

The CAST of "Only We Know Best – At The Town Hall Meeting"



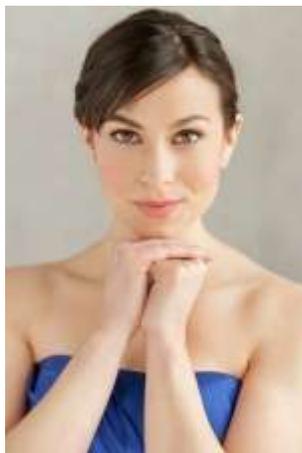
Christie Burgess (Barbara Howell - a Bible-thumper)

Christie is jazzed to debut this new work with its fantastic creatives. Performing regional theatre in the Milwaukee and Chicago areas, favorite roles include: *Les Miserables* (Fantine), *CATS* (Demeter), *Young Frankenstein* (Elizabeth), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Christine), *The Andrews Brothers* (Peggy), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Miss Peretti), Marriott Theatre in Lincolnshire: *Shout!* (Swing), *Urinetown* (Hope), *Little Foxes* (Regina), *Fifth of July* (June), & *Lend Me a Tenor* (Diana, Maggie). A BFA Acting grad from UW- Stevens Point, and a new mom determined to act and raise a family at the same time, she's sends love to her family and friends, special thanks to her hubby Dan, and extra love to her baby boy, Hugh. Follow your dreams, my little Hugh Magoo.



Becky Cofta (Lesley Kern - A Nouveau Hippy)

Becky Cofta is thrilled to be working on this original show with MMV. She has performed with All In Productions, Greendale Community Theater, Off The Wall Theater and Cooperative Performance Milwaukee, among others. Special thanks to family and friends for their love and support!



Clare Czechowicz (Julie - a Catholic schoolgirl)

Clare Czechowicz is a local musician and actress. She recently graduated with a BA in Music from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Clare teaches voice lessons at Brass Bell Music Store and this is her first show post-graduation. She thanks her family and friends for support.



Colin Daly (Jameson the Scientist)

Colin Daly is excited to make his debut with Milwaukee Metro Voices. He has previously been seen as Albert in Soulstice's "Secret Garden" and Cooperative Performance Milwaukee productions as Boy in "iTopia" by Don Russell and Peter Pan in "Nightmares and Lullabies" by Kelly Coffey. He was also in "While the Lights Were Out" and "Boeing Boeing" with the Bay Players. He would like to thank Miles, his UWM co-workers and the cast for their support.



Hannah Esch (Loni Crenshaw - a Jehovah's Witness)

Hannah is ecstatic to make her Milwaukee Metro Voices debut! A Milwaukee-based performer and arts educator, she holds a BFA in Vocal Performance and Music Education from UW Milwaukee and teaches at the Academy of Performing Arts. Previous credits include *Suor Angelica* (UW Milwaukee), *Madama Butterfly* (La Musica Lirica), and *L'enfant et les Sortilèges* (UW Milwaukee-Milwaukee Opera Theatre collaboration). Love and thanks to Mom and Dad for their never-ending support.



Christine Esche (Christine - a citizen)

Christine Esche is a local singer who is making her Milwaukee acting debut! She has been a soprano with the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus since 2011 and has previously performed for the Madison theater company, StageQ, where she played Atthis in *Sappho in Love* and various comedic roles in *Queer Shorts*, an annual series of short plays written by LGBTQ playwrights. She thanks her loved ones for their support.



Ana Gonzales (Ella Pierson - a Tea Party member)

As an incoming freshman in college, Ana is thrilled to have the opportunity to help communicate the complexity and comedy of this show. Although she has been a part of many other shows including SPAMALOT (Lady of the Lake), GREASE (Rizzo), and ROMEO AND JULIET (Lady Capulet), she has never had the privilege of working on a political comedy such as this, and she hopes you enjoy watching it as much as she has enjoyed being a part of it. Enjoy the show!



Brittany Green (Mikaela, a coffee barista and psychology student)

Brittany is pleased to be making her local debut for the first time in three years. She previously worked in local productions such as "Cowboy Camp" at Sunset Playhouse. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Theater at Marquette University. Credits include Juliette in "I Have Before Me a Remarkable Document Given to Me by a Young Lady from Rwanda," Crystal in "Little Shop of Horrors" and Donna in "Defying Gravity."



