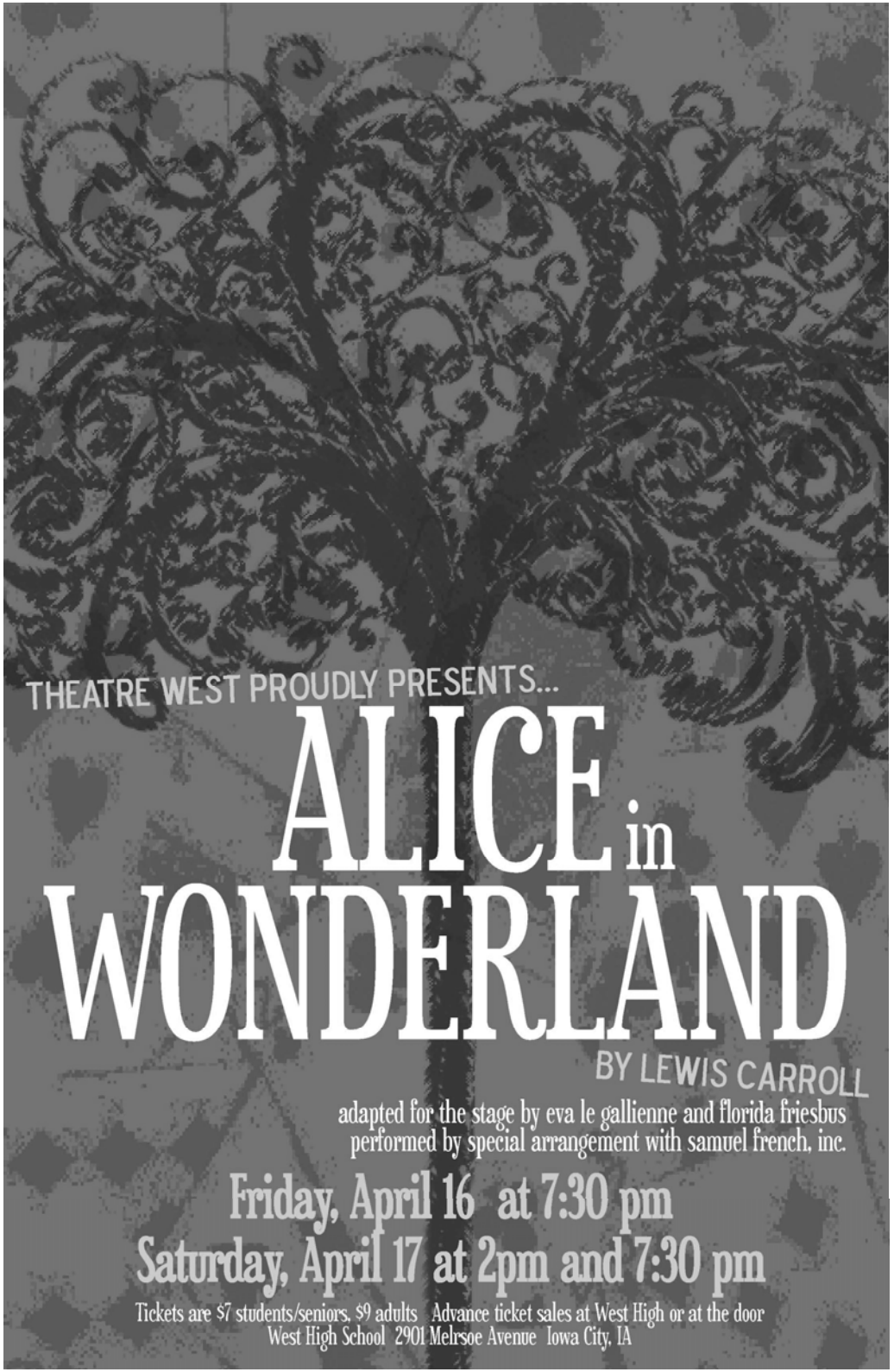
THEATRE WEST PROUDLY PRESENTS...
ALICE in WONDERLAND
BY LEWIS CARROLL
adapted for the stage by eva le gallienne and florida friesbus
performed by special arrangement with samuel french, inc.
Friday, April 16 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, April 17 at 2pm and 7:30 pm
Tickets are $7 students/seniors, $9 adults Advance ticket sales at West High or at the door
West High School 2901 Melrsoe Avenue Iowa City, IA

