

**LET IT BE**

**A PLAY BY RICK ELICE  
MUSIC BY WAYNE BARKER**

**BASED ON THE NOVEL BY  
DAVE BARRY AND RIDLEY PEARSON**

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY NANCY NAGEL GIBBS, GREG SCHAFFERT,  
EVA PRICE, TOM SMEDES, AND DISNEY THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS.

Missouri Baptist University Theatre presents

# PETER AND THE STARCATCHER

September 25-27, 2020

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)

Audience members are asked to wear a face covering and maintain a minimum six-foot distance from any patrons not in their group. After the performance, please avoid gathering in the theatre or lobby. Please silence electronic devices that may distract your fellow audience members during the performance. No food, drink or smoking is allowed in the Pillsbury Chapel. The restrooms are located in the Mabee Great Hall just outside the auditorium. Please see one of our ushers if you have any questions or special needs. Enjoy the performance—we are glad you're here!

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

As a parent, this school year has been the most challenging part of my journey thus far. Over the past six months, my husband and I have found ourselves desperately trying to comfort our children as they moved to online learning in March by explaining to them that this was only a short-term fix, that we would be back in school in the fall, thinking that we were being conservative in our estimates.

We are now nearing the end of September, and my kids are still learning online, and when they go back to school it will look much different from the way they left it in March. I sometimes cry when I think about how my kids won't be able to see their classmate's faces or hug their teachers. I know teachers feel the same. And I sometimes see in my kid's faces the line Peter repeats throughout the show, "Grownups always lie. I hate grownups!" And through all of this, I have been lamenting what I have perceived as the loss of parts of my kids' childhood.

So when we approached Peter and the Starcatcher we issued ourselves a challenge. We said, "If elementary kids have to figure out a way to play and use their imaginations while wearing masks, we can figure out how to do the same." And so we set out on an "awfully big adventure," recording our lines one week after casting the show, temperature checking before every rehearsal, and remaining masked at every turn of the process. And through it all, we learned that kids are resilient and brave. They are full of forgiveness and self-sacrifice. And Jesus was right when said that the kingdom of heaven belongs to people who are just like them.

One day we will move past this moment in history, but until then I believe we should look more and more to our children to teach us how to survive with overwhelming joy, unconditional love, and "against-all-odds" faith that everything will end just as it should.

Because, of course, "to have faith is to have wings."

*Kasey Cox*

## SPECIAL THANKS TO

Dr. Keith Ross, Dr. Andy Chambers, Dr. Benjamin Lion, Dr. Larry Smith,  
MBU Communications Department, University Communications

A very special thanks to St. Louis County Department of Public Health for helping us develop a plan to provide safe and healthy entertainment!

# SCENES

## ACT ONE

Prologue: A Playground

Scene 1: Deck of the Neverland

Scene 2: Molly's Cabin

Scene 3: Bowels of the Neverland

Scene 4: Neverland Bilge Dungeon

Scene 5: The Wasp Captain's Cabin

Scene 6: Passageways of the Neverland

Scene 7: The Wasp Captain's Cabin

Scene 8: Neverland Bilge Dungeon

Scene 9: Deck of the Neverland

Scene 10: The Neverland vs. The Wasp

## ACT TWO

Prologue: Shores of Mollusk Island

Scene 1: The Mountaintop, Mollusk Island

Scene 2: The Jungle

Scene 3: Mollusk Territory

Scene 4: Mister Grin's Cage

Scene 5: The Beach

Scene 6: Jungle's Edge

Scene 7: Up the Mountain

Scene 8: The Grotto

Scene 9: The Mountaintop

Scene 10: The Beach



## THE MBU THEATRE MISSION

MBU Theatre is a Christ-centered program that challenges our students to view their work through a Biblical vantage point. We believe that all truth is God's truth, and therefore all great and truthful works of theatre carry within them glimmers of God's redemptive plan.

Because of this foundation, we believe that storytelling through theatre is a calling worthy of intensive training. Graduates from our theatre program will have knowledge of theatre history; acting methods of Stanislavsky, Chekhov, Meisner, Strasburg, and many others; directing technique; and a variety of design areas. We purposefully want education to be broad, but deep - giving students the opportunity to thrive in a transient job market that requires theatre students to work in a variety of positions.

