

PLAYBILL

Bernard Zell on Broadway Presents:

The 2019 Morton Reisman
Eighth Grade Operetta

Getting to Know...



Saturday, April 6, 8:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 7, 2:00 p.m.

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Ms. Cohen.....	Artistic Consultant
Ms. Custer.....	Executive Assistant
Ms. Dunn.....	Lower School Music Teacher
Dr. Ellison.....	8th Grade Humanities Teacher
Leeza Golubchik.....	7th Grade Student
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Ms. Sherman.....	Middle School Art Teacher
Ms. Steele.....	8th Grade Humanities Teacher
Ms. Winans.....	Assistant to Head of Middle School

*Special thanks to Mr. Zane, our fabulous director!
And a special thank you to Bernard Zell Security and Maintenance Staff
for all of their hard work.*

About This Bernard Zell Production

This Bernard Zell production of *Getting to Know...The Sound of Music* is the finale of the Middle School Performing Arts curriculum. Students build the foundations of theatre in fifth and sixth grades, then work together as a grade to design and perform a one act play in seventh grade and a full-length musical in eighth grade, The Morton Reisman Eighth Grade Operetta. The show changes from year to year, but the focus remains the same.

The experience allows for the development of self-confidence and provides an avenue to further strengthen the group identity. Additionally, the Performing Arts curriculum helps students strengthen and hone their collaborative skills. Another important goal is developing empathy, as students act as different characters and literally have to step into someone else's shoes to gain new perspectives. At Bernard Zell, we believe that this ongoing exploration of visual, musical, and performing arts is an important part of the curriculum, playing a vital role in developing the intellectual, spiritual and personal potential of every student.

Show Synopsis

The final collaboration between Rodgers & Hammerstein was destined to become the world's most beloved musical. When a postulant proves too high-spirited for the religious life, she is dispatched to serve as governess for the seven children of a widowed naval Captain. Her growing rapport with the youngsters, coupled with her generosity of spirit, gradually captures the heart of the stern Captain, and they marry. Upon returning from their honeymoon they discover that Austria has been invaded by the Nazis, who demand the Captain's immediate service in their navy. The family's narrow escape over the mountains to Switzerland on the eve of World War II provides one of the most thrilling and inspirational finales ever presented in the theatre. The motion picture version remains the most popular movie musical of all time. In this adaptation for pre-high school students, the content has been edited to better suit younger attention spans, but all the elements that make this show a classic are still in place.

Director's Note

Welcome to Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School's 2019 Morton Reisman Operetta, *Getting to Know...The Sound of Music*. The musical is adapted from the full-length 1959 Broadway production, directed by Vincent J. Donehue with music and lyrics by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II and a book by Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse. This version is a 75-minute production which was specifically adapted by R&H (Rodgers and Hammerstein) to be more supportive of middle-school aged performers.

The Sound of Music, besides being one of the most loved and well-known movie musicals, is a powerful story made all the more poignant since it is based on a true story: Maria Augusta Trapp's 1949 memoir *The Trapp Family Singers*. Ultimately, the story is about the power of music on the human spirit and the power of the human spirit to resist fascism, or at least to resist joining fascism.

As a theatre educator, I see the positive effects that Bernard Zell's Performing Arts Program, and especially the Operetta, has on students. A musical is a purely collaborative effort in which everyone is focused on telling one story. Students use advanced problem-solving skills, communication, memorization skills, risk-taking and personal connections to create the best product they can. Oftentimes, students surprise themselves by rising to their full potential.

This experience is unique as students are given chances to shine not only onstage, but also in their backstage roles. This is the second year of a program that creates a distribution of responsibility wherein there are student heads of each department. For example, the student stage managers report to the head student stage manager, who reports to the director. This program has created leadership opportunities that students have welcomed with passion and seriousness. It has also helped to create peer-to-peer accountability and ultimately increased student buy-in to the experience. I have been particularly impressed with this group's leadership and collaboration.

Ultimately, the purpose of the Operetta is to create a unique project during which the students truly collaborate toward a common goal that will be rewarding, enriching and challenging. The students have been hard at work learning choreography, music, blocking and taking responsibility for their crew roles. I am excited for them to share their work with you.

Enjoy the show!