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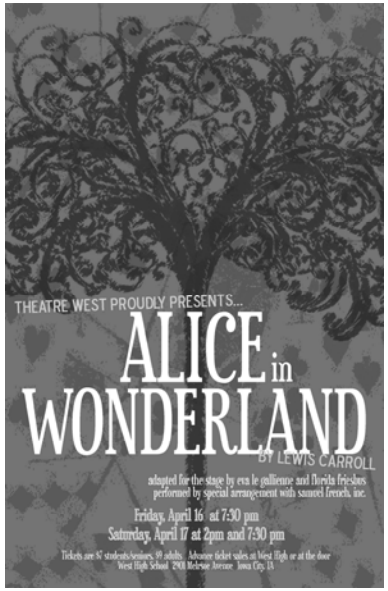
The Art of Alice

The art work for the program cover and posters for this production was designed by Kerri Sorrell, a West High senior. Her design was picked from almost twenty other submissions from Christian Aanestad's Adobe Illustrator class. A very special thanks to Kerri for sharing her artistic talents and for all of her hard work!



The pictures found throughout this program are John Tenniel's original illustrations from the first edition of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass*, which was published in 1865.

Production Staff

Director.....Havilah Meinel

Stage Manager..... Nicky Beaurivage

Technical Director ..... Jeff Smith

Head of Set .....Anna Kann

Lighting Crew Chief .....Caleb Clark

Sound Crew Chief .....Cory Reid

Props Crew Chief.....Tori Dennis

Makeup Crew Chief.....Ravyn Eilderts

Production Manager .....Ann Rocarek

Production Assistant .....Ashley Pettit

Production Assistant .....Kirah Heffner

Production Assistant .....Erin Swartzendruber

Costume Designer.....Bonnie Moses

Costume Head.....Abi Leveille

Costume Head.....Maia Swanson

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT ONE

Scene One- Alice at Home
Scene Two- Alice and the Caterpillar
Scene Three- Alice and the Cheshire Cat
Scene Four- Alice and the Mad Tea Party
Scene Five- Alice in the Garden
Scene Six- Alice and the Mock Turtle
Scene Seven- The Trial

ACT TWO

Scene One- Alice and the Red Queen
Scene Two- Tweedledum and Tweedledee
Scene Three- Alice and the White Queen
Scene Four- Alice and Humpty Dumpty
Scene Five—Alice and The White Knight
Scene Six- The Three Queens
Scene Seven- The Banquet

From the Director

"It doesn't have to make sense, it's *Alice in Wonderland*." "Want a biscuit?" "Off with their heads!" It was one-liners like these that made for incredibly fun rehearsals, as we tried to untangle the web that is *Alice in Wonderland*. To complicate matters even more, this script, produced in cooperation with Samuel French, is a mixture of Lewis Carroll's novel *Alice in Wonderland* and the sequel *Through the Looking Glass*. Because of the chaotic nature of the story, several people have asked me if there is any theme or thread that runs through this notorious children's story. To those people I simply reply: it depends. Working on this script was a lot like trying to understand a dream. Sometimes they are very lucid and have a direct connection with daily reality, and sometimes they are so random one can't make sense of it, "even if you tried with both hands". While watching this play, you will most likely have moments that make perfect sense, moments that don't make sense but make you laugh, and moments that you miss completely.