Henry Hammond (Edgar Simms - the CEO of Jaxxov Oil)

Henry is a Milwaukee native and is thrilled to be making his debut with Milwaukee Metro Voices. Known for his thunderous bass voice he has appeared with local companies including the Florentine Opera, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, In Tandem Theatre, Milwaukee Entertainment Group, Off the Wall Theatre, Theatre Unchained, East Side Chamber Players, Modern Music, amongst others. He is also a founding member and manager of Opera on Tap Milwaukee. In this age of political divisiveness, he is happy to appear in a production that promotes moderate and free thinking.



Anna Hecht (Shannon - a Catholic schoolgirl)

Anna is thrilled and honored to be a part of Jason Powell's new work Only We Know Best. Anna is finishing up her Theater major at Cardinal Stritch University where she has been a part of many productions. Some of her favorites include Judas in Godspell, Mary Kenny in Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?, Cinderella in Cinderella: Love What You Wish For, Helena in A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Becca Corbett in Rabbit Hole- among many others. She can't wait to continue to build her acting resume as she graduates. Enjoy the show!



Bob Hirschi (Davis Tryon – a representative of #UnitedStatesFirst)

Bob has worked with Off the Wall, Windfall, Skylight, and Sunset Theaters. Favorite roles include Riff Raff in the **Rocky Horror Show**, Polonius in **Hamlet**, and the title role in **Sweeney Todd**. He is also a co-ecmee for Musical Mainstage at Sunset Playhouse. Bob also sings with the bands Groove Therapy and the George Busateri Band.



Ben Kordus (Daniel Bristow - a Christian Scientist)

Ben Kordus is a founding member of Milwaukee Metro Voices, and has served on the Board of Directors for nine of those years. After a three year stint as president, Ben retired from the Board at the end of 2016. In 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 song in *Only We Know Best* does have a humorous streak to it. He is pleased to be taking part in this exciting new venture for MMV. Ben was a director and adjudicator of Wisconsin Marching Bands for many years, also singing in church choirs since a young age.



Ryan Krueger (Joe - The Intern)

Ryan is grinning ear-to-ear, working with Milwaukee Metro Voices for the first time! A Milwaukee native and proud graduate from Milwaukee High School of the Arts, he has spent the last several years working around Milwaukee and Chicago for various theatres such as, First Stage, The Music Theatre Company, Splinter Group, and the Alchemist (Drop-Out Arts). Some of his favorite roles/shows include: THE ALIENS (Evan), ZANNA, DON'T! (Tank), SEUSSICAL (Wickersham Brother 2), DOG SEES GOD (Beethoven), and KIMBERLY AKIMBO (Jeff). When not seen on stage, you may find him working with theatre students, or selling Milwaukee apparel in Downtown Milwaukee. Thank you to the cast, crew, and Jason. Enjoy the show!



Chad Larget (Jay Austin – a veteran)

Chad Larget made his Broadway debut in the original cast of CANDIDE, 1997 revival, directed by Harold Prince. (Candide Understudy) A Milwaukee native, Chad performed several roles with Skylight Music Theatre in the '90s, including PIRATES OF PENZANCE (Frederic), DIE FLEDERMAUS (Dr. Blind), MOST HAPPY FELLA (Pasquale), and A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC (Erlanson). Chad has been a REALTOR in the metro area for 14 years.



Beth Lewinski (Margaret “Meg” Givens - the town selectman)

Beth Lewinski is a Milwaukee native with a degree in Film, Television and Theatre from the University of Notre Dame. You may have seen her in numerous productions and shows (scripted and unscripted) with the Alchemist Theatre, ComedySportz Milwaukee, Radio WHT, Sketch 22, Schmitz and Giggles, V-Core productions, MoJo Dojo, and others. She regularly performs with and is Associate Producer of Dinner Detective Milwaukee. You can next see her as Emilia in "The Comedy of Othello...Kinda Sorta" at Next Act Theatre this August. She is grateful to be a part of this amazing production, thanks you for being here, and hopes you enjoy the show!