Additionally, we give students ample opportunity to practice these skills. We produce six shows every year, allowing our students to choose design, tech, or performance in each production, allowing them to tailor their education to their needs.

# CAST OF CHARACTERS

Boy  
BRADLEY BLIVEN

Molly Aster  
CLAIRE BAUR

Black Stache  
GREG CARR

Smee/Lt. Greggors  
ALICIA NEALE

Prentiss  
SOPHIE KARASE

Ted  
HANNAH MISSELHORN

Lord Leonard Aster  
EVAN CLAWSON

Gremplin/Fighting Prawn/  
Mack/Sanchez  
SABRINA FURMAN

Mother/Teacher  
ALLE HEAD

Mrs. Bumbrake  
ASHLEY HARRIS

Bill Slank/Hawking Clam  
HALEY CLEGG

Alf  
NATHANAEL PEZZO

Cat/Bird  
CAILEY GEORGE

Captain Robert Falcon Scott  
VICTORIA ZILKE

Chorus  
MORGAN CANE, MICHAEL COX,  
SUSANNA ENNENBACH

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer  
KASEY COX

Directors  
KASEY COX &  
SARAH DICKEY

Tech Director  
JASON STAHR

Choreographer  
CLAIRE WARD

Music Director  
JORDAN COX

Sound Designer  
JON ZIELKE

Assistant Choreographer  
ELIANA STEELE

Stage Manager  
ISABELLE SCHEIBE

Lighting Designer  
SETH JACKSON

Set Designer  
EMILY K. RICE

Assistant Stage Managers  
CASSIE SAMPLEY &  
RACHEL YARBROUGH

Props Designer  
MELISSA HARLOW

Costume Designer  
LAUREN SMITH BEARDEN

Sound Apprentice  
KAYLIN PENNINGER

Set Apprentice  
LINDSEY PETERS

Pianist  
MICHAEL FRAZIER

Lighting Apprentices  
DANIEL DILWORTH &  
MADDIE COOK

Costume Apprentices  
BEKAH WILLIAMS &  
HEATHER VAUGHN

Fine Arts Events Manager  
OLIVIA LEEK

Props Apprentice  
JENNY DUNCAN

Box Office Assistants  
KAROLINE ORTIZ &  
JAMONI RICHARDSON

# Music & Theatre Scholarship Auditions

Saturday, November 14, 2020, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Saturday, February 6, 2021, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Monday, February 15, 2021, 3-6 p.m.

Auditions are for freshman and transfer students who want to pursue any of the following majors:

Theatre

Musical Theatre

Speech/Theatre Secondary Education

Music

Music Education

Commercial Voice

Vocal Performance

Piano Performance

Music with elective studies in Business

Worship Leadership

Please contact the Fine Arts office at 314-744-5364 to receive more information or to schedule an audition.



## The MBU Theatre Experience

Friday, October 9, 2020

This free event is designed to immerse students in the MBU community, workshop their acting, singing and dance skills, and meet the Theatre and Dance faculty and students. All high school juniors and seniors and college transfers are welcome to attend, particularly those planning to major in Theatre, Musical Theatre or Speech/Theatre Education, as well as Theatre and Dance minors.

Full schedule for October 9:

9 AM – Coffee with the Theatre Faculty

10 AM – Special Performance of Selections from Songs For a New World

10:30 AM – Dance Workshop with Professor Claire Ward

12 PM – Lunch with Ensemble Directors

1 PM – Observe Chorale rehearsal

2 PM – Audition workshop with Professor Kasey Cox

5 PM – Dinner with current MBU Theatre students

6:45 PM – Early entry and priority seating to Songs For a New World

7:30 PM – Songs For a New World performance

*If you unable to attend the full day, please let us know and we will accommodate you.*

To register, please visit [mobap.edu/mbu-theatre-experience](http://mobap.edu/mbu-theatre-experience).