Our unique design inspiration came from hours of discussion and sharing ideas. Do we make this production like the iconic Disney version? Or Tim Burton's nightmarish adaptation? In the end, we made the Wonderland of this production very similar to the etchings concept of the original Carroll novels. Several of these etchings are within our program for your reference (those shaded with black and white cross-hatching). While it was a challenge to recreate this on stage, we thought it gave the play a true "storybook" feel, and a sharp contrast to the real world, (not to mention a lovely contrast to our colorful costumes!).

Much of *Alice in Wonderland* is about one's interpretation of logic, life, and growing up. Those are pretty hefty topics for any of us to grapple with, let alone a lost 10 year old. However, Alice does the best she can with what she is given; by the end she finds personal confidence and begins to enjoy and understand this dreamlike world. We hope you understand and enjoy Wonderland as well.

Enjoy the show!

--Havilah Meinel

A Special Thanks To:

Christian Aanestad, Molly Abraham, Mary Anderson, Jerry Arganbright, Beth Belding, Lisa Bream, Sophi Brenneman, Nancy Brooks, Becky Dagle, Val Donohoe, Gabe Gerken, Andrea Harms, Doug Herman, Joey Haug, Ritu Jain, Doug Lestina, Mary Margolin, Teresa Marshall, Jeremy Meier, Jeff Moses, Lisa Mysnyk, Mike O'Connor, Ginny Ordman, Troy Peters, Rachel Robbins, Sarah Runkel, Beckie Smalley, Terry Wahls, Marcy Wardenburg, Patty Weihe, Carlie Willett

Special Thanks to West High's Art Club for all of their help with the set!

Ansel Landini, Lauren Logsdon, Andrea Mason, Sofia Meredith, Ashley Moeller, and Katelyn Simpson

Character List

Alice—Mary Mysnyk and Elizabeth Shirazi

Caterpillar—Zebby Wahls

Cheshire Cat—Hahn Lee/ Grant Linden

Dormouse—Rachel Anderson

Duchess—Elizabeth Dagle

Eight of Hearts—Hanky Song

Five of Clubs—Nick Pearce

Five of Spades/Mutton—Logan Natvig

Four of Hearts—Eleanor Marshall

Gryphon—Javier Miranda-Bartlett

Humpty Dumpty—Evan McCarthy

King of Hearts—Luke Brooks

Knave of Hearts—Grant Linden

Mad Hatter—Nick Gerken

March Hare—Justin Gorgone

Mock Turtle—Ray Ockenfels

Nine of Clubs—Andrew Altmeier

Nine of Spades/Pudding—Aurora Green

One of Clubs—Jonah Pouleson

Queen of Hearts—Abi Leveille

Red Queen—Libby Logsden

Seven of Spades—Natalie Kaspar

Six of Hearts—Julia Geradeli

Tweedledee—Joe Ryken

Tweedledum—Jeff Kemp

Two of Clubs—Graham Bly

Two of Hearts—Sojung Kwon

Two of Spades—Catherine Staib

White Knight—Izaak Sunleaf

White Rabbit—Hannah Clancy

White Queen—Ashleigh Robinson

Parent

GOLD

Elizabeth Dagle— Life is not a dress rehearsal... direct it well! 10 years...20+ shows...countless characters. It's always a pleasure to watch you perform. Break a leg!

Mom, Dad, Daniel

Mary, we love you! Best wishes to you and the entire cast and everyone involved in this wonderful production.

From your family and friends—a very happy un-birthday to you all!

SILVER

Congratulations, Ray. Have fun! We're proud of you.

Mom, Dad, and Brad

Zebby—Break a leg, or rather, not! We love you.

Terry Wahls and Jackie Reger

One Liners

"Dat was a good one. It make me feel so hot!"

"Have a biscuit?"

"Nothing whatever!"

"Run free Kitty!"

"Is it vicious?"

"Alright, so I'm Starksy, you're Hutch, and Jonah's Snoop Dog."