Brian Zane
Middle School Performing Arts Faculty

List of Musical Numbers

Act 1

"Preludium"

Mother Abbess, Nuns, Postulates, Monks

"The Sound of Music"

Maria & Ensemble

"Maria"

Sister Berthe, Sister Sophia, Sister Margaretta, Mother Abbess, Nuns, Postulates, Monks

"My Favorite Things"

Maria & Mother Abbess

"Do-Re-Mi (Parts 1,2,3)"

Maria Von Trapp Children

"Sixteen Going on Seventeen"

Liesl & Rolf

"The Lonely Goatherd"

Maria, Goat, Girl in Pale Pink Coat, Von Trapp Children, Ensemble

"Reprise: The Sound of Music"

Von Trapp Children, Captain

Act 2

"So Long, Farewell"

Von Trapp Children, Farewell

"Climb Ev'ry Mountain"

Mother Abbess, Nuns, Postulates, Monks

"2nd Reprise: The Sound of Music"

Von Trapp Children

"Reprise: My Favorite Things"

Von Trapp Children, Maria

"Reprise: Do-Re-Mi"

Captain, Maria, Von Trapp Children

"Edelweiss"

Captain, Maria, Von Trapp Children

"Final Ultimo: Climb Ev'ry Mountain"

Mother Abbess, Nuns, Postulates, Monks

About the Show

Book by:

Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse

Adaptation by:

Tom Briggs and Timothy Allen McDonald

Orchestrations by:

Robert Russell Bennett

Lyrics by:

Oscar Hammerstein II

Musical Preparation:

John Higgins

Music by:

Richard Rodgers

Adaptation and Support Materials

Developed by:

iTheatrics Under the Supervision of Timothy Allen McDonald

Suggested by:

"The Von Trapp Family Singers" by Maria Augusta Trapp

Casts

Saturday

Sunday

Maria.....Rachel Berger
 Sister Berthe.....Samantha Graines
 Sister Margaretta.....Maddy Meadows
 Mother Abbess.....Mollie Dubner
 Sister Sophia.....Riley Jursa
 Captain Von Trapp.....Andrew Condrell
 Liesl Von Trapp.....Phoebe Friedman
 Freidrich von Trapp.....Josh Katz
 Louisa von Trapp.....Zoe Berman
 Kurt von Trapp.....Gabe Silk
 Brigitta von Trapp.....Belle Lippitz
 Marta von Trapp.....Annabelle Garelick
 Gretl von Trapp.....Chloe Fadem
 Rolf.....Sasha Golubchik
 Max.....Noah Levy

Maria.....Natalie Frankel
 Sister Berthe.....Rose Heller
 Sister Margaretta.....Jenna Harris
 Mother Abbess.....Josie Stahl
 Sister Sophia.....Jordan Leib
 Captain von Trapp.....Oli Katz
 Liesl von Trapp.....Lizzie Lucas
 Friedrich von Trapp.....Cam Beltzman
 Louisa von Trapp.....Marissa Strauss
 Kurt von Trapp.....Ben Pazner
 Brigitta von Trapp.....Valentina Arnold
 Marta von Trapp.....Abby Cyrluk
 Gretl von Trapp.....May Vradenburg
 Rolf.....Simon Mann
 Max.....Gavin Kole

Ensemble Cast

Both Nights (in alphabetical order)

Riley Ablin.....Frau Schmidt/Postulate/Goatherd Ensemble
 AJ Axelrod..... Official (with line)/Monk/Party Guest/Goatherd Ensemble
 Eli Goodman.....Trio at Festival/Monk/Party Guest/Goatherd Ensemble
 Maddie Guttentag.....Girl in the Pale Pink Coat/Nun/Party Guest
 Gabi Josefson.....Goat/Monk/Party Guest/Official
 Julia Kirsh.....Mama/Nun/Party Guest
 Sasha Leavitt.....Trio at Festival/New Postulate/Party Guest/Goatherd Ensemble
 Max Liss.....Trio at Festival/Monk/Party Guest/Goatherd Ensemble
 Yasmin Lobatto.....Fraulein Schweiger/Nun/Party Guest/Goatherd Ensemble
 Drew Rosenberg.....Franz/Monk/Goatherd Ensemble
 Brit Rothstein.....Baron Elberfeld/Nun/Goatherd Ensemble/Official
 Simon Schwartz.....Herr Zeller/Nun/Goatherd Ensemble
 Zach Shashoua.....Admiral Von Schreiber/Nun/Party Guest/Goatherd Ensemble

Artistic & Technical Crew

Director/Music Director.....Brian Zane
 Choreographer.....Christopher Pazdernik
 Conductor/Music Supervisor.....Josh Mather
 Sibling Cast Supervisor.....Charki Dunn
 Accompanist.....Nick Kabat
 Set Design/Set Crew Supervisor.....Gili Sherman
 Costume Design/Supervisor.....Tristan Tom
 Technical Director/Lighting Design.....Cat Wilson
 Makeup Supervisor.....Danielle Steele
 Associate Producer.....Stephanie Bloom
 Online Ticket Sales/Box Office Manager.....Analyse Winans
 Programs.....Abigail Spalding
 Sound Board Supervisor.....Josh Mather, Pedro Morales
 Ushers/Makeup Support.....Eighth Grade Parents
 Costume Rentals.....Broadway Costumes, Inc
 Lighting Rentals.....Design Lab
 Stage Rentals.....Marquee Event Rentals
 Backstage Support.....Jeff Ellison
 Eighth Grade Team Leaders.....Joey Shapiro,
 Deanna McBeath, Beth Sanzenbacher, Kyle Sheahan, Gili Sherman,
 Danielle Steele

