

ARTS LIVE THEATRE

ALT MAGAZINE

productions | auditions | classes | workshops

PUTTING YOUTH ACTORS CENTER STAGE.

AVERY BATSON

ACTOR & PLAYWRIGHT

MEET HOLES DIRECTOR

JASON SUEL

**ALT ACTORS ON
STAGE AND SCREEN!**

WHERE YOU CAN SEE THEM

FROM ALT TO T2

MARTIN MILLER

**SPRING CLASSES
AUDITIONS
PRODUCTIONS
WORKSHOPS**

KAYLEIGH CALAWAY,
SYDNEE MARSHALL,
TREY OSBON AND
MADISON GATES IN
THE WIZARD OF OZ



Arts Live Theatre

2019-2020

celebrating 35 years of putting kids center stage

PERFORMANCES AND AUDIENCES

215 shows produced with over 2,150 performances with 95,000 audience members.



STUDENT ACTORS

Over 7,200 student actors have appeared on the ALT stage and/or taken Arts Live classes.



ORIGINAL SCRIPTS

12 original scripts and adaptations produced with seven internationally published.



FILM, TELEVISION AND COMMERCIALS

ALT actors have the opportunity to audition for and appear in feature films, television projects and commercials.



artslivetheatre.com

PRODUCING PARTNERS



ROSS MAY
IN TALES OF A
FOURTH GRADE
NOTHING

- 
- 04 **Meet HOLES Director Jason Suel**
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**LEASIE BAXTER AND SEAN THORUP
IN WILLIE WONKA**

JASON SUEL

Meet the Director of Holes

How did you become involved with ALT and what have you done with ALT?

I first got involved to grow my skills in directing. The first play I directed at ALT was Anne Frank and Me which opened February 16, 2011. Since then I have directed at least 1 play (some years as many as 3). I have also taught various classes over the years at ALT.

When did you first perform?

First community performance that I can remember was as a rubber ducky in a rousing rendition of Bert & Ernie's "Rubber Ducky" song. I was in the 2nd grade.

If someone was going to make your life into a movie, who would play you?

Adam Levine, Ryan Reynolds, and Jimmy Fallon would all audition. However, they would all be beaten out by Ryan Gosling.

What's the last thing you do before you step out on stage / the curtain goes up?

Deep Breath - Inhale/Exhale/Enter

What is your education background?

High School = Camden Fairview High School
Undergrad = University of Central Arkansas
Graduate = Bowling Green State University

MY FAVORITE THING
ABOUT ALT IS SEEING
THE GROWTH OF THESE
YOUNG ACTORS OVER
THEIR TIME AT ALT



When you have a five-minute break during rehearsal, what do you spend that time doing?

Looking to see what's coming up in the script and if I need to give any notes before we proceed.

If you had a magic wand, what show would you do next?

To direct? Cabaret

To perform? Sweeney Todd

What do you do when you're not doing theatre?

Making television - this requires both prep and post work. Running for personal activity. Running my kids to their activities, singing in Ultra Suede Party Band, performing with Phunbags Comedy Improv, hosting local events and fundraisers.

How is hosting different from acting?

I would say that hosting is related to acting for sure. Hosting combines my abilities to memorize lines, read a script, and improvise. The name of the game for hosting is remain flexible. Whereas with acting, more attention is given to making things the same from performance to performance.

What's your perfect Sunday afternoon look like?

Starts with a distance run. Then on to relaxing with family. Plus, making time for cooking on the grill after a hike, bike ride, or a trip to the pool. I'd finish by shooting some hoops or shagging some baseballs with the kids.

What is your favorite thing about ALT?

My favorite thing about ALT is seeing the growth of these young actors over their time at ALT. They are more confident and self-assured because of their time here. I love seeing that growth and development.



**FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 1
ARTS LIVE THEATRE
818 NORTH SANG AVENUE
FAYETTEVILLE, AR 72701**

Thursday, February 27 @ 7 PM

Friday, February 28 @ 7 PM

Saturday, February 29 @ 2 PM

Saturday, February 29 @ 7 PM

Sunday, March 1 @ 2 PM

\$12 Adult (13+)