"Find your inner horse."

"How'd he do that?" "Strong thighs."

"It doesn't have to make sense."

Thanks for attending West High's Musical production of *Alice in Wonderland* on April 16 & 17. Bring this coupon into Coralville Texas Roadhouse to receive a **FREE** Appetizer!

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Rachel Anderson—–Remember what the Dormouse's parents said: We love you!

Luke, you have always been the King of our Hearts!

Love, Mom and Dad

Hannah Clancy—We know you will be a great Rabbit—just don't be late!

Grant Linden—We always knew you were a card! We're so proud of you!

Love Mom and Dad

Teresa Kasper

Elizabeth, we are very proud of you!

Dad, Mom, Samantha, Patrick, Anthony

History of *Alice*

The story of *Alice in Wonderland* that everyone knows and loves is actually a combination of two stories: *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There.* The original story of Alice was told to the three daughters of Henry George Liddell, the Dean of Christ Church College. Lewis Carroll, inspired by a rowing trip that he took with the three girls, crafted the story using people, situations and buildings in Oxford and at Christ Church. One of Liddell's daughters was the inspiration for Alice herself. The girls enjoyed the story so much, Carroll wrote it down for them. In 1864, Carroll published the story with illustrations by the famous John Tenniel as *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. The story was such a success Carroll was urged to write the sequel *Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There*.

This play starts with young and imaginative Alice, stuck at home on a snowy school day. While playing a game of chess with her cat, Alice's imagination takes off and she enters Wonderland through a mirror in her living room. Many of the characters you will see tonight will be familiar and others you will be introduced to for the first time. All of the characters help (or hinder) Alice in her search to get home.

Alice in Wonderland's success is no mystery. The story has been translated into over 125 languages and adapted into many forms of entertainment. From a Disney classic to musicals, plays, operas, ballets, and even traditional English pantomimes, there has yet to be a viewer who is not fascinated by the story of *Alice and Wonderland*.

The Poetry of Alice in Wonderland

Alice in Wonderland has been delighting children for over fifty years. But those who read the book when it was first published found in it a delight which the child of today misses. Fifty years ago, certain poems appeared in every child's reader and were read over and over again until children learned them by heart. All the poems in *Alice in Wonderland* are parodies upon these once familiar rhymes. Since the children of today are not familiar with many of these verses, much of the humor of these parodies is lost. But for the children of the past, it would have been quite funny to hear Alice try to recite these poems and have them come out all wrong.
Below are side by side versions of two such poems: on the left is the version from the play while excerpts from the original versions are on the right.

The Bat
Lewis Carroll

Twinkle, twinkle, little bat
How I wonder what you're at!
Up above the world you fly
Like a tea-tray in the sky.

Excerpt from **The Star**
Jane Taylor

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are!
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.

How Doth The Little Crocodile
Lewis Carroll

How doth the little crocodile
Improve his shining tail,
And pour the waters of the Nile
On every golden scale!

How cheerfully he seems to grin,
How neatly spread his claws,
And welcome little fishes in
With gently smiling jaws!

Against Idleness And Mischief
Isaac Watts

How doth the little busy bee
Improve each shining hour,
And gather honey all the day
From every opening flower!

How skillfully she builds her cell!
How neat she spreads the wax!
And labours hard to store it well
With the sweet food she makes.

In works of labour or of skill,
I would be busy too;
For Satan finds some mischief still
For idle hands to do.

In books, or work, or healthy play,
Let my first years be passed
That I may give for every day
Some good account at last.

Information taken from http://www.durrant.co.uk/alice/

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Havilah Meinel- (Director)

To date, Havilah has directed 18 theatrical productions and performed in others across the US. She has been teaching high school theatre for eight years, and absolutely loves her career with young adults. She would like to thank this cast for being so much fun and a bright moment in each day! Special thanks to amazing adult help from Bonnie (costumes), Ann (PR), Jeff (tech), and Carlie (Art Club). Student leaders are essential—so a special thank you to my lifesavers: Anna K, Nicky B, Abi L, Maia S, Corey R, Ricardo R, Tori D, Caleb C, and Rayvn! Lastly, thank you to Troy, Karissa, and my family for all your love and perspective when things get stressful.

