A poster with a flower on it

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

***A person wearing glasses and a suit

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***From the director, Nick Medina

What you will see tonight is the product of generously donated labor and creativity. A group of talented performers, musicians, and technicians came together to create a play for you today and I intend on using this director's note to shout them out.

**The Actors:** what a crew! Some have never touched a script before these rehearsals while others are more than halfway through playing Shakespeare’s canon. You have been remarkable, thank you for your constant flexibility and willingness to try anything. Thanks also to the Actors’ partners, families, and friends– you don’t get enough credit, it’s tough supporting an actor in your life! Special shout out to the cast dog **Scrimshaw.**

Thanks to costume designer **Mary K Hobson**, a kind and generous artisan who radiates enthusiasm for costumes wherever she goes, and **Michelle Kiyoi** who hauled forty costumes across a city block to our rehearsal. Thanks to **Cindy McGean** for use of her home for auditions; **Morningstar Assisted Living** for rehearsal space; and the neighbors around **Oregon Park** for putting up with our howling rehearsals. Thanks to the experts: Text, **Isabella Buckner**; Physicality, **Michael O’Neill**; and Stage Combat, **John Armour**. Photos by **Greg Parkinson**, and we got our swords from **Kristen Mun-Van Noy**.

The Board, ahh if only every board in America was so hardworking!  **Melissa Sondergeld-Hood,** who plays clarinet and Curio, also sourced all of the props and made the poster. Matthew Ruckman wrote the music and plays guitar in the band, he was my right hand through the audition process, and mucked out the storage unit, which was a real you had to see it to believe it situation. And **Megan Murphy Ruckman**, our Feste, handles the paperwork, hauls the props, coordinates the locations, and keeps the checklist of all things ticking away in her head. This would not have happened without you three and you should feel proud of what you personally manifested into the world.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the **audience**. Whether you know someone in the play, love outdoor Shakespeare, or just wandered by, thank you! Your curiosity, sense of community, and willingness to participate with us in this ancient tradition of live theater fills me with love and hope. Play On!

Thank you to our season sponsors & supporters

***A logo with a black background

AI-generated content may be incorrect.*** A logo for a workshop

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Kelly Wellington



Twelfth Night or What You will

After the twins Sebastian and Viola survive a shipwreck, neither knows that the other is alive. Viola goes into service with Count Orsino of Illyria, disguised as a young man, “Cesario.” Orsino sends Cesario to woo Lady Olivia on his behalf, but Olivia falls in love with Cesario. Viola, in the meantime, has fallen in love with Orsino.

At the estate of Lady Olivia, Sir Toby Belch, Olivia’s kinsman, has brought in Sir Andrew Aguecheek to be her suitor. A confrontation between Olivia’s steward, Malvolio, and the partying Toby and his cohort leads to a revenge plot against Malvolio. Malvolio is tricked into making a fool of himself, and he is locked in a dungeon as a lunatic.

In the meantime, Sebastian has been rescued by a sea captain, Antonio. When Viola, as Cesario, is challenged to a duel, Antonio mistakes her for Sebastian, comes to her aid, and is arrested. Olivia, meanwhile, mistakes Sebastian for Cesario and declares her love. When, finally, Sebastian and Viola appear together, the puzzles around the mistaken identities are solved: Cesario is revealed as Viola, Orsino asks for Viola’s hand, Sebastian will wed Olivia, and Viola will marry Count Orsino. Malvolio, blaming Olivia and others for his humiliation, vows revenge.

Twelfth Night, or what you will

Act 1 Scene 1: The Seacoast

Act 1 Scene 2: Olivia’s Home

Act 1 Scene 3: Duke Orsino’s Palace

Act 1 Scene 4: Olivia’s Home

Act 2 Scene 1: The Seacoast

Act 2 Scene 2: A Busy Street

Act 2 Scene 3: Olivia’s Home

Act 2 Scene 4: Duke Orsino’s Palace

Act 2 Scene 5: Olivia’s Garden

-----Intermission-----

Act 3 Scene 1: Olivia’s Garden

Act 3 Scene 2: Olivia’s Home

Act 3 Scene 3: A Street

Act 3 Scene 4: Olivia’s Garden

Act 4 Scene 1: Before Olivia’s Home

Act 4 Scene 2: Olivia’s Home

Act 4 Scene 3: Olivia’s Garden

Act 5 Scene 1: Before Olivia’s Home

Cast and creative team of Twelfth Night

Viola (Liana Dillaway):

A shipwrecked noblewoman disguised as Cesario

Sebastian (Indy McGinnins):

