

OTTERBEIN CLASS OF 2024

SHOWCASE



OTTERBEIN
UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE



Kandy Boakye



Kandy Boakye

Kandyotchere@gmail.com | 380.218.7974 | <https://www.kandyboakye.net/>

(She/They) | Fully Vaccinated & Boosted

Hair: Black | Height: 5'4 | Eyes: Dark Brown | Voice type: Alto

Theatre

Southern Plains Productions

Small Mouth Sounds Teacher Jacob Musgrove, dir.

Educational Theatre

Otterbein University

Everybody Love Melissa Lusher
Our Town Stage Manager Lenny Leibowitz
The Heidi Chronicles Fran/Molly/Betsy/April Eleni Papaleonardos
Next to Normal Natalie Cassie Perlatti

International Thespian Festival

School Girls... African Mean Girls Paulina Desmond Fernandez
*Dreamland*** Cast Miller & Tysen
Staged reading

Training

Otterbein University: BFA in Acting

Acting: Lenny Leibowitz, Melissa Lusher (Stanislavski, M. Chekhov, Text Analysis), Mark Mineart (Shakespeare/Acting for Camera), Bradford Sadler (Acting for Camera) Aviva Neff (Viewpoints)

Stage Combat: Mark Mineart

Private Voice: Peggy Kohler, Dr. Keyona Willis, Eric Sand

Speech/Dialects (Skinner IPA): Melissa Lusher

Movement/Vocal Production: Melinda Murphy (Alexander Technique, Feldenkrais, Fitzmaurice)

Dance: Emily Glinski (Ballet, Jazz, Modern), Cindy Straub (Jazz), Christeen Stridsberg (Modern)

Special Skills

Dialects (West African, RP, New York, Southern American), Bilingual (Twi, English)
Improvisation, Basic Juggling, Stage Combat (Rapier, Unarmed), Afro-Dancing, Drag Performance



Nate Dirksen

NATE DIRKSEN

natecdirksen@gmail.com

<i>Pronouns: He/Him Height: 6'0</i> <i>Eyes: Hazel Hair: Brown</i>

THEATRE

Otterbein University

	Role	Director
<i>Everybody</i>	Everybody	Melissa Lusher
<i>The Great Influencer</i>	Rocky	Mark Mineart
<i>Our Town</i>	Prof. Willard/ Joe Stoddard	Lenny Leibowitz
<i>Black Comedy</i>	Mr. Bamberger	Aviva Neff
<i>Land of Ours (Devised)</i>	The Warrior	Jessie Glover
<i>Seascape*</i>	Leslie	Jake Ronk

FILM

<i>Best Dressed (short)</i>	Lead	Andrew Gerstenblatt
<i>Broad Daylight (short)</i>	Lead	Andrew Gerstenblatt
<i>Double Take (short)</i>	Lead	Andrew Gerstenblatt
<i>The Hero Within (short)</i>	Lead	Andrew Gerstenblatt
<i>Superposition (short)</i>	Feature	Andrew Gerstenblatt
<i>Goin' Through... (short)</i>	Supporting	Jake Ronk

COMMERCIALS

Hasbro Beyblade Burst World Championship 2018! (Available on YouTube)
Hasbro Beyblade Special Edition ad
Hasbro Beyblade Assembly Promo

TRAINING

Otterbein University: BFA in Acting

Acting: Melissa Lusher, Mark Mineart, Lenny Leibowitz, Bradford Sadler
Dance (Jazz, Ballet, Tap, Modern): Anna Elliott, Christeen Stridsberg,
Emily Glinski, Cindy Straub, Jordan Hallman, Scott Brown
Vocal Production and Movement: Melinda Murphy
Stage Combat: Mark Mineart
Speech and Dialects (Skinner IPA): Melissa Lusher

Other Training

LIU Brooklyn Summer Honors Institute 2019
Trinity Rep Young Actors Summer Institute 2018
Trinity Rep Young Actors Winter Institute 2016

SPECIAL SKILLS

Singing (Baritone), Dancing, Stage Combat (Rapier, Unarmed), Dialects (Russian, New York), Juggling, Dual US/New Zealand citizen, Valid passport.