Bonnie Moses (Costume Designer)

This is Bonnie's seventh show for Theatre West as Costume Designer & Coordinator, with a repertoire of 18 shows costumed. A background of dance, gymnastics, a whole lot of thinking outside the box and a science career have somehow converged to end up here. She loves working with the high school actors, and thanks her crew for all of their productive hours. Without them, this could not happen!

Ann Rocarek (Production Manager)

This is Ann's second show working with Theatre West. She has enjoyed working on *Alice in Wonderland* and appreciates the hard work of all of the cast and crew. She would especially like to thank her wolf pack for all of their hard work. She would like to remind everyone to reach for the stars because the stars can't reach for you.

Jeff Smith (Technical Director)

Alice in Wonderland is Jeff's fifth main stage production at West. Jeff is a former student of West High and was actively involved in theatre. He has enjoyed the opportunity to work on the show as a staff member. Jeff would like to thank Havilah and the entire drama staff for all their help in putting together the show. He also wants to thank Anna, Nicky and Blake and all the other student crew members for all their hard work and effort.

Cast & Crew Bios

Maddy Abel (Crew)

This is Maddy's first time working on set and she's lovin' it. Her favorite hobbies include kite flying and dollar menunaire-ing. Her favorite food is macaroni and she only drinks out of her professional cup stacking cups.

Andrew Altmaier (Nine of Clubs)

Andrew is a sophomore, and this is his second West High Theatre production. He was in the musical *Grease* this fall, and enjoyed it a lot. He would like to thank his family and friends for their support.

Rachel Anderson (Dormouse)

This is freshman Rachel Anderson's first play and she is very excited. She hopes to do more in the drama field. Some of Rachel's favorite things include Harry Potter and the Dave Matthews Band. Rachel's dream is to own a castle.

Nicky Beaurivage (Stage Manager)

This is Nicky's fourth show with Theatre West and her first as Stage Manager. She loves theatre and is very excited for this show. Nicky would like to thank her mom for putting up with all her crazy schedules.

Graham Bly (Two of Clubs)

This is freshman Graham Bly's first play. On Saturdays, he enjoys playing his ukulele and taking black and white photos with his trusty PENTAX K-1000 35mm Camera. He thanks his momma and his ukulele. He hopes to one day own a Velociraptor farm.

Luke Brooks (King of Hearts)

Luke Brooks has been in two Theatre West plays, *Once upon a Mattress* and *The Importance of Being Ernest*, in addition to two SPIT productions. He has also participated in Speech and Debate this past year.

Megan Chase (Costumes)

This is Megan's second Theatre West production. She would like to thank Maia and Abi for all of their help. She also hopes you all enjoy the show!

Hannah Clancy (White Rabbit)

This is Hannah's first play ever, unless you count the one in second grade. She is super excited about *Alice in Wonderland*. She wants her family and friends to know that she loves them!

Caleb Clark (Lights)

This is Caleb Clark's second production with Theatre West. Caleb, a junior, is also in choir and band. He enjoys lights and long walks on the beach.

Elizabeth Dagle (Duchess)

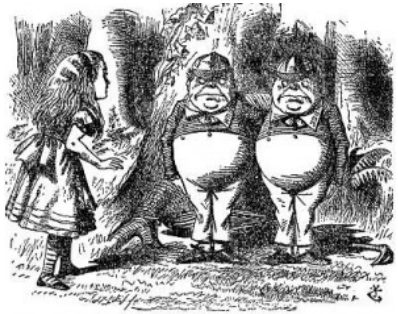
Elizabeth has been active in community theatre since she was six years old, and she is thrilled to make her Theatre West debut. She enjoys being on the *West Side Story* newspaper staff, singing, playing piano, and golfing. She would like to thank everyone for a great show.