Orchestra

Accompanist (Piano).....Nick Kabat
 Clarinet.....Richard Zili

Student Artistic & Technical Crew

Instrumental Ensemble

Flute: Claire Davis & Owen Fisher

French Horn: Eli Kamins & Gabe Silk

Clarinet: Jonathan Blackman &
Oren Guttman

Trombone: Drew Rosenberg

Saxophone: Andrew Condrell, Chloe
Fadem & Andrew Zuckerman

Tuba: Isaac Gross

Trumpet: Jack Ballen, Jacob Condrell
& Jack Davis

Percussion: Noah Horowitz &
Orli Josefson

Stage Managers

Set Design/Crew

Co-Heads: Annabelle Garelick &
Gabi Josefson
A.J. Axelrod
Eli Goodman
Noah Levy
Drew Rosenberg

Co-Heads: Sasha Golubchick &
Riley Jursa
Andrew Condrell
Oli Katz
Belle Lippitz
Simon Schwartz
Josephine Stahl

Props

Publicity

Head: Rose Heller
Zoe Berman
Chloe Fadem
Natalie Frankel
Max Liss
Ben Pazner

Co-Heads: Cam Beltzman, Samantha
Graines & Zach Shashoua
Julia Kirsh
Gavin Kole
Sasha Leavitt
Lizzie Lucas
Brit Rothstein

Student Artistic & Technical Crew

Pit Band

Andrew Condrell
Chloe Fadem
Drew Rosenberg
Gabe Silk

Costumes

Co-Heads: Jenna Harris &
Jordan Leib
Mollie Dubner
Yasmin Lobatto
Maddy Meadows

Directors

Co-Heads: Valentina Arnold &
Simon Mann
Josh Katz
Gabe Silk
May Vradenburg

Choreographers

Head: Abby Cyrluk
Riley Ablin
Rachel Berger
Phoebe Friedman
Maddie Guttentag
Marissa Strauss



Who's Who In the Cast



Riley Ablin is excited to be playing the maid, Frau Schmidt, in the 8th-grade production of *Getting to Know...The Sound of Music!* Last year, Riley played the March Hare and a Card in the 7th-grade play *Alice/Alice*. During the production process, Riley enjoyed helping choreograph the dances in the show. She also helped teach those dances to other students.



In *The Sound of Music*, Valentina Arnold plays the role of Brigitta and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Valentina was co-head director. Outside of school, Valentina participates in several sports, including basketball and soccer.



A.J. Axelrod is an Officer and part of the ensemble for the 8th-grade Operetta *The Sound of Music*. He is also a stage manager. In the past, he played Eaglet and Door 3 in the 7th-grade play *Alice/Alice*.



Cam Beltzman is excited to be a part of the 8th-grade Operetta, *The Sound of Music*. Cam played the role of the Frog and the Mushroom and played the drums in the band for the 7th-grade play *Alice/Alice*. This year, Cam plays the role of Friedrich and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for the production, Cam has been on the publicity team. Outside of school, Cam is a big part of his travel baseball team.



Rachel Berger is thrilled to be playing the role of Maria in *The Sound of Music*. Rachel was an assistant choreographer. In the 7th-grade play, Rachel played the role of the dutchess and worked on the set design. Outside of school, Rachel is part of a dance company, focusing on hip-hop, ballet, jazz, and modern dance. Rachel also enjoys playing for the school basketball and softball teams.

Who's Who In the Cast



Zoe Berman plays the role of Louisa in *The Sound of Music* and works on the prop design crew. She is also a part of the ensemble. Zoe acts, plays basketball, and plays ukulele in her free time. She has acted outside of school for many years and is very excited to participate in this year's 8th-grade operetta.



Andrew Condrell played the role of Alice's mother in his 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and worked on the stage manager crew. In *The Sound of Music*, Andrew plays the role of Captain Von Trapp and will be in the pit band. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Andrew was on the stage management team. Outside of school, Andrew participates in various sports and music programs, including Chicago city soccer and multiple bands.



Abby Cyrluk played the role of Big Alice in her seventh-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and worked on the prop crew. In *The Sound of Music*, Abby plays the role of Marta and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Abby was the head of the choreography team. Outside of school, Abby dances at All About Dance Company and has been dancing for eleven years.