**Denotes student-directed work*



Jackson Gifford

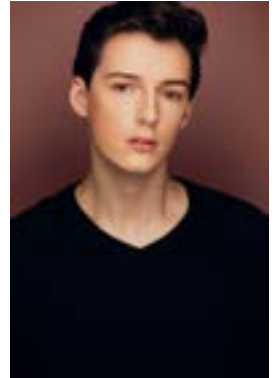
JACKSON GIFFORD

he/him/his

jacksongifford10@gmail.com

Height: 6'3"

Range: D2 - Bb4 (+falsetto)



REGIONAL THEATRE:

CINDERELLA	Ensemble	Summer Rep. Theatre	dir. James Newman
CHARLIE BROWN	u/s Linus / Dance Capt.	Parallel 45 Theatre	dir. Jesse Jou
THE SOUND OF MUSIC	Ensemble / Dance Capt.	Parallel 45 Theatre	dir. Kit McKay
LES MISERABLES	Ensemble	Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma	dir. Michael Baron
ANNIE!	Teen Ensemble	The Muny	dir. John Tartaglia

EDUCATIONAL THEATRE:

CABARET	Emcee	Otterbein University	dir. Lenny Leibowitz
FALSETTOS	Whizzer	Otterbein University	dir. Lenny Leibowitz
BLACK COMEDY	Harold Gorringer	Otterbein University	dir. Dr. Aviva Neff
SOMETHING ROTTEN!	Ensemble	Otterbein University	dir. Mark Mineart
OUR TOWN	Simon Stimson	Otterbein University	dir. Lenny Leibowitz

TRAINING:

B.F.A. in Musical Theatre with a Dance Concentration, Otterbein University

Acting: Thom Christopher Warren, Lenny Leibowitz, , Melissa Lusher, Mark Mineart

Voice: Robert Bux, Brian Gray

Dance: Stella Hiatt Kane, Anna Elliott, Emily Glinski, Christeen Stridsberg

Vocal Production/Movement: (Feldenkrais, Alexander, Fitzmaurice voice) Melinda Murphy

Interlochen Arts Academy, Theatre Arts Major

SPECIAL SKILLS:

Aerial Hoop and Silks, Stilt Walking, Drag Queen (can dance in heels), Cooking - certified Tuscan Chef, Valid U.S Passport, Driver's License.



Benjamin Hoover

Benjamin Hoover

benhoover02@gmail.com

6'2", Brown Hair, Blue Eyes

Vocal Range: G2-Bb4

Professional Theatre

WEATHERVANE PLAYHOUSE

Kinky Boots

Charlie Price

Dir. Nikki Mirza

Once Upon a Mattress

Sir Studly

Dir. Jennifer Sansfacon

OTTERBEIN SUMMER THEATRE

Pirates of Penzance

Modern Major General

Dir. Lenny Leibowitz

I Do! I Do!

Micheal

Dir. Stella Hiatt Kane

University Credits

OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY

Something Rotten!

Nick Bottom

Dir. Mark Mineart

*Falsettos**

Marvin

Dir. Lenny Leibowitz

Cabaret

Herr Schultz

Dir. Lenny Leibowitz

Our Town

Doc Gibbs

Dir. Lenny Leibowitz

*Baby**

Danny

Dir. Lenny Leibowitz

A Little Night Music

Mr. Erlansson

Dir. Melissa Lusher

The Pajama Game

Pop Williams

Dir. Lenny Leibowitz

Training

BFA in Musical Theatre from Otterbein University

Acting: Lenny Leibowitz, Thom Christopher Warren, Mark Mineart, Melissa Lusher, Aviva Neff