Ravyn Eilderts (Makeup)

Ravyn, a sophomore, is the head of make-up for *Alice in Wonderland*. She designed the makeup for many of the characters, including the Mad Hatter, Dormouse, and Humpty Dumpty. She would like to thank Ms. Meinel, her role model, for inspiring her to go into theatre.

Julia Geraldeli (Six of Hearts)

Julia is a freshman and this is her first play. She is super excited and she hopes to be in other plays. Her favorite things include playing soccer, spending time with family and going to her homeland of Brazil.



Nick Gerken (Mad Hatter)

Nick is a sophomore here at West. The Mad Hatter is his third theatre role here, and his feelings about this show include "elated." He'd like to thank you for being here.

Maia Swanson (Costume Crew Chief)

This is Maia's fourth and final West production. She would like to thank her friends, family, and especially Bonnie who makes the show beautiful.

Zebby Wahls (Caterpillar)

This is sophomore Zebby's first Theatre West show. Zebby would like to thank her parents for supporting her and especially her brother, Zach. She also thanks her dog, Zorro. Zebby wrote her own biographical blurb so she can finally refer to herself in the third person without appearing pompous or insane.

David Wheeler (Crew)

David Wheeler is excited for his second show at West. He would like to thank anyone who thinks they deserve it, and to remind everyone of the game.

Terry L. Wahls, M.D., M.B.A.

AUTHOR, LECTURER

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Jonah Pouleson (One of Clubs)

This is Jonah's first Theatre West experience. He is very excited and would like to thank his family for their support.

Cory Reid (Sound Crew Chief)

This is Cory Reid's fourth show with Theatre West.

Ashleigh Robinson (White Queen)

This is Ashleigh's first play, but not her first West High production. She's been involved in the musicals *Once upon a Mattress* and *Grease*. She would like to devote her performance to her gorgeous and talented friend, Libby Logsden.

Joe Ryken (Tweedledee)

Joe's appearance as Tweedledee will be his third and final for Theatre West. In addition to roles such as Kenickie in *Grease* and Kid Who Got Shot in *Les Miserables*, Joe has also appeared in the SPIT production the last four years. Joe would like to thank his family, especially his parents, who have supported him and have come to every single one of his shows the past four years.

Elizabeth Shirazi (Alice)

Elizabeth is a sophomore and is very excited to be Alice in this year's spring play. Other Theatre West productions she has been in include *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Grease*. She has had lots of fun and thanks her parents for loving her even when she was sick and coughed all over them.

Hanky Song (Eight of Hearts)

Hanky is a freshman who believes in unicorns and fairy dust. She would like to thank her family and two best friends, Sojung Kwon and Jordan Wright, for their support.

Catherine Staib (Two of Spades)

Catherine is a freshman and is very excited to be a part of *Alice in Wonderland*. She has been in dance and choir for a while, but this is her first play.

Izaak Sunleaf (White Knight)

Izaak Runkel Sunleaf is a real human being. He is in the play. He thinks it is fun. He likes sushi.

Justin Gorgone (March Hare)

Justin Gorgone is thrilled to be in this Theatre West production! His activities include choir, show choir and band. Other credits include *RENT: School Edition*, *Footloose*, and SPIT.

Aurora Green (Nine of Spades/Pudding)

Aurora enjoys all things artistic and dramatic. She would like to thank her parents and friends for supporting her.

Michael Greve (Crew)

This is Michael's second show with Theatre West and his fourth doing set work. He would like to thank Blake.

Ben Hartman (Crew)

This is Ben's second show. He is a beast and works semi-hard.

Anna Kann (Head of Set)

This is Anna's ninth and final production at West. She is looking forward to continuing with Technical Theater in college. Finally, she would like to thank everyone who has made her time with Theatre West so enjoyable.

