

THE FREE THEATRE PRESENTS

*Natasha, Pierre & the*

# GREAT COMET

*Of 1812*

MUSIC, LYRICS, & BOOK BY DAVE MALLOY

**AT BLACKROCK CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

*Presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Corp.*



# NATASHA, PIERRE & THE GREAT COMET OF 1812

Book, lyrics and music by Dave Malloy

Presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

[www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

Broadway premiere presented by Howard & Janet Kagen, Paula Marie Black, Carole Shorenstein Hays, Jenny Steingart and Jason Eagan, Mary Lu Roffe and Susan Gallin, Diana DiMenna, Mary Maggio/Sharon Azrieli/Robin Gorman, Darren Sussman/Roman Gambourg/Lev Gelfer, Tom Smedes, John Logan, Lisa Matlin, Margie and Bryan Weingarten, Daveed Frazier, Argyle Productions/Jim Kierstead, In Fine Company/Hipzee, Gutterman & Caiola/Backdrop Partners, Siderow Kirchman Productions/Sunnyspot Productions, Gordon/Meli Theatricals, Rodger Hess/Larry Toppall, Daniel Rakowski/Matt Ross/Ben Feldman, Mike Karns, The American Repertory Theatre (Diane Paulus, Artistic Director; Diane Quinn, Executive Producer; Diane Borger, Producer), and Ars Nova.

Originally commissioned, developed, and world premiere produced by Ars Nova; Jason Eagan, Founding Artistic Director; Renee Blinkwolt, Managing Director.

Further developed and produced by the American Repertory Theater at Harvard University; Diane Paulus, Artistic Director; Diane Quinn, Executive Producer; Diane Borger, Producer.



# PHOTO AND VIDEO

Photography and video is strictly  
prohibited

during all performances!

Professional photos will be taken during  
our dress rehearsals, and be made  
available to download free of charge.

Links will be sent to all ticketholders and  
our company members. You may upload  
these photos to social media

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Thank you!



# ABOUT THE FREE THEATRE

The Free Theatre provides an inclusive, supportive environment in which high school students have the opportunity to be at the helm of the collaborative and creative process of producing theatre, regardless of financial means.

The Free Theatre was formed in June 2018 by a small group of dedicated high school seniors with the desire and drive to create a non-profit 501(c)3, student-run, tuition-free company for students who are passionate about creating theatre.

All our shows have been directed, choreographed, stage-managed and designed by high school students. Adults, professionals in all aspects of theater, are available as advisors and mentors to students, as well as serve on an advisory board to the company.

The Free Theatre has existed completely on individual donations and grants since our inception. We are always looking for new avenues to keep us fully funded so that all students, regardless of financial means, may continue to attend tuition-free.

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We acknowledge that this performance is being held on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Piscataway and Manahoac people.  
Thank you.



# SPECIAL THANKS

City of Rockville

R. Scott Hengen, Montgomery College

Jess Vogel, Quince Orchard High School

Mark Hamberger, Washington National Opera

Ginger Ager, Gene's Costumes

Extra Space Storage

Kate Coates, Scrap Happy

Megan Behm (Intimacy Consultant)

**We send an outstanding thank you to  
Katie Hecklinger and Blackrock Center  
for the Arts for all they do to support our  
program!**



# Directors Note

*Natasha, Pierre, & the Great Comet of 1812* is a notoriously complicated musical that is as daunting to a modern company as *War and Peace* is to a high school English student. Our company has not only risen to the challenge but gone above and beyond.

Whether it's Owen playing piano, Beata teaching Slavic culture, Lilia cleaning the kitchen, or the countless hours spent perfecting difficult harmonies, choreography, and technical elements, every member of our company has helped bring this ambitious production to life.

The setting of 1800s Moscow may feel unfamiliar to a 2026 audience, but many of Tolstoy's themes remain deeply relevant. Most people have experienced the feeling of searching for purpose, missing someone they love, worrying about a friend, or making choices that seemed right in the moment but ultimately caused pain. How many teenagers have thrown themselves into a relationship with someone who doesn't have their best interests at heart?