\$10 Student

\$10 Senior

artslivetheatre.com

for tickets

HOLES



ZOE ABRAMSON



BAYLOR CARTWRIGHT



JACK DUNCAN



HENRY FOSTER



JADA GODDARD



JAE HURD



JOHN LAING



HAILA LEAKE



ROSS MAY



SOPHIE MOODY



TEAGAN MORRISON



MICHAEL MRLA



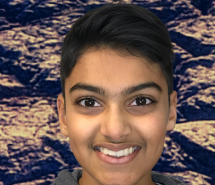
NATE NICHOLS



TREY OSBON



GABRIEL PRIETO



BRIG SHARMA



ANDREW TANKERSLEY



LEO TRECANAÓ



LILA WILKINSON



MACKENZIE WILSON

Adapted from the award-winning book by Louis Sachar, this finely written play focuses on Stanley Yelnats, a troubled kid who is sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake. The warden tells the boys that they must dig holes five feet wide by five feet deep in order to "build character." But Stanley soon realizes that this isn't the real reason they're being subjected to such treatment. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something, and Stanley will do his best to dig up the truth.



AVERY BATSON

actor & playwright

How did you first get involved in theater?

When I was about eight, a couple of friends and I all decided to audition for a production of *Seussical The Musical*. We ended up all cast as ensemble, but I was so proud to be a part of telling such a fun and whimsical story. (Plus, I loved all the colorful costumes and sets!) While my other friends never really got involved in theater since then, I have always enjoyed it!

You are also an actor. What has acting taught you about playwrighting, and what has playwrighting taught you about acting?

One of the main things that acting out a script has taught me is that different people have different creative visions. Two people can look at the same line of a script and imagine it in completely opposite ways. Because I am an actor, during my writing process I like to read my lines out loud with a range of inflections and emotions to test the way that they would work with someone else behind them.



Any advice for aspiring playwrights?

Malcolm Gladwell once wrote that anyone can be an expert after 10,000 hours. And while that's very daunting, I have to say that expertise comes with practice. Unfortunately, no one, no matter how gifted, can pick up a pen for the first time and scribble out a masterpiece. If you want to be a playwright, or anything else for that matter, you have to be willing to practice, and of course, don't be discouraged if the first thing you write isn't perfect.

Where do you get your inspiration?

My favorite thing to do when sitting down with a new project is search up music that fits my theme. While I'm writing, I listen exclusively to instrumental music, so that my words don't get tangled up with lyrics. When I'm still brainstorming, however, I love to find songs with lyrics that match my themes.

What is the most satisfying thing about playwrighting?

Well, before I started playwrighting, I was very interested in writing novels. However, after trying to write a script for the first time, I realized how much easier it came to me. While I still dabble in prose narrative, I think the vision of seeing everything come together on stage adds a sort of power to scripts.

What do you do when you have writer's block? Aside from banging my head against my horribly blank computer screen?

I've watched videos on how to cure writer's block, but I've yet to find anything that works 100% of the time. Sometimes I just can't write. Or when I do, everything comes out as garbage. But, eventually something will trigger inspiration and I'm ready to start typing again.

What is your favorite theatre memory?

The opening scene. I love looking out at the audience for the first time each project. We've poured our hearts out to give them a show, and when the curtains open for the first time, they finally get to see it. We all get to share the majesty of a great story.

SPRING ACTING INSTITUTE

Check out our exciting schedule of spring classes! Classes begin the week of March 2 and go through May 7 meeting for a total of nine weeks of theatre magic!

TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES, CAMPS, WORKSHOPS AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS AND GET INFORMATION ON UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS AND AUDITIONS VISIT ARTSLIVETHEATRE.COM

CLASSES

GRADES K-1:

THE MAGICAL CASTLE THEATRE!

Kings, queens, princes and princesses come alive in this class as actors create their own fairytales! Actors will learn performance skills, team building, cooperation and collaboration! The class will end with a public performance for family and friends on the final day of class.

Mondays • 4 pm-4.45 pm • \$110 (min-5/max-10).

STORYTELLERS THEATRE!

Characters come to life on stage in this fun class! Actors will create stories using characters they have created while learning performance skills, team building, cooperation and collaboration! The class will end with a public performance for family and friends on the final day of class!

Tuesdays • 4 pm-4.45 pm • \$110 (min-5/max-10).

GRADES 2-4:

SING OUT MUSICAL THEATRE!

Over the course of nine weeks actors of all skill levels will learn the fundamentals of musical theatre: singing, dancing, and acting the songs favorite musical characters! Actors work as a cast to prepare a revue of musical numbers which will be performed for the public the final day of class!

Mondays • 5 pm-6 pm • \$130 (min-5/max-10).

MARVEL THEATRE!