Mollie Dubner is excited to play Mother Abbess in *The Sound of Music*. For the 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice*, Mollie played Alice and had a great time. In preparation for the operetta, Mollie worked as a member of the costume crew to organize the costumes, hair, and makeup. In her free time, Mollie likes to play basketball, softball, sing, read, and hang out with friends.



Chloe Fadem is excited to be playing the role of Gretl in this year's Saturday performance of *The Sound Of Music* and be a part of the ensemble and pit band in Sunday's cast. When she is not on stage, Chloe plays flag football and plays on the school's soccer, basketball, and softball teams, runs track and field and plays saxophone in the school's advanced pit band and jazz bands. Chloe would like to give a special thanks to her parents, grandparents, and her sister for putting their own time and effort into helping her with her lines and her blocking. She would especially like to thank Mr. Zane who has helped her so much with everything and made the play so much fun.



Natalie Frankel plays the role of Maria in *The Sound of Music* and she is a part of the prop design crew. In the 7th-grade play, *Alice/Alice*, Natalie played the role of Queen of Hearts and for her crew role, she helped with costumes and makeup. Outside of school, Natalie sings, plays guitar, and participates in a school sport each season. She is so excited to be putting on this production because she loves to show different sides of herself!



Phoebe Friedman played the role of Bill the Lizard in the 7th-grade play *Alice/Alice*. Phoebe now plays the role of Liesl in *The Sound of Music*. She has worked very hard in her backstage role as a choreographer. Phoebe has a passion for dance and wanted to incorporate that into the operetta by teaching her classmates some of the dances. Phoebe would like to thank her Grammie who has always taken her to musicals and gave her a love for watching them. Without her, Phoebe would not be the person she is today.



Annabelle Garelick is very excited to be playing the role of Marta. In the 8th-grade production of *The Sound of Music*, Annabelle has been practicing for the play at home and in school. She has been working hard on memorizing her lines, blocking, and much more. Behind the scenes, Annabelle is co-head stage manager and helps with transitions, gives cues, and makes sure everything goes smoothly. Annabelle played the role of the narrator in last year's seventh-grade production of *Alice/Alice*. She would like to thank Mr. Zane and everyone's hard work that went into the production.



Sasha Golubchik played the role of the rabbit in his 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and was the head of the stage manager crew. In *The Sound of Music*, Sasha plays the role of Rolf and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Sasha is the head of the set design team. He is really excited to be part of a show that he has watched for years!



Eli Goodman is excited to be in *The Sound of Music*. He will be in the ensemble and the trio at the festival. In his crew role, he is on the stage manager team. Eli also played a tree and narrator in last year's seventh-grade play, *Alice/Alice*.

Who's Who In the Cast



Samantha Graines could not be more thrilled to play the role of Sister Berthe in the 8th-grade production of *The Sound of Music*! Behind the scenes, she is the head of the publicity crew. Previously, she was Juliet in the fifth-grade production of *Romeo and Juliet* and the main character's younger sister in the sixth-grade production of *Inside an Actor's Head*. In last years 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice*, Samantha played the role of Dodo. Outside of school she loves to hang out with family, friends, and play softball.



Maddie Guttentag played the role of Alice in the 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and worked on the set design crew. In *The Sound of Music*, Maddie plays the role of the girl in the pale pink coat, a partygoer, and a postulate in the ensemble role. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Maddie was part of the choreography team. Outside of school, Maddie takes dance classes and competes on a dance team.



Jenna Harris played the role of Alice in her 7th-grade play of *Alice/Alice* and worked on the music crew. In *The Sound of Music*, Jenna plays the role of Sister Margaretta and will be in the ensemble. Jenna has really enjoyed being the head of the costume crew for *The Sound of Music* this year and she hopes that you really enjoy the Operetta.



Rose Heller played the role of Alice in the 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and worked as head of prop design. In *The Sound of Music*, Rose plays the role of Sister Berthe and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Rose was also head of prop design. Outside of school, Rose plays ice hockey and goes to sleepaway camp during the summer at Camp Thunderbird.



Gabi Josefson is very excited to be in the ensemble for the 8th-grade Operetta. He will be playing many roles including a monk, the goat, and a party guest. He also contributed to this production as head stage manager. In school, Gabi is President of Student Council. Outside of school, he goes to Beber Camp and also enjoys doing photography.



Riley Jursa played the role of Mabel in her 7th-grade play of *Alice/Alice* and was the head of the set design crew. In *The Sound of Music*, Riley J. plays the role of Sister Sophia and a member in the ensemble. In preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Riley J. was the co-head of the set design crew. Outside of school, Riley likes to eat lunch with friends and draw.



Josh Katz played the role of the door in his 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice*. Outside of school, he enjoys playing baseball, basketball, and hanging out with friends. Josh is very excited to play Fredrick in the 8th-grade operetta *The Sound of Music*.