Briana Lipor (Katherine “Kate” Mary Ritch – a Catholic schoolgirl)

Briana Lipor, a native of Racine, began performing at the early age of five with her dad’s rock and roll band! Her passion for the arts blossomed and landed her roles in shows such as *South Pacific*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Footloose* and many more! She studied Vocal Performance at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside in Kenosha, WI.

In 2008, Briana was awarded the title of Miss Wisconsin and was fortunate to travel the country and even compete on the Miss America stage! Briana is currently on her 10th year teaching children's musical theater at The Racine Theater Guild. She is very excited to be a part of such an amazing original piece!



Ben Ludwig (Steven Breitbart - an Alt-Right advocate)

This is Ben's first production with MMV. Recent credits include Prince Tamino in MOT's *Zie Magic Flute*, Mercedes/Cagelle in Skylight Music Theatre's *La Cage Aux Folles*, a contestant in DIX Bar Milwaukee's *DIX Drag Race*, a Dancer in the Milwaukee Jewish Museum's Production *Fiddler: The Untold Tradition*, Telegraph Boy/Lifeguard/Accordionist in Off The Wall's *The Skin of Our Teeth*, Princess Krishna in Quasimondo Physical Theatre's *Kama Sutra*, the Young Soldier in Greendale Community Theatre's *Parade*, and a back-up singer with the UW-Milwaukee Concert Chorale for the Rolling Stones on their *Zip Code Tour* stop at Summerfest.



Manny Lupian (Milo – an Alt-Right advocate)

Manny is a San Diego native who moved to Milwaukee three years ago. Manny is no stranger to theater and the arts, being involved in community theater, singing with the **San Diego Gay Men's Chorus** and with **Encore Vocal Ensemble**. Since moving to Milwaukee he has sung with **MMV's In Good Company** as a soloist in *Keep the Home Fires Burning* and *Osmosis* and has also sang with **The Lutheran Acapella Chorus**. Manny produced his first show with MMV's **In Good Company** *A Cabin in The Woods* last fall, and is excited to be working with Tessara and Trefor on this exciting production. Manny represents *In Good Company* on the Board of MMV.



Marika Marklin (Ashley - a Catholic schoolgirl)

Marika is a junior at Wauwatosa East High School and is thrilled to be in "ONLY WE KNOW BEST." Regional credits include: Junie B. Jones (May), Spookley... (Allan), and Rudolph...(Dolly). In her free time, she is most likely babysitting, or in awe of her dog's cuteness. She hopes you enjoy this powerful and comical show!



Tess Masias (Sondra – a representative of #UnitedStatesFirst)

Tess Masias graduated from The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in May of 2016 with a BA in Vocal Performance. This is Tess's first production outside of school and she is thrilled to be part of such a diverse and talented local cast. Past performances include The Sorceress in UWM's *Dido and Aeneas*, Un Patre in UWM's *L'Enfant et les Sortileges*. Tess is beyond grateful to have an amazing support system in her friends and family who encourage her to follow her passions.



Andrea Moser (Cheryl Strepp)

An alumna of the Yale School of Drama, Andrea has been nominated for the Academy Award 20 times. Locally, she has performed with Theater Luminous, Sunset's Bug in a Rug Children's Theater, the Alchemist, In Tandem, Danceworks, Late Night Catechism, Flanagan's Wake, Bunny Gumbo's Combat Theater, The Show, and Milwaukee Cooperative Performance.



Liz Norton (Professor Agatha Bertram)

Liz Norton has performed with Skylight Music Theatre, The Marriott Theatre Lincolnshire, Off the Wall, All in Productions, Sunset Playhouse, among others. Favorite roles include the Chaperone in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Mame in *Mame*, Jeannette in *The Full Monty*, and Joanne in *Company*. Liz is happy to be playing another strong, mouthy woman in Jason Powell's *Only We Know Best*, and she thanks the production team for the opportunity. www.liznortonsings.com



Jasmine Ridgell (Paula – a representative of #UnitedStatesFirst)

Jasmine Ridgell is thrilled to play Paula, in MMV's premiere production of *Only We Know Best* by Jason Powell. After working in the Finance Industry, her love for singing guided further musical study at the Conservatory; and theatre has become a natural progression. She has since performed with Alchemist Theatre, Waukesha Civic Theatre, and Kenosha Lakeside Players. Jasmine would like to thank her family and friends for their unwavering support.



