

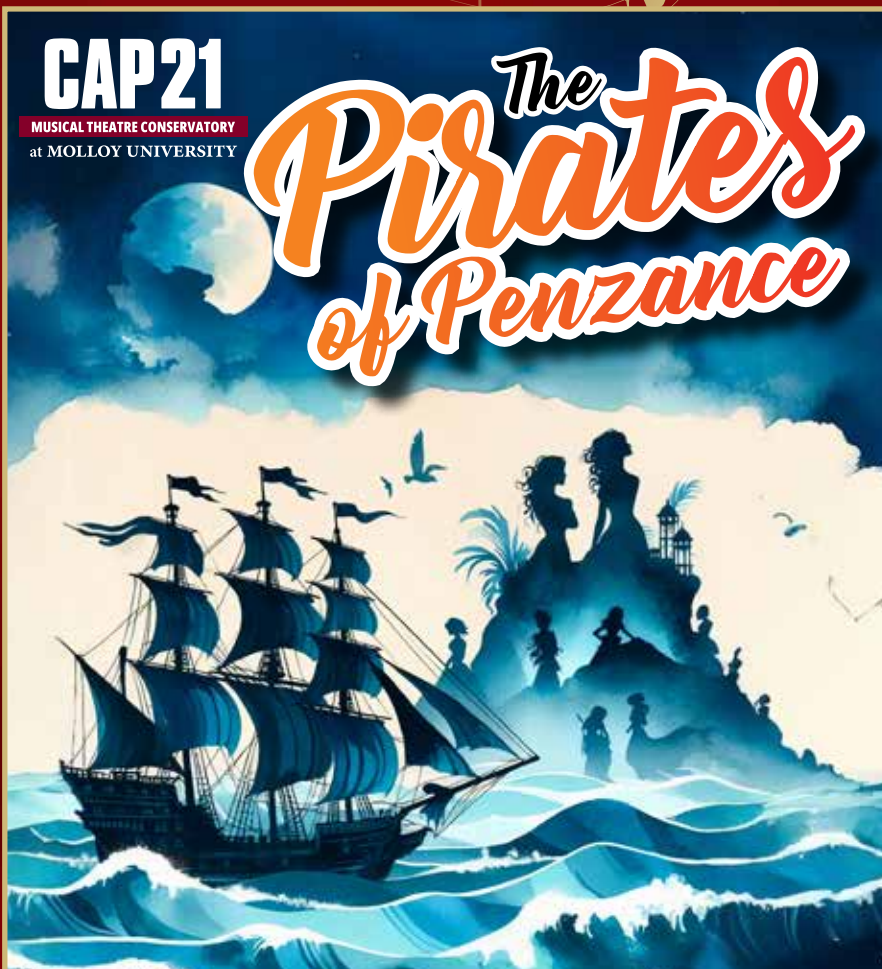
# The Madison Theatre

at MOLLOY UNIVERSITY

**CAP21**

MUSICAL THEATRE CONSERVATORY  
at MOLLOY UNIVERSITY

# The Pirates of Penzance



516.323.4444  
MADISONTHEATRE.NY.ORG

**optimum.**

# ABOUT

A New Version of  
GILBERT and SULLIVAN'S

# *The Pirates of Penzance*

Book and Lyrics by  
Sir William Schwenck Gilbert

Music by  
Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan

As Presented on Broadway by New York Shakespeare Festival,  
Joseph Papp, Producer  
Directed by Wilford Leach  
Musical Adaptation by William Elliot  
Choreography by Graciela Daniele

**PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:**

Friday, February 21st 8pm  
Saturday, February 22nd 2pm & 8pm  
Sunday, February 23rd 3pm

**CREATIVE TEAM:**

Director .....Melissa Firlit  
Assistant Director ..... Hannah Lehrer  
Choreographer.....Kristyn Pope  
Music Director .....Sara Linger  
Fight Director..... Shannon Michael Wamser  
Dialect Coach..... Hayley Jannielli  
Scenic Designer..... Emmett Grosland  
Costume Designer ..... Kim Griffin  
Lighting Designer ..... Brian H Scott  
Sound Designer ..... Jabbath Roa  
Props Designer ..... Megan Cohen  
Production Stage Manager..... Margaret Fortuna Yassky  
Technical Director .....Eli Reid  
Assistant Stage Manager .....Molly Conklin  
Production Manager .....Allyson Namishia