Oli Katz played the role of The Mad Hatter and worked on the music crew in his seventh-grade production of *Alice/Alice*. In *The Sound of Music*, Oli plays the role of Captain Von Trapp and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Oli was on the set design team. Outside of school, Oli participates in guitar and is on the school basketball team.



Julia Kirsh played the role of tall Alice last year in the 7th-grade performance of *Alice/Alice* and was in the publicity crew. In *The Sound of Music*, Julia will be part of the ensemble. Once again, Julia is part of the publicity crew for the second year in a row. Outside of school, Julia participates in school basketball and competitive dance.



Gavin Kole is playing Max in the 8th-grade Operetta. In the past, he has played the Mad Hatter in the 7th-grade play and Lotso in the 6th-grade performance. Backstage, Gavin has helped on publicity and has participated in the set design. Gavin is looking forward to working hard and acting in *The Sound of Music*.

Who's Who In the Cast



Sasha Leavitt is excited to be a part of the ensemble in the 8th-grade production of *The Sound of Music*! Last year, Sasha played Small Alice in the 7th-grade play of *Alice/Alice*. She also played the Best Friend in the 6th-grade adaptation of *Inside Out*. Sasha is super excited to be a part in the amazing publicity crew to help inform everyone of the operetta.



Jordan Leib played the role of the Cheshire Cat in her 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and worked on the music crew. In *The Sound Of Music*, Jordan plays the role of Sister Sofia and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound Of Music*, Jordan worked in the hair, makeup, and costume crews. Jordan is very excited to put on this show and see the final result!



Noah Levy is thrilled to be the role of Max and stage manager in *The Sound of Music*. He was also a stage manager last year in *Alice/Alice* and is looking forward to returning to that role. He likes working with peers in order to prepare for the operetta. Along with practicing for the show, Noah enjoys hanging out with friends, watching and playing football, cooking, and photography. He also plays on the school volleyball team.



Belle Lippitz is going to be playing Brigitta in *The Sound of Music*, and she has a little bit of acting experience from the past because she was in the 7th and 6th grade plays.



Max Liss played the role of the Dormouse in his 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and worked on the prop design crew. In *The Sound of Music*, Max plays the role of a Nun, Party Guest, and will be part of the Goatherd Ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Max is a prop designer. Outside of school, Max enjoys rock climbing.



Yasmin Lobatto played the role of a narrator, worked on the director crew, and was part of the jury in her 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice*. In *The Sound of Music*, Yasmin plays the role of Fraulein Schweiger and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Yasmin was part of the costume, hair, and makeup design crew. Outside of school, Yasmin enjoys dancing and hanging out with her friends and family.



Lizzie Lucas played the role of Alice in the 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and was a stage manager. In *The Sound of Music*, Lizzie will play the role of Liesl and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Lizzie was part of the publicity team. She is very excited to be in the musical and can't wait for you to see it.



Simon Mann is very excited to be playing Rolf in *The Sound of Music*. Last year he played the Cheshire Cat in the 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice*. Simon has been acting for many years in The Second City's youth improv programs where he has learned how to be quick on his feet, add humor to his performance and make up funny characters and voices. He hopes that you enjoy the show and is happy his family is here to watch him!



Maddy Meadows is so excited to be playing the role of Sister Margaretta in the year's 8th-grade production of *The Sound of Music*. She will also be part of the ensemble. Previously, she played Alice in last year's 7th-grade play *Alice/Alice*. While preparing for the Operetta, Maddy worked on the costume, hair, and makeup team as they designed and created characters' looks.



Ben Pazner is exhilarated to play the role of Kurt in the 8th-grade production of *The Sound of Music*. He has worked very hard on prop design to create an amazing play. In 7th grade, Ben played the role of the White Rabbit in *Alice/Alice* and worked on the set design. Outside of school, Ben plays for the school's soccer and volleyball team and hopes to do more.

Who's Who In the Cast



Drew Rosenberg is happy to be playing Franz in the 8th-grade's *The Sound of Music*. He was in *Romeo and Juliet* in 5th Grade, *The Righteous Rabbi of Oz* in 6th Grade, *Alice/Alice* in 7th Grade, and he has been in *Annie*. He is a Stage Manager. Outside of school, Drew enjoys biking and 3D Printing. He has worked very hard and he hopes you will enjoy the show!



Brit Rothstein is playing the role of Baron Elberfeld and participating in the ensemble in *The Sound of Music*. He is in the publicity crew and has taken part in past school plays such as *Alice/Alice* and *Toy Story*. He enjoys playing hockey and soccer outside of school.



Simon Schwartz played the role of the Cookie and the Mouse in the 7th-grade production of *Alice/Alice* and worked as a playwright. In *The Sound of Music*, Simon plays the role of Herr Zeller and will be in the ensemble. During the preparation for *The Sound of Music*, Simon was part of the set design crew.