Liz Shipe (Jennifer McLure - a democrat)

Liz Shipe is a playwright, art director, actor and costumer. Most recently, she was seen in her original work produced by Theater Red, *BONNY ANNE BONNY* as 'Heartless Jane Bristow'. Shipe has had seven of her original works performed in and around the Milwaukee Area including: *THE BAKER'S STREET TRILOGY* at the Old World Wisconsin, 1940's musical, *HOME FOR CHRISTMAS* at the Historic Brumder Mansion, and Robin Hood themed *A LADY IN WAITING*, and *BONNY ANNE BONNY* with Theater Red. Look for her latest work, *THE INCREDIBLE ADVENTURE OF ALVIN TATLOCK* in the Milwaukee Fringe Fest this summer



Dan Slane (William Osgood - a coal miner)

In the 1970's Dan appeared in many theater productions around the Milwaukee area. In the 80's to mid 90's he pursued his dream as an entertainer throughout the country and beyond and spent 10 years on cruise ships. He is a singer, songwriter, piano and guitar player. Dan recently retired as a Business Agent for the Carpenter's Union and is currently working part time as a Safety Director for a large Milwaukee construction company. Dan is very happy to be back on stage.



Keith R. Smith (Alt-Right Advocate)

This is Keith's first show with Milwaukee Metro Voices. He was just recently seen in *THE WILD PARTY* as Kegs/Neighbor with All in Productions, and Bernstein in *LITTLE SHOP* with Sunset Playhouse. Some other previous roles have been: Mr. Keys (*SOME MEN*), Lysander (*A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM*), Rio Rita (*THE HOSTAGE*), Dr. Frank (*THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW*), and Fender (*HAIRSPRAY*). Keith studied and earned his BFA in Theatre Arts from Carroll University in 2010 and has been acting professionally and locally since.



Laura Spencer (Sister Betty Carlyle – a Catholic nun)

Laura is delighted to be performing with MMV at Next Act Theatre, in a tad more chaste role than the genetically-modified-crime-fighting-farmer's daughter she portrayed in *The Alchemist's "Invader? I Hardly Know Her!"* (also by J. Powell). Laura has sung with Master Singers of Milwaukee, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, Present Music, the Philharmonic Chorus of Madison, and once joined the MSO for Mahler's "Symphony No. 8." She is also a member of local band Ghostnotes. She is so grateful for the support of her family, friends, and freshly-minted husband, who urges her to follow white rabbits.



Eric Welch (Bryan Shriver - an elitist)

Eric Welch is very excited to be apart of this new production. Most recently Eric was seen in *Spamalot* as Prince Herbert with the Falls Patio Players. Eric was also just involved with the *Snow Dance Festival* with Over Our Head Players in Racine. Other credits include: *The Wild Party* (Oscar D'Armano), *The Little Mermaid* (Flotsam), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Frank 'N' Furter), *The Wedding Singer* (George), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Motel), and *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel's Prince). He also recently just started his own company, K'Eric'ters. Be sure to check it out on Facebook or instagram!



Donnie Williams (A citizen)

Donnie is excited to be a part of Jason Powell's *Only We Know Best*. He is a junior Theatre and Communications major at Cardinal Stritch and has done a plethora of shows there including "Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?" as the rebellious Mike Depki, "Cinderella" as the sassy evil step-mother Leola, Little Shop of Horrors as the just as sassy and blood thirsty plant Audrey 2, the brutally honest Army Lieutenant as well as the slightly risqué pastor in 9 circles, the All Good Gifts Soloist in Godspell, and the hilarious Golden Hen in Jack and the Beanstalk. Recently, he competed in the National Association of Teachers of Singing where he placed 3rd place in the Men's College Musical Theatre Division. He hopes to continue to grow and learn through singing and acting.