Viola’s nearly identical brother

Duke Orsino (Griffin Pahl):

The lovesick Duke of Illyria

Valentine (Grace Allen):

Orsino’s attendant

Curio (Melissa Sondergeld-Hood):

Orsino’s attendant

Olivia (Yoonie Cho):

Heiress of a large estate; mourning the loss of her brother/father

Sir Toby Belch (TJ Carter):

Olivia’s uncle

Sir Andrew Aguecheek (Liam Kamp):

A foolish friend of Sir Toby

Malvolio (David Loftus):

Olivia’s steward

Maria (Karyn O’Bryant):

Olivia’s gentlewoman

Fabian (Lydia Sheehey):

Another of Olivia’s servants

Feste the Clown (Megan Murphy Ruckman):

The household entertainer

Antonio (Joey Copsey):

A heroic pirate

Sea captain (Emma Chang)

Priest (Grace Allen)

Officers (Emma Chang/ Melissa Sondergeld-Hood)

Musicians:

Grace Allen, Emma Chang, Matthew Murphy Ruckman, Melissa Sondergeld-Hood

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Director: Nick Medina

Music Director: Matthew Murphy Ruckman

Fight Choreographer: John Armour

Costume Team: Mary Hobson & Michelle Kiyoi

Photographer: Greg Parkinson

Audience Experience Coordinator: Elizabeth Brown

***A person wearing glasses and a tank top

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Grace Allen (Valentine, Priest, Musician):was born and raised in Jacksonville, Fl. Her Mother heavily influenced her in her pursuit of the arts; everything from ballet lessons to youth orchestra and summer camps at the local City museums (Pantomime was her absolute favorite!) In high school she switched focus from French horn to guitar and piano. She graduated from UNF in 2006 with degrees in French and Political Science. Grace moved to Portland in 2013 and did some background acting for several seasons of Portlandia and the A24 production 'Green Room”. Grace works for a non-profit, UCP Oregon as a personal support provider for intellectually disabled adults. Seeking community in the wake of the pandemic, she began taking improv classes at Curious Comedy Theater. She fell in love with improv performance and is now in a regularly performing musical improv troupe called Ticklish Puppets with friends she bonded with over seasons training at Curious Comedy-the place where she met our amazing Twelfth Night Director, Nick Medina as his student. Grace is ecstatic to be a part of this PAE production of Shakespeare! Grace is incredibly humbled by the passion and talents of her cast mates.

***A person with a beard and mustache

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***TJ Carter (Sir Toby Belch): is an improv actor based in Portland, Oregon. When not on stage at Curious Comedy or Kickstand, TJ works as a writer, editor, and designer, specializing in family story anthologies, memoirs, and other book-length passion projects. *Twelfth Night* is his Shakespeare in the Park debut. He posts short comedy sketches under the handle @TJCgoofs on Instagram and TikTok.

***A person with long hair wearing a black shirt

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Emma Chang (Sea Captain, Officer 2, Musician)***(she/her):*** is a Taiwanese American actress, playwright and musician. She has a BFA in Acting and Original Works from Cornish College of the Arts and has studied classical acting abroad at LAMDA. She is a current company member with the Original Practice Shakespeare Festival and has also performed with The Broken Planetarium and the Seattle Historical Theater Project. Recent credits include Solange in The Maids, Hunter in Mastergate and Emma in Fefu and Her Friends. Many thanks to Zeb for his endless love and support.

***A close-up of a person smiling

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Yoonie Cho (Olivia): is honored to take part in the Portland Actors Ensemble’s first production after the company’s hiatus. Yoonie had great fun rehearsing under the rustling trees and swattingmosquitoes with this very special cast and crew. She is grateful that she was cast in three Shakespeare plays in 2024-2025. She was Gertrude in Portland Shakespeare Project/TheActors Conservatory co-production of Hamlet, Lady Montague in Anonymous TheatreCompany’s Romeo and Juliet, and Calphurnia and ensemble in Cannon Shakespeare’s JuliusCaesar. Yoonie will be playing Hippolyta, Snug, and Cobweb this fall for Shake and Pop’s Midsummer Night’s Dream. Much thanks to her husband Charles for supporting her theatreromps. And, special thanks to her daughter Jinju for helping her run her lines many, many times.

***A person with a beard and mustache

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Joey Copsey (Antonio): Joey has been an actor here in Oregon for more years than he’d like to admit. He has performed with multiple ensembles over the years including Bag&Baggage Productions, Corrib Theatre and others. Joey is honored to be working with PAE to bring this production of Twelfth Night to life for you. Joey lives in Portland and when not acting runs a small woodworking business, but mostly structures his life around his dog, Scrimshaw, who is a very very good boy.