Zach Shashoua is very excited to be playing the part of Admiral Von Schreiber in the 8th-grade Operetta, *The Sound of Music*. He is also co-head of the publicity team. Zach has played the role of Romeo, Woody, and a Card in past school productions. When he is not on stage, Zach plays baseball, basketball, and guitar.



Gabe Silk is thrilled to be playing the role of Kurt in *The Sound of Music*! He has been working with the directors during the production of this play. Gabe played school soccer, is currently playing basketball and will be playing volleyball when the season starts. Outside of school, Gabe also plays guitar and piano.



Josie Stahl is thrilled to be playing Mother Abbess in the 8th-grade Operetta. Offstage, she is on the set crew and is having so much fun designing and painting the sets. Her past experience in performing arts is the 5th-grade play, *Romeo and Juliet*, the 6th-grade play, *The Righteous Rabbi of Oz*, and the 7th-grade play, *Alice/Alice*. Out of school, you can find Josie practicing the piano, dancing, and watching movies. She wants to thank her whole grade and Mr. Zane for helping put this show together. Josie can't wait for you to see the play, enjoy!



Marissa Strauss played the role of the Mad Hatter's friend, the March Hare, in the 7th-grade play, *Alice/Alice*. In her backstage role, she was part of the set design crew, specifically, the backdrops. In *The Sound of Music*, she will be playing one of the Von-Trapp kids, Louisa, and will also be seen in the ensemble and choreography crew. Marissa also plays on the 8th-grade girls basketball team, and outside of school, she participates in playing tennis.



In the 7th-grade play, *Alice/Alice*, May Vradenburg played one of the Alices. Her backstage crew role was costume/makeup/hair designer. May had fun backstage because creating costumes and doing hair and makeup is something that she likes to do on her own time. Outside of school, May was in the T.V. show *Chicago P.D.*, which gave her a really fun and interesting opportunity. Onstage, May is excited that she will be playing Gretl von Trapp. This year backstage, May is a director. She is excited to be a director and to contribute to *The Sound Of Music*.

Sibling Cast

Blake Ablin - 5th
Adina Arnold - 2nd
Jacob Arnold - SK
Nate Axelrod - 5th
Jonah Berman - 6th
Jacob Condrell - 6th
Emma Dubner - 3rd
Nate Dubner - 6th
Asher Friedman - 6th
Leeza Golubchik - 7th
Ariel Goodman - 5th
Stella Graines - 2nd
Sadie Graines - 4th

Benjamin Graines - 6th
Jared Harris - 5th
Orli Josefson - 6th
Zoe Josefson - 6th
Noah Katz - 5th
Estie Katz - 7th
Zoe Kirsh - 5th
Mitchell Leavitt - 5th
Brandon Lieb - 7th
Ethan Levy - 3rd
Aviva Lippitz - 1st
Lev Lippitz - 4th
Emmett Lippitz - 6th

Zoe Lobatto - 2nd
Finley Mann - Nursery
Liam Mann - 5th
Miles Mann - 7th
Chloe Meadows - 1st
Daphne Meadows - 5th
Carly Rosenberg - 3rd
Morgan Rothstein - 6th
Zach Schwartz - 6th
Lila Shashoua - 1st
Cole Shashoua - 6th
Ashley Strauss - 6th
Gavin Vradenburg - 6th

About the Creative Team

Brian Zane (Director/Music Director) is thrilled to direct his fourth Morton Reisman 8th Grade Operetta, *Getting to Know...The Sound of Music*. This is Brian's fourth year teaching Middle School Performing Arts at Bernard Zell and his seventh year as a theatre educator. Brian has co-written two of the last four seventh grade plays, *Alice/Alice* and *Hamlet Jr.* with his wife Mary.

Brian received his Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and English from the College of William and Mary. After several years as a professional actor, Brian enrolled at NYU where he studied and received his Master's degree in Educational Theatre. In addition to teaching, Brian has made a dent in the Chicago theatre scene since moving here in 2012. Chicago theatre credits include: "Manny u/s" in *Master Class* (Timeline Theatre Company), "Moonface Martin" in *Anything Goes* (Music Theater Works), "Tom" in *The Glass Menagerie* (JPAC), "Stan" in the Chicago premiere of *Far from Heaven* (Porchlight Music Theatre), "Buddy" in *Porchlight Revisits...City of Angels*, "Luther Billis" in *South Pacific*, "Mendel" in *Fiddler on the Roof*, "Vernon" in *Damn Yankees* (Light Opera Works) and "Mitch" in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (JPAC). Regional credits include: "Riff" in *West Side Story*, "Picasso" in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, "Franz" in *The Producers* (Charleston Stage Company), "El Gallo" in *The Fantasticks* (Crossroads Rep) and "Sam Wainwright" in *A Wonderful Life* (Armory Theatre).

Christopher Pazdernik (Choreographer) A director/choreographer with "a near encyclopedic knowledge of musicals" (NewCity Stage), Christopher is best known for his critically acclaimed production of *High Fidelity* (Jeff Awards, Best Director & Best Musical; Jeff nomination, Best Choreography) at Refuge Theatre Project, where he also serves as Artistic Director. He is thrilled to be back for his 3rd year choreographing for Bernard Zell! Christopher is also a frequent cabaret director and curator, including Broadway's Cult Classics at Davenport's Piano Bar, the *His & His* series at Pride Films & Plays and the New Faces Sing Broadway series at Porchlight Music Theatre, where he is a proud Artistic Associate. Special thanks to Brian for the friendship and the opportunity!

Cat Wilson (Lighting Designer) is a Chicago-based lighting and projection designer. She recently worked with companies such as Goodman Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, TimeLine Theatre, Joffrey Ballet Academy, Chicago Children's Theatre, Kokandy Productions, Irish Theatre of Chicago, Jackalope Theatre, Hell in a Handbag Productions, and many others around the country. She received her MFA in lighting design from Carnegie Mellon University.

Tristan Tom (Costume Design/Coordinator) has worked with many Chicago theatrical shows including the Jeff Award Winning "Doyle and Debbie" and "'Louis and Keely' Live@ the Sahara!". He has also worked for theatres like Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Redmoon Theatre, and The Royal George as well as Emerald City Children's Theatre. Tristan has toured with *Care Bears Live!* as well as the national and International & national tours of *Sesame Street Live!* Tristan is so very grateful for Brian, the children at this wonderful school, and for all of their work during this performance process. They are inspiring youth!

About the Creative Team

Gili Sherman (Set and Prop Supervisor) is thrilled to be involved in this creative rendition of one of her favorite musicals. Gili earned a BFA in Graphic Design (Art History and Photography minors) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and also a Masters of Science in Journalism, also from UIUC. More recently, she taught Hebrew at both Stevenson and Evanston High Schools. Prior to becoming an art teacher, Gili lived in Israel for 12 years and worked as a Creative Director in a Tel Aviv advertising firm. In her free time, Gili enjoys reading good novels, going on the storytelling circuit, creating art, visiting art museums, biking, and traveling the world with her husband and four children. This is Gili's second year at Bernard Zell and she is thrilled to be a part of this community!

Josh Mather (Orchestrator/Music Supervisor/Conductor) grew up in suburban Denver and moved to Chicago with his partner Erin in 2009. He holds dual bachelor's degrees in Music Education and trumpet performance from the University of Northern Colorado, as well as some master's degree credits in music education at Colorado State University. Mr. Mather has taught at Bernard Zell for the past nine years. During his tenure at Bernard Zell he has grown the band program by three-fold and started a guitar program in 6th grade. Mr. Mather is an active musical member of the Lakeview community and has been the the founding assistant conductor with the Lakeview Orchestra since 2011. He has facilitated an active partnership between Bernard Zell and the LO for the last five years bringing in LO musicians to the school for several symposiums, master classes, sectionals, and to play in the pit for the Operetta.

Nick Kabat (Accompanist) A native of Chicagoland, Nick completed a bachelor of music degree in Jazz Studies from DePaul University in 2011. He has done a steady amount of work as a musical rehearsal accompanist to countless musicals, with some favorites including *Urinetown*, *Avenue Q* and *Cabaret*. He also has accompanied elementary and high school solo recitals and choir events at various schools around Chicagoland, such as Loyola Academy, Niles West and Leyden township high schools. He currently is the lead percussion and keyboard instructor at Altered Stage, a community based music center in the west loop geared towards adults who want to learn an instrument. With over a decade of teaching experience, Nick has had students from the kindergarten age to senior citizens and everyone in between. This is his fifth year performing for Bernard Zell (previously playing in *Pirates of Penzance*, *Cinderella*, *My Fair Lady*, and *The Lion King Jr.*), and he is always happy to come back and play here each spring!

Morton Reisman

Eighth Grade Operetta History

62 Years of a Musical Theater Tradition: 1957 - 2019

In 1957, the first three-act Operetta was presented by the 5th grade. From 1958 to present, the 8th grade has starred in the Operetta.