## CAST AND CREW BIOS

Claire Baur (Molly Aster) is excited to be performing in her second season as a student at MBU. She is thankful for her wonderful cast members and crew who have made this experience memorable. She is thankful every day for all the joys theatre brings her and others and cannot wait to see what God has planned for her in the future. Favorite past credits include Chava (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Crystal (*Little Shop of Horrors*), and Peter Pan (*Peter Pan*).

Lauren Smith Bearden (Costume Designer) is a St. Louis based costume designer and technician. Recent local credits include *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Q-Collective) *Guys and Dolls* (Stray Dog Theatre) and *King Lear* (Ozark Actors Theatre). She also serves as the Costume Director for Clayton High School, and the Jewish Community Center's Youth Theatre. Prior to moving to St. Louis, she completed her MFA in Theatre with an emphasis in costume design and technology at the University of Florida. You can view her work at [www.thecostumesmith.com](http://www.thecostumesmith.com).

Bradley Bliven (Boy) is a transfer student majoring in Theater Performance. Some of his favorite roles include Aladdin (Aladdin), Doody (Grease), Tranio (The Taming of the Shrew), Creon (Antigone), Prince Eric (The Little Mermaid), and The Baker (Into the Woods). Bradley would like to thank all his friends who have helped him along in his acting journey. Isaiah 28-31.

Morgan Cane (Chorus) is a freshman Theater major. Some of her favorite roles include Agnes Tate (Murder Inn) and Ensemble (Chicago). Morgan would like to thank Kasey Cox for giving her this opportunity. She would also like to thank Andrea Robb for leading her in the direction of this amazing department.

Greg Carr II (Black Stache) is a sophomore at Theatre major. He last appeared as the Mysterious Man in Into The Woods and is looking forward to doing more productions in the future. Some of his favorite roles include Kinesias/The Herald (The Birds) and Featured Dancer (The Music Man).. He would like to give a special thanks to this wonderful production team and talented cast. Enjoy the show!

Evan Clawson (Lord Aster) is a sophomore at MBU, double majoring Theatre and History. This is his first appearance in an MBU Theatre production. He thanks his fellow castmates for making this a fantastic, memorable production.

Haley Clegg (Bill Slank/Hawking Clam) is a freshman Musical Theatre major. She enjoys being a member of performance groups MBU Chorale and The Agency Improv, as well as MBU Honors. This is her first MBU production. She thanks her family and friends for all of their love and support.

Maddie Cook (Lighting Apprentice) is a freshman, majoring in Musical Theatre. This is her first production at MBU. She is also currently rehearsing as a cast member of Songs For a New World, opening in just two weeks! She is thankful to her classmates, friends and family for their love and support.

Kasey Cox (Director/Producer) is the Director of Theatre & Dance at MBU. She is a 2010 graduate of MBU with a degree in musical theatre and a 2014 graduate of Fontbonne University with a master of arts in theatre. Kasey's directing credits include *Peter Pan* (MBU), *Romeo and Juliet* (Acting Out!), *The Odd Couple: Female Version* (Act Two Theatre Company) and *Steel Magnolias* (Kirkwood Theatre Guild). Some of her favorite roles include Sally (*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*), Rosie (*Bye Bye Birdie*) and Jo (*Little Women: The Musical*). She would like to thank her husband Jordan and kids, Noah, Jobi and Katy, for keeping her house full of joy.

Michael Cox (Chorus) is a sophomore theatre major. He was last seen on stage for a stage reading of *The Tale of Noah's Wife* as Noah and Charlie Cowell in *The Music Man* at MBU. He has previously performed in *Mame*, *Chicago*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as Nick Bottom, *Check Please* as Manny and *Into the Woods* as The Wolf. He wants to thank the cast and production for a great experience. He hopes that you will all love this show as much as he does!

Sarah Dickey (Director/Production Manager) has worked with MBU Theatre in many capacities for the past 19 years: as director, assistant director, stage manager, charge artist, lighting designer, costume designer and set designer. Favorite MBU shows include *The 39 Steps*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *The Complete Works of Williams Shakespeare (Abridged)* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Sarah has worked on shows throughout Missouri and Illinois, including *Chicago* (Spotlight Productions), *The Wiz* (St. Louis Summer Players), *Into the Woods* (Acting Out!) and *Singin' in the Rain* (Broadway on the Driveway). A big thanks to this wonderful cast, production team and crew who has worked so hard to bring this show to MBU.