Actors will have a marvelous time creating their own super hero characters! Classes will incorporate creative movement and character play as well as scene work and a public performance the final day of class!

Tuesdays • 5 pm-6 pm • \$130 (min-5/max-10).

NOTE: Classes do not meet the week of March 23-27 due to spring break, but check out our spring break camps and our monthly workshops!



GRADES 5-7:

ACTING FOR THE CAMERA!

Lights! Camera! Action! In this class actors go in front of the camera to learn the craft of acting for film, television and commercials. This class will also include a tour of a working film production company and the opportunity to audition for project and to work with casting directors from Actors Casting Agency!

Wednesdays • 4 pm-5 pm • \$130 (min-5/max-10).

BROADWAY MUSICAL THEATRE ALT CABARET!

Spend each session learning material and developing singing and dancing skills which are essential for every musical theatre performer, and any student who is interested in becoming a well-rounded actor. Material from current Broadway shows will be performed in a public performance the final day of class!

Thursdays • 4 pm-5 pm • \$130 (min-5/max-10).

GRADES 8-12:

ACTING FOR THE CAMERA!

Lights! Camera! Action! In this class actors go in front of the camera to learn the craft of acting for film, television and commercials. This class will also include a tour of a working film production company and the opportunity to audition for project and to work with casting directors from Actors Casting Agency!

Wednesdays • 5 pm-6.30 pm • \$160 (min-5/max-10).

THEATRE PRODUCTION!

Hit the ground running in this exciting class in which students will produce a play in nine weeks ending in a public performance! Actors will learn performance skills, the importance of working as a team, cooperation and collaboration!

Thursdays • 5 pm-6.30 pm • \$160 (min-5/max-10).

WORKSHOPS

HEROES AND VILLAINS MAKEUP WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 8 | 10 AM-12 NOON | Ages 10-18
Professional makeup artist **TY VOLZ** visits Arts Live Theatre on February 8 to teach a Heroes and Villains Makeup Workshop. Students will learn how to create a heroic or villainous look through the art of makeup. Cost is \$60 per student for the two-hour workshop with take home makeup kit included!
\$60 (5-min/10-max)

THEATRE DANCE WORKSHOP

Saturday, March 7 | 10 AM-12 NOON | Ages 8-11
Professional choreographer and owner of Pride of Arkansas Cheer and Dance Academy, **McKENZI WALKER** will be teaching this fun and energetic workshop. \$50 (5-min/12-max)
Students will learn how to get their dance on!

NOTE: This is held at the Pride of Arkansas Academy (915 N College Ave., Fayetteville)

SHAKESPEARE FOLIO WORKSHOP

Saturday, March 14 | 10 AM-12 NOON | Ages 12-18
Seasoned professional actor **STEVEN MARZOLF** will bring his expertise in this workshop which will focus on Shakespeare's Folio and the clues within which help the actor with character.
\$50 (5-min/10-max).

THEATRE DANCE WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 4 | 10 AM-12 NOON | Ages 12-18
Professional choreographer and owner of Pride of Arkansas Cheer and Dance Academy, **McKENZI WALKER** will be teaching this fun and energetic workshop. \$50 (5-min/12-max)
Students will learn how to get their dance on!

NOTE: This is held at the Pride of Arkansas Academy (915 N College Ave., Fayetteville)

ACTING INTENSIVE WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 4 | 1 PM-3 PM | Ages 12-18
Seasoned professional actor **STEVEN MARZOLF** will bring his expertise in this workshop which will focus on helping actors develop characters through text and choices. \$50 (5-min/10-max).

ZOMBIE ATTACK PRODUCTION & MAKEUP WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 25 | 10 AM-6 PM | Ages 10-18
It's a full day of fun at Arts Live with this workshop, which will include a show produced in one day! **TY VOLZ** returns to teach zombie makeup followed by a public performance at 6 PM.
\$100 (5-min/12-max).

AUDITION WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 2 | 10 AM-12 NOON | Ages 10-18
MORGAN HICKS of TheatreSquared will be our guest artist in teaching this informative and fun workshop on auditioning.
\$50 (5-min/12-max).

SPRING BREAK CAMPS

March 23-27:

Ages 5-8

LET'S CREATE A PLAY TOGETHER!

Create your own play in this great camp! Actors will perform a play the final day of camp based upon their own ideas and characters! Actors will learn performance skills, the importance of working as a team, cooperation and collaboration!

10.30 am-11.30 am • \$130 (min-5/max-10).

Ages 9-12

BROADWAY BOUND THEATRE!