**The Pirates of Penzance**

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).  
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

**ANY VIDEO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**



# BIOS

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Pirate King .....	Elijah Martinez
Samuel .....	Jaylin Thomas
Frederic .....	Jackson Flaherty
Mabel .....	Piper Laird
Ruth .....	Nicole Kolitsas
Major Modern General .....	Austin Downey
Sister Edith/Police Sergeant Understudy .....	Katharine Yeargin
Sister Kate .....	Nina Sadowski Smith
Sister Isabel .....	Emma Kimberley
Maiden/Police Sergeant/Ruth Understudy .....	Ella Caraway
Maiden/Police Sergeant .....	Jameson White
Pirate/Pirate King Understudy .....	William Aamold
Pirate/Samuel Understudy .....	Zach Bartlett
Pirate/ Modern Major General Understudy .....	Ryan Kimbark
Pirate .....	Finn Rutis
Pirate/Police .....	Miranda Slater
Pirate/Frederic Understudy .....	Liam Mitro-Specht
Maiden/Police/Mabel Understudy .....	Katie Blackwell
Maiden/Police .....	Callie Colvard
Maiden/Sister Isabel Understudy .....	Cate Irvine
Maiden .....	Alyssa "AJ" Jones
Maiden/Police/Sister Kate Understudy .....	Grace Lott
Maiden/Police .....	Maizy Post
Maiden/Police/Sister Edith Understudy/Dance Captain .....	Katie Seifer
Maiden .....	Ally Short

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## CAST BIOS

**Elijah Martinez** (Pirate King) is a CAP21 senior and is excited to perform this classic for you! He wants to thank his best friends and family for constantly supporting him in his endeavors and helping him to believe that if there is a will, there is a way! @elijahxmartinez [elijahmartinez.net](http://elijahmartinez.net)

**Jaylin Thomas** (Samuel) (He/Him) is so eternally grateful to be a part of this show! And cannot wait to have his hurrah with his CAP family one last time. He would like to thank his family, friends and mom for their support. Some of his credits include; CAP21 Conservatory: *Cry-Baby* (Dupree), Cultural Arts Playhouse: *A Chorus Line* (Richie), CAP21 Conservatory: *Spring Awakening* (Ernst) and *A Veteran's Day Celebration*: Carnegie Hall.

**Jackson Flaherty** (Frederic) (he/him) is wick-ed excited to be in Pirates! Favorite Credits

include Moritz (*Spring Awakening*) and Telly (*Godspell*). Many thanks to the team, family, and friends for their support! Special thanks to the Class of 25 for an incredible 4 years! @jacksonflahertyy

**Piper Laird** (Mabel) is a current senior at CAP 21 and is so thrilled to be a part of this production! She has recently been seen at the Madison in *Godspell* (Swing), *Cry Baby* (Ensemble), and *Give Our Regards to Broadway* Concert. She is incredibly grateful for this team, and for all of her friends she's gotten the privilege to work with during her time at CAP. Enjoy!

**Nicole Kolitsas** (Ruth) (she/her) is thrilled to be in *The Pirates of Penzance*! Last seen in *Godspell* (Celisse), *Spring Awakening* (Wendla) and *Crybaby*. Love to the Class of '25 who've made the past 4 years the best of her life! Thank you Melissa, Kristyn, Sara, Margaret, Hannah, Ally, & the popsicles! @nicole\_kolitsas

# BIOS

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**Austin Downey** (Modern Major General) This is Austin's Junior Year at CAP21, and he is beyond excited for this opportunity and the show you're about to see. He wants to thank his friends and family for their endless support, and he hopes you enjoy the show!

**Katharine Yeargin** (Sister Edith/Police Sergeant Understudy) is beholden to everyone involved in creating this beautiful, hilarious production. Previous credits at The Madison Theatre include Turn Back, O Man in *Godspell*, and Mrs. Vernon-Williams in *Cry-Baby: The Musical*. She would like to thank her friends and family for their unyielding love and support.