Daniel Dilworth (Lighting Apprentice), a senior at MBU, is double-majoring in Theatre and Communication Studies with minors in Public Relations and Journalism. His previous roles at MBU Theatre include MacBeth in Shakespeare's *MacBeth*, Richard Hannay in *The 39 Steps*, Heracles in *The Birds*, and The Purser in *Anything Goes*, among others. He would like to thank his family and beautiful wife for their constant support, and God for blessing him with this opportunity and the ability to glorify Him through theatre.

Jenny Duncan (Props Apprentice) is a freshman Theatre major and Dance minor. Favorite previous roles include Sophie (*Mamma Mia*), Emma (*Emma*), and Rizzo (*Grease*). Jenny would like to thank her fellow classmates for accepting her into the family with open arms and loving hearts. She is truly grateful for every person she has met on this journey.

Susanna Ennenbach (Chorus) is pleased to appear in her first MBU Theatre show as a student! She is a freshman Theatre major. Previous shows include *Peter Pan*, *Mary Poppins*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Seussical* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Dayspring and *Red Herring* with SHARE Productions. She thanks her fellow cast and crew for a great experience with this production.

Sabrina Furman (Gremplin/Fighting Prawn/Mack/Sanchez) is a Freshman majoring in Speech and Theatre Education. Among her favorite roles have been Rebecca Gibbs (Our Town), Annie (Mary Poppins), Bird Girl (Seussical), Lina Lamont (Singing in the Rain), Stage Manager/Newsie (Newsies), Urleen (Footloose), and Ursula (The Little Mermaid). She is excited to be performing in her first collegiate production and would like to thank her family for their love and support. Philippians 4:13

Cailey George (Cat/Bird) is a sophomore, double majoring in Theatre and English and minoring in Dance. She last appeared as Iris/Nightingale in *The Birds*, the teen ensemble in *The Music Man*, and Lucinda in *Into the Woods*. She has participated for many years with Take 3 Christmas Theater, appearing in *Narnia the Musical* (Susan), *Esther* (Zeresh), *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Ensemble) and *The Jungle Book* (Ensemble). Cailey is currently also a member of MBU Chorale and drama troupe In Character. She thanks her family for their support of her goals and this wonderful cast and production team for their hard work.

Ashley Harris (Mrs. Bumble) is a Freshman majoring in secondary Ed for speech and theatre. She will be playing the part of Mr. Bumble, she is so excited to be apart of the MBU Theatre Family. One of her favorite roles she has ever played was Mrs. Hubbard in "Murder On The Orient Express" during her senior year of Highschool. She would like to thank her mother for being her rock and always telling her to push for her dreams no matter how big they may be.

Alle Head (Mother/Teacher) is a senior at MBU majoring in Theatre with a double minor in Marketing and Dance. She has previously appeared on the MBU stage as the Witch in *Into the Woods*, Sally in *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Irene Ryan Scholarship Nominee), Erma in *Anything Goes* and Imogene in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She is grateful to be a part of such a wonderful cast and crew, and most importantly she is grateful to her Lord Jesus for his faithfulness.

Seth Jackson (Lighting Designer) has been designing concert tours all around the world for twenty-five years, designing and directing concert tours for Carrie Underwood, Don Henley, Toby Keith, Selena Gomez, Barry Manilow, and many others. In addition, he has designed and directed two Broadway runs for Manilow, and three Las Vegas residencies. A St. Louis native, he started his career at Stages, St. Louis, and has worked locally for the New Jewish Theatre, the REP, and the MUNY. He holds a BFA in Lighting Design and a Masters in Teaching. He is a two-time recipient as Set Designer

of the Year from the Parnelli Awards, and the Redden Award for Excellence in Lighting Design for his work on the world tour of *Star Wars: In Concert*, which played 154 shows on three continents.