The idea that a difficult chapter of your life does not define who you are resonates throughout the story, whether it's through Pierre's quest for purpose or Natasha's realization that she has been lied to and used by someone she loved.

Adaptations like *Natasha, Pierre, & the Great Comet of 1812* remind us why classic literature have kept their place on modern bookshelves: they represent universal truths about what it means to be a human being. Pierre, just as generations before him, looks up to the night sky and is captivated by what he sees.

What could be a more uniting human experience than that?

~ Val Lewin and Megan Stickles, Directors

# Dramaturgy Note

“Natasha, Pierre, & The Great Comet of 1812,” created by Dave Malloy, is a complicated story about love, longing and the complicated morality of 1812 Russia. We follow the young naive Natasha and the poor aging Pierre as they’re forced to reckon with the effects of the Napoleonic war and changing times.

Pierre is a man who always thought he’d be more and still thinks it’s a possibility for him as soon as he gets out of his current cycle of alcohol and loneliness. He loses himself in the idea that his life will end where he is now: a man known as poor, despite his riches. In the end, it takes the life and reputation of a young woman being under threat for him to finally take hold of his life in a way that makes him hopeful for the future.

New to the scandalous world of Moscow aristocracy and separated from her fiance, Natasha falls victim to characters like Anatole as they pull her into their own degeneracy. Her youth is constantly used against her whether it’s through her lack of knowledge about the world, or her beauty. The tragedy of her character lies in how she is treated as a pawn throughout the show, groomed into believing the immoral side of Moscow is how the world is supposed to work. She makes many mistakes in this show, some her choice, some less so. For Natasha, it's the people who care for her most staying by her side which pulls her back into the present and points her towards the future.

No one in ‘Great Comet’ is forced to do the “wrong thing;” they always have a choice. While some characters, like Anatole or Dolokhov, choose to continue to do things that harm others or are considered immoral, and revel in the consequences, others choose to grow and improve themselves. Pierre and Natasha, look towards their futures, The Great Comet of 1812, as it flies across the sky, and choose a better life.

# Cast List

**NATASHA**

MIA LEPORE

**SONYA**

KYLEE SOLT-LINVILLE

**MARY**

KATIE MUSICK

**MARYA**

GABY JAIMES-CRUZ

**HELENE**

MORGAN FOOTE

**PIERRE**

MYLES RATHKE

**ANATOLE**

OWEN LANDLE

**ANDREY**

LIAM MILLIGAN

**BALAGA**

TIMO SILBERMAN

**BOLKONSKY**

DANNY HOUSE

**DOLOKHOV**

KOLTON SIDHU

**OPERA SINGERS**

AMBHA CHANDRAN

GUHNER JONES

**BALLET DANCERS**

NATE KAUFFMAN,

CLAIRE BRANNAN

# Cast list

## **SERVANTS**

ASTYR SINNREICH, HAYLEY MULEMA,  
CASSIDY HARPER, EADDY HOLMES

## **SWINGS**

HAYLEY MULEMA, CLAIRE BRANNAN, EADDY HOLMES,  
CASSIDY HARPER, TANIA RIVERA, LIAM MILLIGAN,  
GUHNER JONES, NATE KAUFFMAN,  
ADDIE SILVESTRO, ASTYR SINNREICH

## **FEATURED DANCERS**

CLAIRE BRANNAN, CORINNE SCHULLY, EADDY HOLMES,  
GIGI ESPINOZA, NATE KAUFFMAN, NICK SNYDER,  
AMELIA STICKLE, SAURA HERRANZ-JIMENEZ

## **ENSEMBLE**

ANDY LAZO, BEATA MIROWICZ, BLAKE HILL,  
CASSIDY HARPER, CLARE REED, DANIEL MUNTER,  
EVIE HALL, LILIA GUO, MADDIE SCHULLY,  
MAEVE LUCAS, SKY LARAQUE, NOAH KIRKLAND