**Nina Sadowski Smith** (Sister Kate) (she/her): Originally from Phoenix, AZ, Nina is a current senior in Molloy's CAP21 program! Favorite credits: *Cry-Baby* (U/S Allison), *Lost In The Stars*-NY Theatre Festival (Betty), *Spring Awakening*-CAP21 (Swing). Many thanks to the creative team, love to the cast and crew! @ninasadowskismith

**Emma Kimberley** (Sister Isabel) is delighted to be a part of this epic production of Pirates of Penzance. She is a Senior here at Molloy/CAP21 and will receive her BFA in May 2025. Emma is also a singer-songwriter and is currently working on her debut single release; more at emmakimberley.com

**Ella Caraway** (Police Sergeant/Maiden) is so happy to be a part of Pirates of Penzance in her final semester at CAP21. Her previous credits include *CryBaby*, the *Christmas Spectacular* and choreographer of *Godspell*. She is so grateful to her faculty, classmates and family for her time at CAP21 Insta: @ella.bell

**Jameson White** (Police Sergeant/Maiden) is thrilled to return to the CAP 21 stage at the Madison Theatre. She would like to thank her family, friends, colleagues, everyone at the

Madison, and the creative team for their support. Tarantaraaaaa! @jameson.white

**William Aamold** (Pirate/Pirate King Understudy) is thrilled to join in on the mainstages and return to the world of Pirates of Penzance for the first time since he was 13! Stage: Soldier (*The Rosetta Project in Concert*), Hans (*Frozen the Musical*). He wants to thank his parents for supporting his dreams!

**Zach Bartlett** (Pirate/Samuel Understudy) (he/him) Originally from The Colony, Texas Zach is a junior in the CAP21 he is so excited to work on this amazing show. Zach would like to thank his family and friends for all of their support. ARGH!!!

**Ryan Kimbark** (Pirate/Modern Major General Understudy) is beyond excited to sail the seas in The Pirates of Penzance with this incredible crew! Ryan is a current Junior at CAP21. Huge thanks to the faculty at CAP who always push and encourage him, his family, friends, and everyone who has supported him throughout the years. Argh.

**Finn Rutis** (Pirate) is ecstatic to make their Madison Theatre debut! Originally from Portland, OR; Finn studied at Bridgetown Conservatory before moving to their new home in New York. Favorite shows they've been in include *In Pieces*, *Theory of Relativity*, and *Tuck Everlasting*. In addition to acting, Finn loves coding, Linux, and driving a stick shift.

**Miranda Slater** (Pirate) (she/they) is so excited to be making their Cap21 Mainstage debut as a pirate! Originally from Bellingham, Washington and is a current Junior. She is so grateful to work with this joyous team and her loyal mates! They hope this show really hooks you!

**Liam Mitro-Specht** (Pirate/Frederic Understudy) is a Junior at Cap21 and is so excited

# BIOS

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to be making his MainStage debut! Thanks to his fellow Pirates, Melissa, and the rest of the creative team for an incredible voyage! @liammhps

**Katie Blackwell** (Maiden/Police/Mabel Understudy) is a senior at Molloy Cap 21. She was recently seen at the Madison Theatre as "Jesus" in *Godspell*, "Allison" in *Cry-Baby*, and in the *Give Our Regards to Broadway Concert*. She would like to thank her family, (specifically parents and Popop) friends, cast, and production team for their support. You can check out her music on Spotify and Apple Music!

**Callie Colvard** (Maiden/Police) is thrilled to be returning to the Madison Theater! Some recent credits include: *Oh, What a Night!* At Theatre Raleigh (dir. Lauren Kennedy), *The Bridges of Madison County* (Carolyn) (dir. Lauren Kennedy), and multiple roles in the Madisons' *Christmas Show*. She would like to thank her family, and the entire cast/crew.

**Cate Irvine** (Maiden/Sister Isabel Understudy) is so excited to be making her Madison Theatre debut in *The Pirates of Penzance*. She is a current junior at CAP21, most recently seen in CAP21's song and dance project. She would like to thank her cast mates, the creative team, her roommates, friends and family.

**Alyssa "AJ" Jones** (Maiden) is a junior at CAP21. She is excited to make her debut at The Madison Theater, performing alongside such talented collaborators and friends. Alyssa would like to express her gratitude to the creative team for their guidance and support, and to her family for their unwavering love and encouragement.