Singing: Robert Bux, Eric Sand, Lori-Kay Harvey, Dennis Davenport, Jeremy Alfera

Dance: Anna Elliott (Ballet/Tap), Emily Glinski (Ballet/Modern/Jazz),

Christeen Stridsberg (Tap/Modern/Ballet), Scott Brown (Modern), Cindy Straub (Jazz), Jordan Hallman (Tap/Modern)

Voice/Movement: Melinda Murphy (Feldenkrais, Fitzmaurice, Alexander)

Speech/Dialects: Melissa Lusher (Skinner IPA)

Intimacy Coordination: Jeanine Thompson

Special Skills

Dialects (RP, Russian, German, French, Irish, Scottish), Juggling (Balls, Clubs, Rings, Knives, Fire, Diabolo), Mandy Patinkin Impression

*Indicates Classroom Project



Emma Rose Johnson

Emma Rose Johnson

EMC

941.376.9909
EmmaRoseJohnson366@gmail.com
EmmaRoseJohnson.com

Legit Soprano with Mix/Belt (F3-E6)
Height: 5'5¾"
Hair and Eyes: Brown

REGIONAL THEATRE

Short North Stage

SPRING AWAKENING Wendla Bergman Edward Carignan

Porthouse Theatre

THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES Suzy Amy Fritsche

The Carnegie

INTO THE WOODS Cinderella Katie Johannigman

The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio (CATCO)

THE WOLVES #11 Aviva Neff

Columbus Immersive Theatre

CARRIE : THE MUSICAL Sue Snell u/s, Frieda Edward Carignan

EDUCATIONAL THEATRE

Otterbein University

FALSETTOS Trina Lenny Leibowitz

A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE... Phoebe & Sibella u/s, ensemble Thom Christopher Warren

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC Anne & Fredrika u/s, Mrs. Nordstrom Melissa Lusher

British American Drama Academy

BRITANNICUS Burrhus Tom McClane

TRAINING

Otterbein University BFA in Musical Theatre

Acting: Thom Christopher Warren, Lenny Leibowitz, Melissa Lusher, Mark Mineart, Aviva Neff

Private Voice: Sara Pardo Fishburn, Lori Kay Harvey, Eric Sand

Dance: (Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Tap) Anna Elliott, Stella Hiatt Kane, Emily Glinski, Scott Brown, Christeen Stridsberg

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Private Coaching: Lindsay Mendez (July 2019- May 2020), Terri Balash (9 Years)

British American Drama Academy: London Theatre Program Fall 2023

Acting: Hannah Barrie (Shakespeare), Tom Bostock (Michael Chekhov & Viewpoints)

High Comedy & Physical Theatre: Jonnie Broadbent, Mick Barnfather

Voice: John Tucker

Actor Therapy New York or Bust (Two Week-Long Intensive)

Acting: Ryan Scott Oliver, Lindsay Mendez, Jessie Hooker-Bailey, Peter Duchan

Voice: Whitney Bashor

SPECIAL SKILLS

Dialects (RP, Cockney, American Southern), Basic Piano and Sight-Singing, and Heely-ing.



Daniel Keener

Daniel Keener

danielwyattkeener@gmail.com | 440-591-8584 | danielwyattkeener.com

hair: brown | eyes: green | height: 6' | baritone | he/him

Theatre

<i>Baby</i>	Alan	Otterbein Summer Theatre
<i>Hairspray</i>	Link Larkin	Renaissance Theatre/Michael Thomas
<i>Newsies</i> (in concert)	Davey	Renaissance Theatre/Michael Thomas
<i>Clue: On Stage</i>	Mr. Green	Mercury Theatre Co./Pierre Jacques-Brault