Natalie Kasper (Seven of Spades)

This is Natalie's first Theatre West production. In her free time, Natalie enjoys art, horses, cheesecake, and sushi. Natalie would like to thank her mother and Fritz for their support.

Dan Kauble (Crew)

Dan Kauble is a freshman who enjoys hanging out with friends, writing poetry, music, and camping. This is his first production.

Jeff Kemp (Tweedledum)

This is Jeff's fifth production with Theatre West. Coming off the heels of his very true to life performance as Eugene in *Grease*, Jeff, a true method actor, is now tackling the role of Tweedledum. Jeff would like to thank his amazingly patient parents and his sister Sam for all that she does for him.

Sojung Kwon (Two of Hearts)

Sojung believes in magical tooth fairies. She enjoys theatre activities and was last seen in SPIT's production of *The Yellow Boat*, where she played Kid #4. She plans on going into theatre in her future.

Hahn Lee (Cheshire Cat)

Due to his conquests for a higher education, Hahn Lee's portrayal of the Cheshire Cat is his first endeavor to be a part of a West High production. He would like to dedicate his success to Mama and Papa Lee, along with his sister Sal, and brother and benefactor, Grant Linden.

Abi Leveille (Queen of Hearts)

This is Abi's 7th and final production with Theatre West. Previous appearances include Elaine in *Arsenic and Old Lace* and George Li's hair in *Grease*. She apologizes for deafening, decapitating or defenestrating any fellow cast members or her very supportive family. She couldn't do it without them!

Grant Linden (Knave of Hearts)

Grant Linden's acting background goes as far as the bathroom mirror. He would like to thank his mom and dad. He would also like to thank Hahn for trying out with him.

Ruolu Liu (Crew)

This is Freshman Ruolu Liu's second production. Ruolo also participates in speech.

Libby Logsden (Red Queen)

This is Libby's first play, but she has previously appeared in the musicals *Grease* and *Once Upon a Mattress*. She loves being a part of the wolf pack and would like to dedicate her performance to the lovely Ashleigh Robinson.

Eleanor Marshall (Four of Hearts)

Eleanor Marshall jumps for joy when she reflects upon her role as Four of Hearts. She also occasionally leaps with laugher when she ponders her sophomore year, wondrous family, and most dashing friends. She is grateful for this splendid opportunity.

Evan McCarthy (Humpty Dumpty)

Evan is currently a sophomore and this is his first theatre production. He profusely thanks his family for their inspiration and support. He also thanks his friends for being there for him and keeping life interesting.

Javier Miranda-Bartlet (Gryphon)

Alice in Wonderland is Javier's fifth theatrical production at West High. He thanks his directors and fellow cast members for their enthusiasm and dedication to their art. Most of all, he thanks his family for being so supportive of his endeavors in theatre. He loves all of you guys.

Mary Mysnyk (Alice)

Alice in Wonderland is the second production Mary has participated in at West High, her first being *Grease*. She feels so excited and blessed to play the part of Alice. Mary wants to thank her mom and dad for their love and support and thank her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for this awesome opportunity.

Logan Natvig (Five of Spades/Mutton)

This is freshman Logan Natvig's 10th play and his 2nd at West. He recently appeared in *Grease* as a nerd.

Tapoa Nelson (Crew)

This is Tapoa Nelson's third show. She loves Theatre West!

Ray Ockenfels (Mock Turtle)

Ray is a junior. This is his first production at West. He would like to thank his mom and dad for putting up with his crazy schedule.

Nick Pearce (Five of Clubs)

This is Nick's debut in Theatre West! Nick is pumped for the show and wants to thank his parents for putting up with him and for everything else!

Ashley Pettit (Production Assistant)

This is Ashley's second show as production assistant. She was once a lone wolfpack, but she thought, could it be, wait, yes, she just added more wolves to her wolfpack. Thank you.