**Grace Lott** (Maiden/Police/Sister Kate Understudy) (She/her) is currently a Junior at CAP21 and is delighted to be making her mainstage

debut in *The Pirates of Penzance!* She is so excited to share this hilarious operetta by Gilbert and Sullivan, and shows great gratitude towards this lovely team of cast and crew led by Melissa Firlit.

**Maizy Post** (Police/Maiden) (she/her) is excited to be a part of her first mainstage production at Cap21! Recent credits include *Spring Awakening* (Wendla) and *Ride the Cyclone* (Constance) at Sol Summer Theatre. She is very grateful for this wonderful experience.

**Katie Seifer** (Maiden/Police/Dance Captain) (she/they) is a CAP21 senior and beyond excited to set sail with this incredible company! At the Madison, Katie was most recently seen in the Christmas Celebration, *Cry-Baby* (Mona "Hatchet-Face"), *Give Our Regards to Broadway*, and *Sweet Charity* (Betsy/Ensemble). Sending love to my family, friends, professors, and everyone who took part in this production! @katiehseifer

**Ally Short** (Maiden) (she/her) is feeling so excited to set sail with the company of *The Pirates of Penzance!* Born and raised on Long Island, she a junior at Molloy University/CAP21 obtaining her BFA, and she loves spongebob and dogs. Some of her past credits include: *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel), and *Peter Pan* (Wendy). She'd like to give a huge thanks and dedicate this performance to her supportive friends and family, and to her PopPop, who she'd not be here without.

## CREATIVE TEAM BIOS:

**Melissa Firlit** (Director) is a visionary theatre director and the Artistic Director of Resolve Productions. At CAP21/Molloy University, she has directed *Anything Goes*, *Cabaret*, *9 to 5*, and *An Axemas Story*. Her work has been seen nationally and internationally, with credits such

as the *Misterman* Ireland tour, *Marrow* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Lonely Planet*, *A Few Good Men*, *Dracula*, *Men on Boats*, *Proof*, and *Red*. A passionate advocate for new work, Melissa holds an MFA in Directing from Rutgers University, is a member of SDC, and serves on the faculty at CAP21/Molloy University. For more, visit [www.melissafirlit.com](http://www.melissafirlit.com)

**Sara Linger** (Music Director) is an NYC based musical director, pianist, and singer. Recent credits: *An Axe-mas Story*; *Urinetown*; *Bloom*, *A New Musical*; *Audrey*, *A New Musical*; *Pippin*; *Rent*. Linger frequently collaborates on new work with organizations like SheArts Festival, 24 Hour Musicals, and Moxie Arts NY.

**Kristyn Pope** (Choreographer) is grateful for this creative space. Much gratitude to Melissa, Sara, Margaret, Ally, Hannah, Chris and *Pirates* family for this adventure and opportunity. "You have to take risks...We will only understand the miracle of life fully when we allow the unexpected to happen." ~Paulo Coelho. In loving memory of her mom, now and always. AgapePs100.

**Em Grosland** (scenic designer) is an artist, an actor, a maker, and an advocate for trans joy. They currently design for Mile Square Theater, The Peddie School, Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre, The New School of Drama, Molloy University and others. As an actor, they have worked at Steppenwolf, Berkeley Rep, Tuacahn, The Signature, and many others. Em received their BFA from Washington University in St. Louis. [www.EmGrosland.com](http://www.EmGrosland.com) @EmGrosland

**Kim Griffin** (Costume Designer) has designed, stitched and run wardrobe for Broadway, regional theatres, national tours, and academic plays, musicals, and operas. She has also stitched for events such as The Met Gala, The Golden Globes, and New York Fashion Week.

Website: [www.kimgriffin.net](http://www.kimgriffin.net) & Instagram: @kimgriffincostumes

**Brian H Scott** (Lighting Designer) is a Lighting Designer based in New York City, recently designed *The Handmaids Tale* with Anne Bogart and Boston Lyric Opera, *'the theatre is a blank page'* with SITI Company and Ann Hamilton and *Lost In The Stars* for LA Chamber Orchestra, *Falling and Loving* with Elizabeth Streb and SITI Company as well as a number of projects with Kronos Quartet. He created lighting for *Tears become...Streams become*, *Bound to Hurt* and *Neck of the Woods* with artist Douglas Gordon. With Ann Hamilton *habitus*, *The Event Of A Thread*. He designed lighting for Laurie Anderson and Kronos Quartet's *Landfall*. As a SITI Company member he designed lighting for *Chess Match No.5*, *Steel Hammer* with Bang on a Can All Stars, *American Document* with Martha Graham Dancers, *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *The Bacchae*, *Trojan Women*, and many others.