Spend each session learning material and developing singing and dancing skills which are essential for every musical theatre performer, and any one who is interested in becoming a well-rounded actor. Material from current Broadway shows will be performed in a public performance the final day of camp!

9 am-10.30 am • \$160 (min-5/max-10).

SUPER HERO DEFENSE!

Boom! Bam! Pow! In this camp, actors learn to slap, pull hair and to safely stage fight! Actors will also learn performance skills, the importance of working as a team, cooperation and collaboration and give a public performance the final day of camp!

11.30 am-12.30 pm • \$130 (min-5/max-10).

AUDITIONS

Complete

February 8

February 16, 17 & 22

April 11

May 16

PRODUCTIONS

HOLES

February 27-March 1

THE WIZARDING WAY OF THE OZARKS PRODUCTION (Yet to be titled)

March 22

THE LITTLE MERMAID JR.

April 16-19

LAURA INGALLS WILDER:

Voice of the Prairie

May 28-31

THE KIDS OF MOUNT OLYMPUS

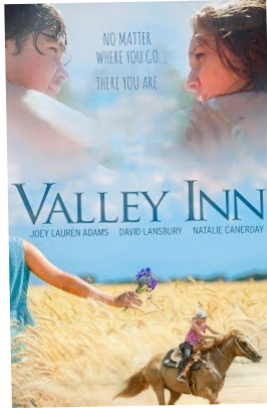
June 25-28

artslivetheatre.com

Arts Live Theatre at the Movies

LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!

In addition to stage training, ALT actors are also given opportunities to audition to appear on the small and big screen! Several ALT actors have appeared in feature films, commercials and on television. Here's where you can see them!



amazon
prime video



NETFLIX



PURE FLIX
ENTERTAINMENT



COMING
SOON



"Arts Live Theatre is such a loving and accepting environment. There will always be people there who love and care about you."

-ALT actor SOPHIE MOODY



ALT ALUM MARTIN MILLER

From ALT to T2

What was your involvement with Arts Live Theatre?

I was part of six shows with Arts Live — favorites were *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *She Stoops to Conquer*, directed by my now-colleague Bob Ford. And of course, *Ascension Day*, Mark Landon Smith's first project with ALT!

What is your favorite memory of being with Arts Live Theatre?

I'm not sure anyone knows Nadine Baum Studios quite so deeply as I do, given that all of my Arts Live experiences were staged there and then I spent a decade there with TheatreSquared! Up to that point, the space had mostly been used for events and classes — I think Arts Live was the first to show our community that it could be used as a real theatre space. I love that they blazed that trail.

What is your title at TheatreSquared?