Educational Theatre

<i>Cabaret</i>	Cliff	Otterbein University
<i>Bright Star</i>	Jimmy Ray Dobbs	Otterbein University
<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Jay Gatsby	BGSU Firelands
<i>Falsettos</i>	Jason	Otterbein University
<i>Blood Brothers</i>	Narrator	BGSU Firelands
<i>Something Rotten!</i>	Ens/US Nigel, Jeremiah	Otterbein University
<i>Gentlemen's Guide...</i>	Ensemble	Otterbein/Thom Christopher Warren

Training

BFA in Musical Theatre - Otterbein University

Acting: Lenny Leibowitz, Melissa Lusher, Mark Mineart, Thom Christopher Warren

Dance (4 years, Int.): Modern, Ballet, Tap, Jazz - Anna Elliott, Emily Glinski, Stella Hiatt Kane, Seth Wilson

Directing: Sean Naughton

Movement and Voice Production: Melinda Murphy

Private Voice: Robert Bux, Brian Gray, Dr. Keyona Willis

Speech and Dialects (Skinner IPA): Melissa Lusher

Special Skills

Juggling, martial arts (Tang Soo Do), shooting (archery, rifle), kazoo impression



Julia Nieman



JULIA NIEMAN

(SHE/THEY)



juliamnieman@gmail.com

317-374-1921

Mezzo Belt/Mezzo Legit

Range:C3-E6

THEATRE

BABY	Lizzie	Otterbein Summer Theatre //dir. Lenny Leibowitz
GODSPELL	George	Summer Stock Eclipse//dir. Brandon Hanks
CABARET	Texas/Princpal Swing	Summer Stock Eclipse//dir. Carlos Medina Maldonado

EDUCATIONAL THEATRE

CABARET	Fraulein Schneider	Otterbein University//dir. Lenny Leibowitz
BRIGHT STAR	Alice & Mama U.S.	Otterbein University// dir. David Caldwell
FALSETTOS	Dr. Charlotte	Otterbein University// dir. Lenny Leibowitz
SOMETHING ROTTEN!	Ensemble	Otterbein University// dir. Mark Mineart
A GENTLEMANS GUIDE	Ensemble/Barley U.S.	Otterbein University//dir. Thom Christopher Warren

TRAINING

OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY BFA IN MUSICAL THEATRE (2024)

ACTING: Lenny Leibowitz, Melissa Lusher (Michael Chekov, Stanislavski), Thom Christopher Warren, Mark Mineart

VOCAL TRAINING: Robert Bux, Kate Merryman

DANCE TRAINING: Anna Elliott, Emily Glinski, Stella Kane,Cindy Straub, Christeen Stridsberg, Kelly Black

BROADWAY TRIPLE THREAT: Catherine Cox. David Evans, Voltaire Wade Green, Natalie Weiss

VOCAL TRAINING: Tim Grino, Craig Whitcombe

INDIANA REPERTORY THEATRE: Ryan Artzberger, Millicent Wright, Constance Macy, Rob Johansen

SPECIAL SKILLS

IMPRESSIONS: Patti Lupone, Judy Garland, Josh Groban, Bernadette Peters, Kristen Chenoweth, and more.

DIALECT CAPTAINING & COACHING: VERY ADVANCED in the following: Russian, French, Cockney, Essex, RP, Irish, German, Southern, New York, and more.

(CAPTAINED for Cabaret, Bright Star, and more, COACHED for Cabaret.)

INSTRUMENTS: Acoustic Guitar- (Intermediate/Advanced) Piano- (Intermediate) Electric Guitar- (Intermediate)

LANGUAGE: Advanced Fluency In German (Exchange Program Participant & Language Specialist for Cabaret Productions)

OTHER: Fight experience (Advanced Hand to Hand,Rapier, Hair pulling, and more), Great with Dogs, Painter, valid Drivers License, Passport.



