Written by: Thomas Dieckmann, Christian Dunne, & Carter McIlwain
- Performed by: Carter McIlwain & Cast

Additionally:

Keeping Up with Olympians Theme, Confessional Music, and Canon in D Remix

- Written by: Christian Dunne

THE WRITERS

Script Coordinator: Eric Fritzius

ACT I—*Cryptids & Coffee*

- Act Leader: Will Wills
- Act Assistant: Erin Harrison
- Writers: Anthony Kirkland, Lindy Peterson, Daniel Swanson & Alex Williams

ACT II—*Dawn of the Sun*

- Act Leader: Louis Codling
- Writers: Carter Denison, Albany Mercer, Davis Moody, Belmont Phelps, & Myrto Sergi

ACT III—*Keeping Up with the Olympians*

- Act Leader: Sally Stafford
- Writers: Jace Fye, Kade Neely, Shelby Stafford, & Clara Williams