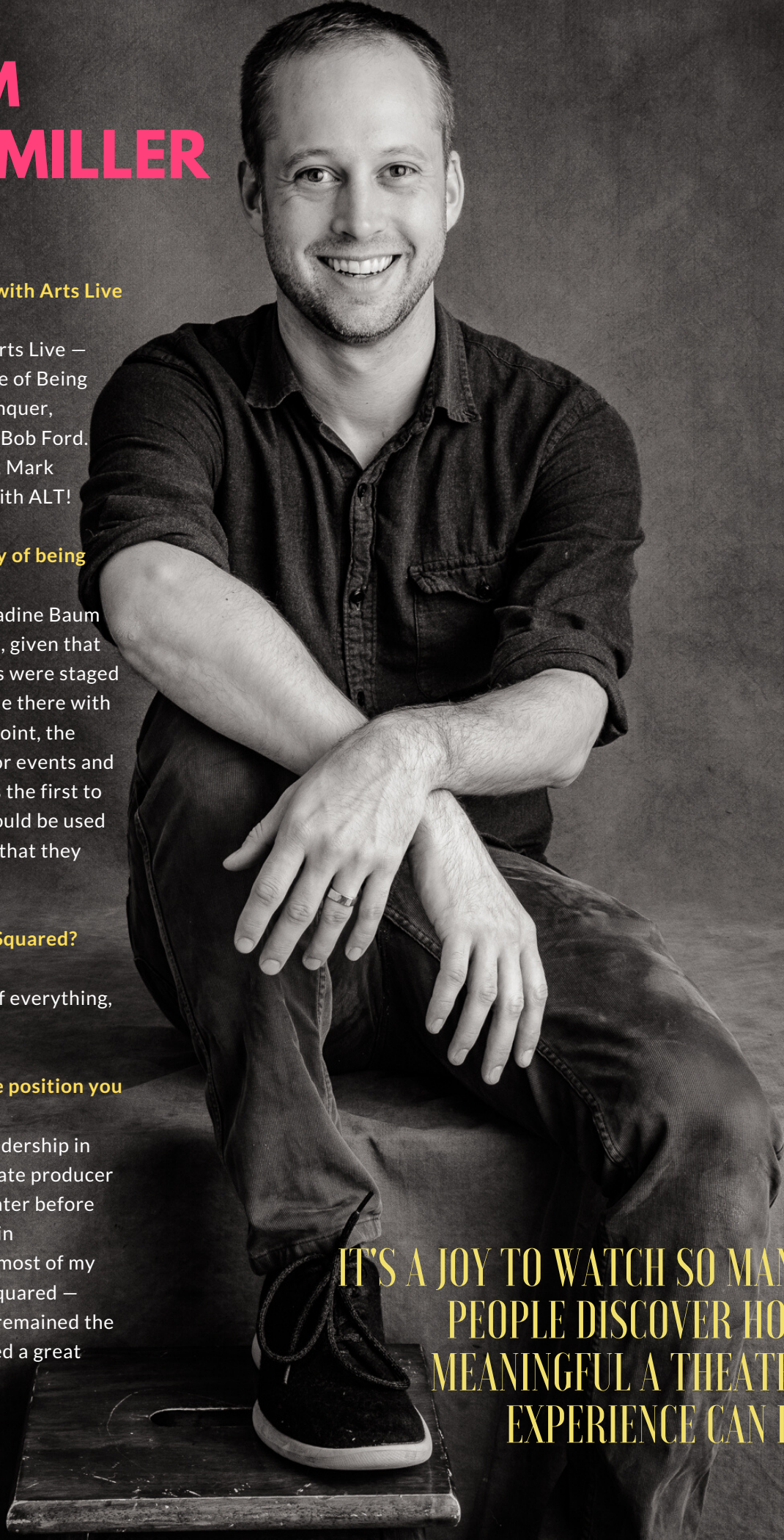
What does that title entail?

Executive Director. It's a bit of everything, and a lot of fun.

What was your journey to the position you are now in?

I earned a masters in Arts Leadership in Chicago and worked as associate producer for Chicago Shakespeare Theater before returning to Fayetteville to join TheatreSquared in 2009. But most of my journey has been at TheatreSquared — even though the position has remained the same, our company has evolved a great deal.

IT'S A JOY TO WATCH SO MANY
PEOPLE DISCOVER HOW
MEANINGFUL A THEATRE
EXPERIENCE CAN BE



MARTIN MILLER

What is your favorite show?

TheatreSquared's production of *Fun Home* in 2017 was one of my favorite pieces — and not just because my kids were in it. I loved the performances, the directions, the experiences that people had at the theatre.

What do you find most rewarding in your position?

We were a very small bunch back in 2009. As TheatreSquared has grown, I've loved being able to work with a growing group of incredibly talented professionals who love what they do, every day. Also, particularly since the opening of the new facility, it's a joy to watch so many people discover how meaningful a theatre experience can be — and to see the T2 Commons becoming a new gathering and community space.

What advice would you give to young artists?

Keep it up. It takes a long time, and a lot of work, but it's worth it.

Are you a NWA native and if not, how did you find your way to the region?

I grew up in Fayetteville — and though I went away to college and grad school, I found my way back thanks to TheatreSquared!

What is your education and how important did that play into being in your current position?

In college, though my major was English, I found a wonderful laboratory for directing and producing theatre on a shoestring budget — a very useful skillset. The arts leadership masters program was also a great investment of time — though you never learn so much as you do when you dive in to the work itself.

What does the future hold?

TheatreSquared is emerging as a nationally significant player in new work creation, as well as a cultural anchor for our region. There's so much room to grow and expand our impact with the doors open to our new space — we're very excited for the years ahead!