Jessica Noal

Jessica Noal

she/her - (925) 354-5086 - jessica.noal01@gmail.com
Eyes: Brown - Hair: Brown - Height: 5'8" - Voice Part: Mezzo

Regional Theatre

<i>FLASHDANCE</i>	Ensemble/Choreographer	Weathervane Playhouse/ <i>Kirsten Upchurch</i>
<i>7 BRIDES FOR 7 BROTHERS</i>	Martha/Dance Captain	Weathervane Playhouse/ <i>David Bahgat</i>
<i>9 TO 5</i>	Kathy/Dance Captain	Weathervane Playhouse/ <i>Nikki Mirza</i>
<i>STEEL MAGNOLIAS</i>	u/s Annelle	Weathervane Playhouse/ <i>Nikki Mirza</i>

Educational Theatre

<i>BLACK COMEDY</i>	Clea	Otterbein University/ <i>Aviva Neff</i>
<i>CABARET</i>	Frenchie/Ensemble	Otterbein University/ <i>Lenny Leibowitz</i>
<i>BRIGHT STAR</i>	Spirit/Ensemble	Otterbein University/ <i>David Caldwell</i>
<i>SUNDAY ON THE ROCKS*</i>	Jen	Otterbein University/ <i>Michelle Silva</i>
<i>THE STARTER</i>	Sophie	Otterbein University/ <i>Melissa Lusher</i>

Training and Education

Otterbein University: BFA Acting with a Dance Minor

<u>Dance (Jazz, Tap, Modern, Ballet):</u>	Stella Hiatt Kane, Anna Elliott, Christeen Stridsberg, Emily Glinski, Scott Brown
<u>Acting:</u>	Lenny Leibowitz, Melissa Lusher, Mark Mineart, Bradford Sadler
<u>Private Voice:</u>	Dr. Keyona Willis, Robert Bux, Eric Sand
<u>Movement/Vocal Production:</u>	Melinda Murphy
<u>Speech/Dialects (Skinner IPA):</u>	Melissa Lusher

Special Skills

Dialects: RP, Dance Captain Experience, Stage Combat (Rapier, Hand to Hand), Basic Piano & Guitar, Songwriting, Childcare Experience, Certified Makeup Artist (Online Makeup Academy), Choreography Resume Available Upon Request

*Denotes Student Directed Work



Quincy Shaindlin

Quincy Shaindlin

He/Him/His - (650) 670-5838 - quincyshaindlin@gmail.com

Height: 6' 2" • Hair: Blond • Eyes: Blue • Vocal Range: Baritone • Fully Vaccinated

REGIONAL THEATRE

CAPA / Short North Stage

A Christmas Carol

Young Jacob Marley
/ Ensemble

Dir. Edward Carignan

Los Altos Stage Company

Admissions

Charlie Mason

Gary Landis

San Jose Stage Company

Bonnie and Clyde

Young Clyde

Michael Navarra

EDUCATIONAL THEATRE

Otterbein University

Everybody

Kinship/A/Mind/Evil

Melissa Lusher

Our Town

Charles Webb

Lenny Leibowitz

The Heidi Chronicles

Peter Patrone

Eleni Papaleonardos

The Pajama Game

Hasler (*Sid U/S*)

Lenny Leibowitz

*Next To Normal**

Dan Goodman

Cassie Perlatti

*Time Stands Still**

Richard Ehrlich

Grace Guichard

TRAINING

Otterbein University - BFA Acting

Acting: *Melissa Lusher, Mark Mineart, Lenny Leibowitz*

Movement/Vocal Production: (Alexander, Feldenkrais, Fitzmaurice) *Melinda Murphy*

Speech/Dialects (Skinner IPA): *Melissa Lusher*

Stage Combat: *Mark Mineart*

Private Voice: *Robert Bux, Eric Sand*

Dance: (Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Modern) *Anna Elliot, Emily Glinski, Scott Brown, Kelly Black*

Mpulse - University of Michigan

Instructors: Brent Wagner, Vince Cardinal, Mark Madama, Erika Henningsen, Rachel Hoffman, Mary Michael Patterson, Halli Toland

American Conservatory Theater (A.C.T.)