**Jabbath Roa** (Sound Designer) is a sound designer and music producer. Graduated as Music Composer specializing in electroacoustics. Mentored by Morton Subotnick he toured sharing stages with Philip Glass, Laurie Anderson Ministry among many of his heroes. Roa creates cinematic soundscapes and sonic experiences for audiences, both studio and live. => [jabbath.com](http://jabbath.com)

**Megan Cohen** (Props Designer) thrilled to be designing props for Molloy University. Other Molloy prop credits include: *As You Like It*, *Anything Goes*, *Carrie* and *Cry Baby*. Current prop work is featured at the John W. Engeman Theater. Thanks to all family and friends for the support. Follow at [meganmcqueeney.com](http://meganmcqueeney.com)

**Shannon Michael Wamser** (Fight Director) Molloy highlights: *Cry Baby*, *As You Like It*, *Gal-*

*axy Quest*. Professional highlights: *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Theatre Raleigh), *Of Mice and Men*, *Othello* (Playhouse on Park), *Romeo & Juliet* (Laguna Playhouse). He is an Advanced Actor Combatant and Associate Instructor with Dueling Arts International.

**Haylee Jannielli** (Dialect Coach) Haylee Jannielli (she/they) is an actor, creator, educator, the Head of Voice & Speech for CAP21. A San Diego native, Haylee earned their M.F.A. in Acting from the University of California Irvine where she studied directly with Phil Thompson of Knight-Thompson Speechwork. She is a designated Linklater Voice Teacher with an extensive improvisation background, training at Improv Olympic (iO) Chicago with Joe Bill and Tara DeFrancisco. Haylee most recently served as vocal coach on the award-winning solo play *A Knock on the Roof* at New York Theatre Workshop. Stage credits: *Swing and Dance Captain* on the National Tour of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Lady Macbeth in Drunk Shakespeare Off-Broadway*, *Tanya in Mamma Mia!* (Mill Mountain Theatre) and *Big Alison in Fun Home* (Mill Mountain Theatre). Follow @MoveoVoice. [www.MoveoVoice.com](http://www.MoveoVoice.com)

**Margaret Fortuna Yassky** (Production Stage Manager) is a stage manager and writer born and bred in Brooklyn, NY. She received a BA in Drama from Bennington College in 2020. Credits include: *Cry Baby* (Molloy University/CAP 21), *Anything Goes* (Molloy University/CAP 21), *The Jerusalem Syndrome* (The York Theatre Company), *Fuente Ovejuna* (TFANA). Website: [www.margaretfortunayassky.com](http://www.margaretfortunayassky.com)

**Hannah Lehrer** (Assistant Director) is a 2024 graduate of the Cap21 program and is thrilled to be assistant directing on her first show with the University and her third show at the Madison Theatre. Many thanks to Melissa, Kristyn, Sara, and Margaret for helping her creative eye

and letting her sit at the "adult table" with this very special process. Time to set Sail!

**Molly Conklin** (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to be a part of the Malloy/Cap21 team this year! Hailing from Brooklyn, Molly has worked extensively in regional productions, workshops, readings and children's theatre across the east coast. Favorite credits include: *Barn on Fire* (SYC/NYTB), *King of Pangea* (ASM, NYC Development Workshop), *Into the Breaches* (ASM, Gulfshore Playhouse), *Winter Wonderettes* (ASM, Gulfshore Playhouse), *The Sound of Music* (PSM, Engeman Theatre), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (ASM, Engeman Theatre), *Gateway's Haunted Playhouse* (PSM, Gateway Playhouse). In addition to her career as a stage manager, she is the Producing Assistant for Straighten Your Crown Productions.