MARTIN MILLER has served as executive director for TheatreSquared since 2009, and in that decade since has produced more than 100 plays and developmental works, grown the theatre's annual budget from \$160,000 to \$4.3 million, and expanded its audience twentyfold. He managed the design, construction and fundraising for T2's new 50,000-square-foot theatre center, housing two intimate venues, the open-all-day Commons Bar/Café, artist apartments, scenic and costume shops, rehearsal space, and offices. He established the National Stages Program, a consortium of producing theatres offering reciprocal member benefits, and has served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and the Theatre Communications Group. Previously, as associate producer for Chicago Shakespeare Theater, he oversaw a variety of projects including commissioning the bilingual *Romeo y Juliet* from Karen Zacarías, as well as tours and transfers of works by the Second City and Q Brothers. He holds a BA from Carleton College and MFA in Arts Leadership from The Theatre School at DePaul.





the magic of arts live theatre

SENIOR STUDENT ARTIST

Madison Gates

MADISON is in the 12th Grade and Home Schooled and became involved with ALT during her freshman year in high school. She heard about Arts Live through friends at the Arts Center of the Ozarks. "ALT piqued my interest when I kept hearing about how kind everyone was who worked there. I knew I had to give it a try." Madison's first Arts Live production was *The Sword in the Stone*, and she also appeared in ALT productions of *Little Women*, *Treasure Island*, *Independence*, *Into the Woods*, *Willy Wonka*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *The Wizard of Oz*.

Her favorite show is definitely *Little Women*. "I was blessed with the opportunity to play Jo March during my first year at ALT, which was a dream come true. With much help from my amazing director Miss Natalie, I found a lot of myself while playing Jo. Even before I had the opportunity to share this story onstage, I had what some may call an obsession with the story. I've always felt that *Little Women* is one of the best coming of age stories ever told. I have seen it inspire so many women, and men, to never give up on their dreams and to always make family a priority. Another thing I love about this story is that people can sometimes find a little of themselves in at least one or two of the characters, which I think makes the story even more personal to everyone."

"ALT is special to me for many reasons, and I could go on for hours talking about how awesome it is. Overall, what stands out to me the most are the incredible people involved with ALT. I don't mean just a few people, I mean everyone. Directors, Board of Directors, Actors, and the actors' parents are some of the kindest people I have ever met. Due to previous experiences, before I came to ALT I had it on good authority to believe that there would be a true community for me who could help encourage me, not just in acting, but also learning to grow as a person. ALT has definitely blown me away by seeing how they provide kids with such a positive and supportive community. It really feels like a second home and a second family, which is truly magical."

Madison Gates...

"My favorite Arts Live memory is when I played The Witch in my second musical at ALT, Into the Woods. Even though a part of me was super excited, a big part of me was terrified. With weeks of rehearsing and a lot of encouragement from my ALT family, when opening night came I finally felt it was possible for me to overcome my anxiety of singing alone. I was still feeling better about it until right before my cue to go onstage. I started feeling anxious again, and I was sure I would either forget the lyrics or just blank on everything. Thankfully, my ALT family was right there with me backstage encouraging me, and telling me that no matter what happened, I would be ok. By the time my cue came I was still scared, but knowing I wasn't really alone onstage, and that my cast and I were all in this together helped me tremendously. I started singing and all of my anxiety and fear just melted away. I will never forget finishing my song, and walking off stage only to be enveloped by hugs and given high fives by my cast mates. I felt so loved and supported. Ever since that moment I've always tried to be that support for other's. It's now one of my favorite parts about ALT. Encouraging and helping others is one of the greatest lessons ALT can offer. Seeing someone's face light up after facing a fear or accomplishing something they felt was impossible, and giving them a hug or a high five when they come off stage is so much fun!"

"My biggest inspiration, or I should say inspirations, are my parents. They inspire me to work hard, encourage others, stay humble, and try and be a light to those around me. They've been an example of all those things to me for the past eighteen years, and I am beyond grateful to have them in my life."



arts live theatre

AROUND THE WORLD

DID YOU know?

Several Arts Live Theatre original scripts and adaptations have been professionally published and are produced throughout the world?



ALICE IN WONDERLAND
Great Theatre Co.



THE PIRATE SHOW
Aurora Fox Arts Center



NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD
Southwestern College



PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE
Aloha Performing Arts



CHRISTMAS CAROL HIGH SCHOOL
Byron College



SANTA CLAUS CONQUERS
THE MARTIANS
Kent-Trumbull Theatre

links below for script and production info

[Concord Theatricals](#)
[Stage Rights](#)



Treasure Island



Independence



The Hundred Dresses



Plain Kate

"They do an amazing job with all the kids and the productions are fabulous! My son has learned so much at ALT"

"From the small stage to the big stage, Arts Live Theatre is a place of wonder and escape. As for my son, it is home away from home. Mark and his Staff go above and beyond to bring out the absolute best in the young actors in every production they do. 100%, hands down the best place for any kid to be."

thank
you!



to our SPONSORS