Instructors: Craig Slight, Jill MacLean, Krista Wigle

SPECIAL SKILLS

Dialects: (German, RP, Cockney, Russian), Stage Combat (rapier, hand-to-hand), Ukulele, Basic Piano, Improv, Juggling, Licensed Driver, Dual Citizen (Canada, U.S.)

*Student Directed Work



Shelby Zimmerman



Shelby Zimmerman

EMC - Height: 5'1 - Mix/Belter w/Legit Soprano (G3-F6)
ShelbyLZimmerman@gmail.com (813) 407-1915

Professional Theatre

Rock of Ages	Sherrie	Short North Stage/ Dir. Edward Carignan
The Wild Party	Mae (Kate U/S)	Short North Stage/ Dir. Dionysia Williams
Xanadu	Kira	Cortland Repertory Theatre/ Dir. Brian Knowlton
Pirate Schmirate TYA	Lady Mary	Cortland Repertory Theatre/ Dir. Bill Coughlin

Educational Theatre

Cabaret	Sally Bowles	Otterbein University/ Dir. Lenny Leibowitz
A Little Night Music	Petra	Otterbein University/ Dir. Melissa Lusher
Falsettos	Cordelia	Otterbein University/ Dir. Lenny Leibowitz
Something Rotten!	Portia U/S, Ensemble	Otterbein University/ Dir. Mark Mineart
Gentleman's Guide...	Ms. Barley, Ensemble	Otterbein University/ Dir. Thom Christopher Warren

Workshops

Ferdinand the Musical	Isabella	AEA 29 Hour/Dir. Jordan Goodsell
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Training

BFA in Musical Theatre: Otterbein University

American Ballet Theatre Level 3a Certified

Private Voice: Katy Decker, Robert Bux

Dance: (Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Musical Theatre: 11 years, Tap: 4 years) Stella Hiatt Kane, Anna Elliott, Christeen Stridsberg, Scott Brown, Kelly Black, Emily Gilinski

Acting: Thom Christopher Warren, Lenny Leibowitz, Mark Mineart, Melissa Lusher

Vocal Production and Movement: (Feldenkrais, Alexander, Fitzmaurice): Melinda Murphy

Speech and Dialects (Skinner IPA): Melissa Lusher

Michael Cassara Casting Internship

Special Skills

Side Aerial, Front/Back Walkovers, Dialects (RP, Russian, Southern, Estuary, Australian), Stage Combat (Rapier, Dagger, Unarmed), Fight Captain, Roller Skating/Blading

About **Otterbein University**

Otterbein University is located in Westerville, Ohio, a suburb of Columbus. Performance graduates of the Department of Theatre and Dance receive BFA degrees in Acting, Musical Theatre or Musical Theatre with an integrated Dance minor. Over the years, Performance majors have served in professional internships in New York City and other major markets, working for Binder Casting, Lincoln Center Theatre, Stephanie Klapper Casting, RPM Talent, Michael Cassara Casting, Wojcik Casting Team, Smith Talent Group, Casting by Arc, DGRW, Henderson Hogan Agency, The Telsey Office, Sordalet Inc., Pantera/Murphy Talent, Tectonic Theatre Project, Broadway Plus, Broadway Vocal Coach, Roundabout Theatre, Vineyard Theatre, Abingdon Theatre, New Perspectives Theatre Company, Circle of Confusion, One Year Lease, Stages Theatre, The Growing Studio, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, The Press Room, among others.

Otterbein University Department of **Theatre and Dance Performance Faculty**

T.J. Gerckens - Theatre and Dance Department Chair
Lori Kay Harvey - Musical Theatre (Music Faculty)
Stella Hiatt Kane - Dance/Musical Theatre
Lenny Leibowitz - Acting/Musical Theatre
Melissa Lusher - Acting/Speech and Dialects
Mark Mineart - Acting/Acting with the Camera/Stage Combat
Melinda Murphy - Movement/Vocal Production



OTTERBEIN
UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE