### THE CAST AND SINGERS



# **ABY ROBINSON**

Aby is very excited to be a part of My World of Disney. She has had a passion for singing and acting since she was at toddler. A special thanks goes out to MMV, and all of her friends and family who support her, especially her parents Momma Donna and Papa Jon. Some of her favorite roles have been Jane Banks in Mary Poppins and Young Eponine in Les Misérables.



### **NEVY JOHNSON**

Nevy Johnson (Nevy Joe) is 17 years old and a junior at Cudahy High School. Nevy has been involved with music performance since 9 years old. Some credits include **July** in *Annie*, **Fan** in *A Christmas Story*, and **Bird girl #2** in *Seussical the Musical*. While focusing many years on Vocal lessons she had great opportunities performing solo recitals in the greater Milwaukee area including the **The Italian Community Center**, **Summerfest**, and **The Milwaukee Art Museum**. She is so excited, and looks forward to the many adventures during and after high school in a career of vocal performance.



### **RYAN VANSELOW**

Ryan is excited to be working with Milwaukee Metro Voices for the first time, especially singing Disney! Ryan was last seen as *Horton* in *Seussical Jr* at **The New Theatre on Main**. Other favorite roles include *The Artful Dodger* (**Oliver!**), *Randolph MacAfee* (**Bye Bye Birdie**), *Mal Beineke* (**Addams Family Jr**) and *Tommy* (**A Disappearing**). When not on stage, Ryan enjoys playing the violin and exploring technology of all kinds. He would like to thank his family and friends for their support!



## **NYSHELLE WILSON**

Nyshelle Wilson is performing with Milwaukee Metro Voices for the first time in the **My World of Disney** show. She is currently a freshman at Milwaukee School of Language. Nyshelle hopes to fulfil her dreams of acting and modeling. She is very excited to be performing with MMV and looks forward to future opportunities with this amazing group.



**ZENA JARDINI** 

Zena Jardini is performing with Milwaukee Metro Voices for the first time in the **My World of Disney** show. She is currently a student at St Sebastian School. She is very excited to be performing with MMV and looks forward to future opportunities with the company.



# **BARBARA CZARKOWSKI**

Singing is an artful joy and stress reliever for Barbara, who just retired from twenty-four years of teaching. A happy soprano in her church choir, she joined *Milwaukee Metropolitan Voices* in 2010, was a founding member of *In Good Company* in 2013, and created our children's ensemble, some of who are her former students. Barbara produced our May 2015 labor show, *Living Life in Ten Acts* and is producing *My World of Disney*. Thanks to everyone for their hard work.





Alan Piotrowicz RETURNS AS A SINGING PERFORMER TO THE STAGE! Otherwise, Alan freelances throughout the greater Milwaukee area and has designed for several fine companies, including Bunny Gumbo, Falls Patio Players, First Stage, Four Seasons, In Tandem, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Milwaukee Rep, Next Act Theatre, Renaissance Theaterworks, and T.I.M.: The Improvised Musical, among others. He's also designed for TITAN Theatre Co. New York, including their critically-acclaimed A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM and the world premiere of Angela lannone's THIS PRISON WHERE I LIVE. He received his training at UW-Madison and apprenticed with The Santa Fe Opera. Proud board member of Cooperative Performance Milwaukee. www.alanpiotrowicz.com



**BEN KORDUS** 

Entering his eleventh season with MMV, Ben has performed as a soloist or ensemble member at all but one show. His favorite songs to perform with the group have been songs of a humorous nature, and his solo in *My World of Disney* has a humorous streak to it. Ben Kordus is a founding member of Milwaukee Metro Voices, and has served on the Board of Directors for nine of those years. He retired as President of the Board at the end of 2016, after a three-year stint as president. Ben was a director and adjudicator of Wisconsin Marching Bands for many years, also singing in church choirs since a young age.



# **BETSY MUELLER**

Betsy Mueller has been a soprano soloist with MMV since 2009. After participating in choirs and musical theatre programs throughout her junior high and high school years, she was awarded a vocal performance scholarship to Carroll University. Although she is classically trained, she enjoys the variety of musical styles that MMV allows her the opportunity to explore.



#### **ERIN BERGLAND**

Erin has been performing with **MMV's In Good Company** for two years. She was part of the ensemble in *Osmosis* and *Living Life in Ten Acts* and *Cabin in the Woods*. This will be her second appearance as part of a small group of supporting singers, and looks forward to the singing journey that's ahead of her. Erin is a resident member of **In Good Company**.



### **ERIN MAHNKE**

This is Erin's first performance with Milwaukee Metro Voices. When not busy with her four children, she enjoys singing in her spare time. Erin is very excited to be a part of the show and has loved working with everyone.



# **DARTHE JENNINGS**

Darthe Jennings is a songwriter from the coast of Maine, where she was a clinical social worker by day, a musical theatre performer by night, and a lobsterwoman on weekends. She performed with **Downriver Theatre**, **Penobscot Theatre**, and **Seagull Rock Players**, enjoying leading roles in *Godspell*, *Dirty Work at the Crossroads*, and *Nunsense II*. Darthe is a founding member of MMV, where she wrote, produced, and performed the MMV show, *I Can't Believe this is MyLife*, *by GEORGE*;-) Currently working in Wauwatosa on her third recording of original songs and a children's book project, Darthe is thrilled by every opportunity to sing.



#### DWAYNE KRAGER

Dwayne says that in one way or another, music has always been a part of his life. As a member of MMV for the past 9 years, you will notice his voice as the deep bass coming from the many songs performed by the group. In addition, you might notice that he stands out a little bit more than the average group member, yes the tall one in the back. Dwayne truly believes that being a member of the MMV group provides has been a great opportunity to grow his musical talents. "It is wonderful to have the opportunity to apply college music and theater lessons to new and unique productions."



### **KATIE FERRARO**

Katie Ferraro has been with Milwaukee Metro Voices for five years. Prior to that, she's sung with The Bel Canto Chorus, UW-Oshkosh Choral Union, Waukesha Choral Union, Milwaukee Festival Chorus, Milwaukee Singers, Suburban Singers and for Immaculate Conception church choir, the latter of which is ongoing. Katie is enjoying her time with MMV - In Good Company, and hopes to continue singing with the group for years to come.



# **HOLLY SCHMIDT**

The last time Holly Schmidt, 26, was in a musical was 8 years ago, while she was in high school! She is excited to have been a part of *My World of Disney* for the past 3 weeks. After graduating from UW-Stout in 2013, she moved to Germany and worked as an au pair, English tutor and intern for a small furniture and living accessories company owned by her host mom. She came back to the states in October 2016, and now works full time at FirsTime & Co., a clock design company in New Berlin, which she absolutely loves!



## **KAREN NELMS**

Karen Nelms is a founding member of **Milwaukee Metro Voices**, and *In Good Company*. Having served as a director on the board for nine years Karen retired from the board at the end of 2016, but as always she is as busy as ever for MMV and is currently setting up **The Friends of MMV** to support the organization. So if you want to be part of our activities Karen is the one to see. Karen is a fine alto who has appeared in all but one of MMV's productions.



# **LIZ KRAHN**

Once upon a time, there was a girl named Liz Krahn, who loved to sing but didn't have the confidence to do it in front of anyone. Then one day she met a group of amazing musicians and, blessedly, got to join them. She got to sing fantastic music — including a duet about asteroids coming to destroy New Jersey — and learned to have more confidence in herself. And that was just the beginning. This is her story. "Every day I am thankful to be a part of such a wonderful ensemble and look forward to all the incredible opportunities the future of MMV holds."



# **MIRIAM HALL**

Miriam is a long time member of *In Good Company*. She is the founder of our goodwill annual charity Christmas concert, and works tirelessly ensuring its success. When not singing on occasion with the *In Good Company*, she can be found playing organ at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Bayview.



# **PAIGE BERRIER**

Although she is an avid lover of music and the arts, this will be Paige's first theatrical performance since childhood. As a North Carolina native, she is a graduate from the UNC School of the Arts, and later studied Fibers at the Savannah College of Art and Design. Paige now works professionally as a Textile Artist on the Kohl's Home team. Paige enjoys watercolor painting, traveling, party planning, her cat Scout, and visiting haunted houses throughout Wisconsin with her partner Mac.

#### THE HARD KNOCK KIDS

The Hard Knock Kids were formed three years ago as part of MMV's outreach to Milwaukee schools and young children. Spearheaded by **In Good Company** founding member Barbara Czarkowski, the HKK's inclusion in our shows has become a standard practice. Thank you parents! 2017 has seen an increase in this new venture, as we welcome more children to join the **Hard Knock Kids**.



Angelica Correa-Ramos



Elsa Day



Gianna Maniaci



Kaitlyn Day



Larissa Day



Lucas Krahn



Piper Shultz



Adrianna Leig



Kaylee Mahnke



Jabuari Davidson



Ray Moreno