Year	Title (Writer)	Director
1957	Hansel & Gretl (Engelbert Humperdinck)	Morton Reisman
1958	The Magic Flute (Mozart)	Morton Reisman
1959	H.M.S. Pinafore (Gilbert & Sullivan)	Morton Reisman
1960	Masquerade in Vienna (Adapted by Johann Strauss)	Morton Reisman
1961	The Hither and Thither of Danny Dither (Alex North)	Morton Reisman
1962	Robin Hood (De Koven)	Mortin Reisman
1963	H.M.S. Pinafore (Gilbert & Sullivan)	Morton Reisman
1964	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (R. Gibson)	Morton Reisman
1965	Rip Van Winkle (C. Fiore & N. Flagello)	Morton Reisman
1966	The Mikado (Gilbert & Sullivan)	Morton Reisman
1967	The Magic Flute (Mozart)	Morton Reisman
1968	The Seven Golden Buttons (Ira & Judith Eisenstein)	Brina Rodin
1969	Danny Angel in Mission Incredible (Alex North)	Aviva Crane
1970	To Wake a King (Harry Coopersmith)	Brina Rodin
1971	The King & I (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Dorothy Meyers
1972	South Pacific (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Dorothy Meyers
1973	Fiddler on the Roof (Bock & Harnick)	Dorothy Meyers
1974	The Mikado (Gilbert & Sullivan)	Dorothy Meyers
1975	Oliver! (Lionel Bart)	Fred Nathan
1976	To Be Free (Daniel Kahn)	Daniel Kahn
1977	The Sound of Music (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Tom Mula
1978	Annie Get Your Gun (Irving Berlin)	Deborah Martello
1979	Oklahoma! (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Marvin Richardson
1980	Brigadoon (Lerner & Loewe)	Pearl & Sulie Harand
1981	My Fair Wizard of Oz (Arlen & Stolhart)	Pearl & Sulie Harand
1982	Fiorello (Bock & Harnick)	Pearl & Sulie Harnad
1983	Of Thee I Sing (George & Ira Gershwin)	Pearl & Sulie Harnad
1984	Guys & Dolls (Frank Loesser)	Pearl & Sulie Harnad
1985	South Pacific (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Pearl & Sulie Harnad
1986	The King & I (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Pearl & Sulie Harnad

Year	Title (Writer)	Director
1987	Pippin (Stephen Schwartz)	Dorothy Meyers
1988	The Music Man (Meredith Wilson)	Robb Zelonky
1989	The Wiz (Charlie Smalls)	Robb Zelonky
1990	Once Upon a Mattress (Mary Rodgers & Marshall Barer)	Leeza Watstein
1991	West Side Story (Leonard Bernstein & Stephen Sondheim)	Jeff Dudek
1992	Grease (Jim Jacobs & Warren Casey)	Jeff Dudek & Andrea Toshir
1993	Oliver! (Lionel Bart)	Manon Gustafeste & Charki Dunn
1994	Bye Bye Birdie (Adams & Strouse)	Manon Spadaro
1995	Guys & Dolls (Frank Loesser)	Manon Spadaro
1996	Fiddler on the Roof (Harnick & Bock)	David B. Cohen
1997	The Music Man (Meredith Willson)	David B. Cohen
1998	The King & I (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Mary Launder
1999	West Side Story (Leonard Bernstein & Stephen Sondheim)	Mary Launder
2000	Into the Woods (Stephen Sondheim)	Reece Livingstone
2001	Pippin (Stephen Schwartz)	Reece Livingstone
2002	Flower Drum Song (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Reece Livingstone
2003	Kiss Me, Kate (Cole Porter)	Reece Livingstone
2004	The Mikado (Gilbert & Sullivan)	Reece Livingstone
2005	Annie Get Your Gun (Irving Berlin)	Reece Livingstone
2006	Oliver! (Lionel Bart)	Abigail Leigh Huss
2007	The Wizard of Oz (Arlen & Harburg)	Abigail Leigh Huss
2008	High School Musical (Simpatico, Louiselle, Gerrard, Nevil, Cham, Seeley, Peterson, Quinn, Dodd, Watts, Lawrence, Greenberg, Houston, Barsocchini)	Abigail Leigh Huss
2009	Bye Bye Birdie (Adams & Strauss)	Abigail Leigh Huss
2010	Willy Wonka (Newley & Bricousse)	Abigail Leigh Huss
2011	Annie (Charnin, Meehan & Strouse)	Abigail Leigh Murphy
2012	The Music Man (Meredith Willson)	Mary Launder
2013	Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Webber & Rice)	Mary Launder
2014	The Pirates of Penzance (Gilbert & Sullivan)	Colette Nakielski
2015	Cinderella (Rodgers & Hammerstein)	Colette Nakielski
2016	My Fair Lady (Lerner & Loewe)	Brian Zane
2017	The Lion King Jr. (John & Rice)	Brian Zane
2018	Fiddler on the Roof Jr. (Bock & Harnick)	Brian Zane

Mazel Tov!

**Congratulations to the Class of 2019
on a remarkable performance of
Getting to Know...
*The Sound of Music!***



BERNARD ZELL

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