Sophie Karase (Prentiss) is thrilled to start her second season with MBU Theatre. Sophie is a sophomore and majoring in Musical Theatre, and her previous roles include a Pick-A-Little Lady in *The Music Man*, Bird/Priest/Messenger in *The Birds*, and Florinda in *Into the Woods*. She would like to thank friends and family for always supporting her. She thanks God for the gifts he has given her and the ability to share them with others through theatre.

Hannah Misselhorn (Ted) is a freshman Speech/Theatre Education major. This is her first production here at MBU and she is ecstatic! Hannah would like to thank Kasey Cox and Sarah Dickey for casting her in this production and the audience for coming to see the show!

Alicia Neale (Smee/Lt. Greggors) is excited to be a part of this talented cast and crew! Alicia is currently a junior majoring in Musical Theatre and minoring in Dance. Her favorite roles include Mrs. Luce/Dr. Martin in *Little Shop of Horrors* (MBU), Kaitlyn Parker in *The Future is in Your Tiny Hands* (MBU), Maud Dunlop in *The Music Man* (MBU), and Cinderella's Stepmother in *Into the Woods* (MBU). Alicia would like to thank her fellow cast members and the crew members for their dedication to this amazing production. She would also like to thank her friends and family for their love, patience, and support. Rev. 21:4

Kaylin Penninger (Sound Apprentice) is a first-semester transfer to MBU, majoring in Musical Theatre. *Peter and the Starcatcher* is her first show with MBU Theatre. She is also currently in rehearsals as a cast member of *Songs For a New World*, opening October 8. Thanks to everyone in the department for their hard work on this production!

Lindsey Peters (Set Apprentice) is honored to be a part of this production. She is a current senior theater major at MBU. Some of her favorite roles have been Marian Paroo in *The Music Man* (Missouri Baptist University), Wendy Jo in *Footloose the Musical* (Paul Bunyan Playhouse), and Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Missouri Baptist University.) Lindsey would like to thank the cast and crew of *Peter and the Starcatcher* for creating such beautiful art and magic! Lindsey would like to first thank God for the many opportunities and talents He has given her. She would also like to thank her friends and family for her constant love and support through her career. She would like to give a special thank you to Emily Rice (Set Designer) who has been a role model and gracious leader to her.

Nathanael Pezzo (Alf) is a senior Musical Theatre major at MBU. His favorite roles include Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes*, Gangster #1 in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Riff in *West Side Story*, the title character in *Sweeney Todd*, and Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*. He's incredibly thankful to God for blessing him with the ability to do what he loves in a way that praises and glorifies Jesus, and to MBU for giving him this opportunity.

Emily K. Rice (Set Designer) is an MBU Theatre graduate. Emily works as a designer and commissioned artist around the St. Louis area. Since graduation, she has been able to work with many groups, including Shakespeare Festival of St. Louis and Mustard Seed Theatre. Emily thanks all her amazing friends at MBU and her family for their support.

Cassie Sampley (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore Theatre major at MBU. Her previous roles include: Mrs. Paroo (*The Music Man*), Rizzo (*Grease*), Daniela (*In The Heights*), Jean Maitland (*Stage Door*), and Clara Eynsford-Hill (*Pygmalion*). She would like to thank the stage management crew for their time and dedication put into this great show! She would also like to thank her family for their constant love and support. Enjoy the show! Prov. 3:5-6

Isabelle Scheibe (Stage Manager) is a graduate of Stephens College with a B.F.A. in Technical Theatre with an emphasis in Stage Management. Her first Theatre experience was "Honk!". She was five years old and has continued to love Theater ever since. After being a performer, Isabelle later found a new love for backstage work, which led her to Stephens College. There she was given many opportunities to stage manage, light design, sound design, & even direct. She also was given the opportunity to work over the summer with Stephens College Summer Stock Theatre in Okoboji Iowa,

where the company puts on nine shows in ten weeks, with four of those shows being musicals. During Isabelle's last year at Stephens College she served on the executive board as the Production Stage Manager for the student run Warehouse Theatre. Isabelle is excited to make an impact on the world of theatre and to start this journey at Missouri Baptist University.