***A person with long brown hair smiling

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Liana Dillaway (Viola): Liana fell in love with theater at the age of 13. She acted in and managed a number of shows throughout high school and continued pursuing her passion at UCLA where she earned a degree in theater with an emphasis in stage management. She has stage managed over 50 theatrical, opera, and circus productions around the country. In 2021, she was re-bitten by the acting bug and has been seen in the Portland area in *Moon Over Buffalo* and *Inherit The Wind* at Mask and Mirror and in *A Christmas Carol* at Magenta Theater.

***A person smiling with glasses

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Liam Kamp (Sir Andrew Aguecheek):is thrilled to make his theatrical debut as Sir Andrew Aguecheek in Portland Actors Ensemble's Twelfth Night! Drawing on his experience in improv and stand-up comedy, Liam aims to bring joy and laughter to the stage. When he's not performing, you'll likely find him happily cooking up a storm in the kitchen. He's incredibly grateful for the unwavering support of his friends and family, especially Lily, who patiently ran lines with him, even on his grumpier days!

**A person with glasses and a lake in the background

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**David Loftus (Malvolio: is delighted that PAE is back from the dead. He played Duke Senior in the company’s “As You Like It” (2005), Macduff in “Macbeth” (2006), and at least four characters (including the Soothsayer) in “Julius Caesar” (2008). A voice actor and editor, author of four published books, David is also training to run the Hood-to-Coast Relay in August. Unlike Malvolio, he can thank his wife Carole for 34 years of unstinting love and support.

***A person with short brown hair wearing a white shirt

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Indy McGinnins (Sebastian): is delighted to be making their Shakespearean debut in Twelfth Night as Sebastian. Born and raised in the Bay Area, they discovered a love for performance at a very young age. Indy comes from a strong musical background and has starred in roles such as Marian in The Music Man and Laurie in Oklahoma. Though formally trained as an actor, their career path shifted after discovering a passion for the sciences. Now settled in Portland, they have returned to the stage and are thrilled to be a part of PAE’s reunion in one of Shakespeare’s most beloved comedies!

***A person with a mustache holding a book

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Karyn O’Bryant (Maria): *has* performed live, on-camera, and behind the microphone for over 30 years. A graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, she's a professional voice actor with credits in many genres. She has received several awards for her work on stage, in audiobooks, her comedy podcast "My Friend Lyssa", and more. Karyn is a member of Portland's own "The Tesla City Stories" and RebeLoop ADR/loop group. She's a proud member of the Portland Area Theatre Alliance, OMPA, and other arts organizations. Karyn likes to go outside and play, stay inside and make food, and ballroom dance.

***A person with beard and glasses smiling

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***

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Griffin Pahl (Duke Orsino):Griffin has been acting off-and-on since elementary school and is grateful to be back on stage again! He has always been a fan of romance and wordplay, so naturally he lept at the chance to play a lovesick prince in this silly-sooth Shakespearian comedy. He also enjoys performing comedy improv in Portland at Curious Comedy Theater.

***A person wearing a blue scarf

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Megan Murphy Ruckman (Feste): has been a Shakespeare lover and musical performer since she was young.  Originally from Northern California, she spent her formative years in conservatory with California Theater Center and obtained a degree in theatre arts and communication at Whittier College.

She has worked with theatre companies in the Portland Metro Area since 2004 as a performer, crew and a board member. She has recently been instrumental in reviving Portland Actors Ensemble.

She thanks her husband, Matthew, for supporting the family and her, through all these theatrical exploits. She is pleased to do a show with him for the first time!

***A person in a green shirt and orange hat

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Lydia Sheehey (Fabian): **is** a Portland native who hasn't acted in a Shakespeare production since she was a child. Having recently gotten back into acting in the last year, she is excited to find all the ways to bring whimsy and joy back into her life! She is so excited to be in this production and thanks her loving partner, Joey, and moody cat Socrates for all their support! She couldn't have done it without them!

***A person with long hair smiling

AI-generated content may be incorrect.***Melissa Sondergeld-Hood (Curio, Officer 1, Musician):is a teaching/theater artist in the Portland/Vancouver area. When not teaching private voice/piano skills she can be found music directing, stage managing, or on the stage itself! Most recently she took on the role of Managing Director at Stages Performing Arts Youth Academy. Recent work includes Alice By Heart (music director/MPA), Absurd Person Singular (co-director/Gresham Readers Theater), and One Slight Hitch (Nutz and Boltz). Many thanks to Kaleb for supporting all these various creative endeavors!