# HEADSHOTS

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**Elijah Martinez**



**Jaylin Thomas**



**Jackson Flaherty**



**Piper Laird**



**Nicole Kolitsas**



**Austin Downey**



**Katharine  
Yeargin**



**Nina Sadowski  
Smith**



**Emma Kimberley**



**Ella Caraway**



**Jameson White**



**William Aamold**



**Zach Bartlett**



**Ryan Kimbark**



**Finn Rutis**



**Miranda Slater**



**Liam  
Mitro-Specht**



**Katie Blackwell**



**Callie Colvard**



**Cate Irvine**



**Alyssa "AJ" Jones**



**Grace Lott**



**Maizy Post**



**Katie Seifer**



**Ally Short**

# STAFF

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## **Musicians:**

Conductor/Keys 1 -Sara Linger  
Keys 2-Alex Arlotta  
Bass 1/Guitar- Michael Herlihy  
Bass 2- Luca Antinori  
Flute/Piccolo- Mark Carr  
Flute/Piccolo-Karen Pace  
Clarinet-Jessica Castaneda  
Bassoon/Flute- Cindy Lauda  
Clarinet/Bass Clarinet/Alto Sax-Jessie Englander  
Trumpet- Charles Clausen  
Trombone- Josh Mirman  
Percussion- Benjamin Verella  
Percussion- Angelo Antinori

## **SPECIAL THANKS:**

The New School

## MOLLOY UNIVERSITY THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT

### *Faculty and Staff:*

Chris O'Connor, Department Chair, Artistic Director, Acting  
Hayley Jannielli, Auxiliary Faculty, Head of Voice & Speech  
Michelle Beck, Auxiliary Faculty, Acting  
Helen Farmer, Head of Acting, Assistant Professor, Acting In Shakespeare, Acting Technique  
Melissa Firlit, Devised Theatre Project, Directing, Mainstage  
Kristyn Pope, Head of Dance, Theatre Dance, Jazz, Tap Audition  
Shannon Michael Wamser, Professor of Practice, Movement  
Christine Carbone, Administrative Assistant  
Louis Capone, Production Manager, Hays Theatre

### *Performing Arts Instructors:*

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DANCE: Kristyn Pope (Head of Dance), James Bulleri, Nicole Fox Davis, Marilyn D'Honau, Eureka Nakano Grimes, Darren Lee, Lori Leshner, Brianna Mercado, John Scacchetti, Monique Smith.

VOICE & MUSIC: Chris Citera (Head of Voice), Elliott Archer, Stephanie Bacastow, Allison Barilla, Daniel Corica, Michelle Cosentino,

Steven Cuevas, Anthony De Angelis, Natalie Fabian, Alexa Green, Emily Hudson, Julia Kershetsky, Michael Liepper, Amy Linden-Peters, Zach Miller, Jeff Ostermueller.

SPEAKING VOICE: Dianna Cortez, Peter Marciano.

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## ABOUT THE MOLLOY/CAP21 THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM

The primary goal of the Theatre Arts BFA is to offer students the highest level of practical and academic preparation in order to successfully enter and compete in the professional theatre. The courses in this program are taught between our two locations: The Molloy University Main Campus and our Manhattan Center. Students enrolled in the BFA Program engage in a rigorous and challenging course of study that involves both academic coursework and intensive conservatory training. The academic component of this training is taught at the Rockville Center Campus and includes general education courses as well as some Conservatory Courses, while the Molloy/CAP21 Studio courses focus exclusively on the practical application of musical theatre performance techniques. The training in acting, both singing and speaking voice, dance, movement, script analysis, and music (theory, keyboard, ear training) supports students in the development and refinement of their theatre arts skills

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF - MOLLOY/CAP21 MANHATTAN CENTER

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Nafeeza K. Uddin Schmidt – Conservatory Coordinator  
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Thank you for attending! Please join us for our upcoming productions.  
For more information please visit: <https://www.molloy.edu/academics/schools/arts-sciences/undergraduate/theatre-arts/>

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Thank you to all of our volunteers!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS FOR THE 2023 CALENDAR YEAR! THE MADISON THEATRE GREATLY APPRECIATES ALL THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO US BY OUR PATRONS.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

*This list is current as of February 18, 2025. We regret any omissions or errors. Please contact Matthew Gibbons at [mgibbons1@mollo.edu](mailto:mgibbons1@mollo.edu) to make a correction to this list.*

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# The Madison Theatre

at MOLLOY UNIVERSITY



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**optimum.**

*The Madison  
Theatre*  
at MOLLOY UNIVERSITY



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