Jason Stahr (Tech Director) has been working in professional theater for over thirty years. He has worked with such local companies as St. Louis Shakespeare, Mid-America Theater, and Hot City Theatre. He is the Director of Stage Services for the Touhill Performing Arts Center at UMSL, and an adjunct instructor in Theatre at MBU. Jason is most proud of being a father of two sons, Zack and Gabe.

Eliana Steele (Assistant Choreographer) is a recent MBU Theatre grad, with minors in Accounting and Business Administration. She is happy to be working on another MBU show. Past roles include Reno Sweeney (*Anything Goes*), Lady Macbeth (*Macbeth*), and Ethel Toffelmier/Dance Captain (*The Music Man*). She also gets a kick out of lighting design and stage management, and enjoys teaching performing arts to kiddos. She is so grateful to her Savior for the reminders of His steadfast love and mercy.

Heather Vaughn (Costume Apprentice) is currently pursuing an M.A. in Teaching in Speech/Theater Education after earning a B.A. in Communication in 2001. Her MBU production credits include *Smoke on the Mountain* (1998), *West Side Story* (1999), *Godspell* (2000), *Myriad: A One-Act Festival* (2019), *The 39 Steps* (2019) and *Into the Woods* (2020). Heather is grateful for the unfailing love and support of her husband and four children and their sacrifices that allow her to follow her passions.

Claire Ward (Choreographer) holds a BFA in Ballet Performance from the University of Oklahoma School of Dance, and an MS in Fitness Management from MBU. In 2008, she toured nationally in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular Arena Tour, then danced professionally with companies including Oklahoma Festival Ballet, the Louisville Ballet, Missouri Ballet Theatre, and Common Thread Contemporary Ballet. She is a dance professor and coach at MBU, and a dance/performing arts teacher at Dayspring School for the Arts. Claire's choreographic works include *Mary Poppins*, *Anything Goes*, *The Music Man*, *Napoli*, *The Nutcracker* and *Sounds of Christmas*. She thanks every member of the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication throughout this process, and feels blessed every day to work with such talented artists!

Bekah Williams (Costume Apprentice) is a senior at MBU. Most recently she was the Costume Designer for MBU's *The 39 Steps* and *Granny/Snow White* in *Into the Woods*. Previously, she attended SCC where she worked with Center Stage. Before that, she was involved with Shatterglass Productions where she participated in over 20 shows in multiple roles including assistant director, choreographer and actress. She is excited to be on this new leg of her journey with such incredible people. She wants to thank her husband, Alex, for his unending support, her family and friends for their encouragement, and her God for His unfailing love. 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

Rachel Yarbrough (Assistant Stage Manager) is a senior Theater and Psychology major. She has stage managed many shows at MBU, including *The Music Man* and *Anything Goes*. Some of her favorite roles include Grusha (*The Caucasian Chalk Circle*), Ronnette (*Little Shop of Horrors*), and America (*The Amish Project*). She is also currently assistant directing and stage managing *Songs For a New World*. Rachel would like to thank her directors and teachers for giving her many opportunities to grow in her art.

Jon Zielke (Sound Designer) is a graduate of Washington University, and originally from the Twin Cities, Minnesota. He has designed sound for a variety of productions around St. Louis, and he is thrilled to return to Missouri Baptist to work on this great show!

Victoria Zilke (Captain Scott) is a junior Behavioral Science major and Theatre minor. Two of her favorite roles have been the Prophet (*The Birds*) and Bard (*The Hobbit*). Victoria would like to thank Kasey Cox for this amazing opportunity and all the ways she has encouraged growth and learning. She would also like to thank the rest of the cast and crew for being a wonderful and loving family.

OCTOBER 8-11

[mbuboxoffice.com](http://mbuboxoffice.com)

**SONGS  
FOR A  
NEW  
WORLD**

**MUSIC & LYRICS BY  
JASON ROBERT BROWN**

**ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY THE WPA THEATRE,  
NEW YORK CITY, 1995 (KYLE RENICK, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR)**

**ORIGINAL ORCHESTRATION BY  
BRIAN BESTERMAN AND JASON ROBERT BROWN**