Natasha



Pierre

Cousins

Godmother

Married



Sonya



Marya

Old friends

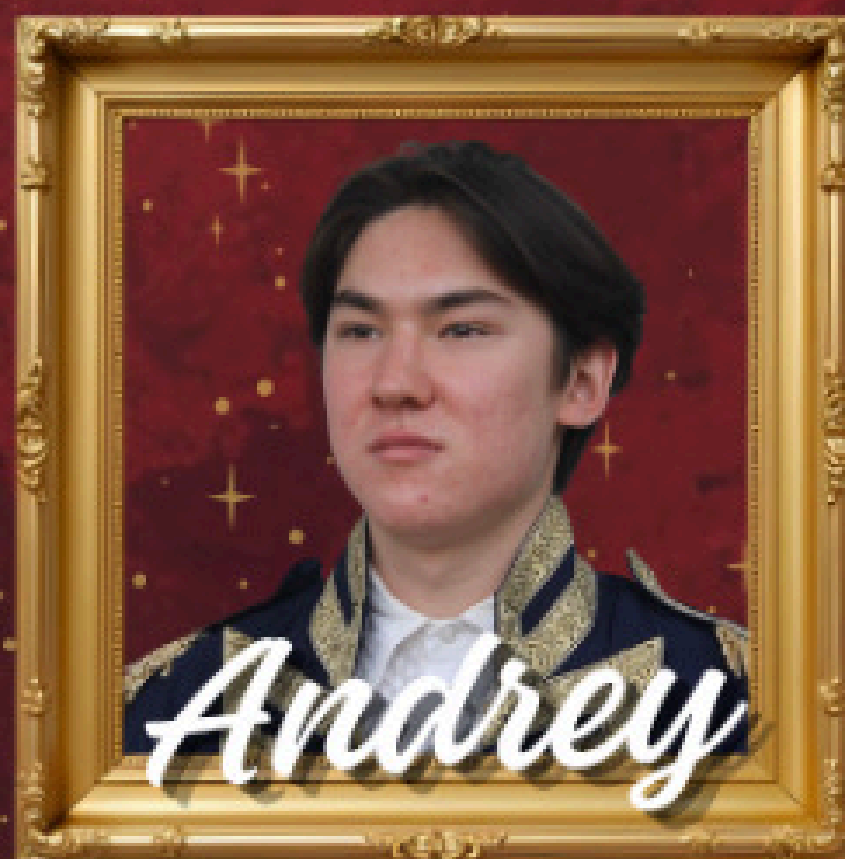


Helene

Siblings

Siblings

Engaged



Andrey



Anatole

Best Friends



Mary

Father

Father

Driver



Bolkonsky



Balaga



Dolokhov



# Musical Numbers

## Act One

**Prologue**

Company

**Pierre**

Pierre, Ensemble

**Moscow**

Marya, Natasha, Sonya

**The Private and Intimate Life  
of the House**

Bolkonsky, Mary

**Natasha & Bolkonskys**

Mary, Natasha, Bolkonskys

**No One Else**

Natasha

**The Opera**

Natasha, Sonya, Marya, Hélène, Ensemble

**Natasha & Anatole**

Natasha, Anatole

**The Duel**

Anatole, Dolokhov, Pierre,

Hélène, Ensemble

**Dust and Ashes**

Pierre, Ensemble

**Sunday Morning**

Natasha, Sonya, Marya

**Charming**

Hélène, Natasha

**The Ball**

Natasha, Anatole

# Musical Numbers



## Act Two

<b>Letters</b>	Natasha, Pierre, Mary, Anatole, Ensemble
<b>Sonya &amp; Natasha</b>	Sonya, Natasha
<b>Sonya Alone</b>	Sonya
<b>Preparations</b>	Anatole, Dolokhov, Pierre
<b>Balaga</b>	Balaga, Anatole, Dolokhov, Ensemble
<b>The Abduction</b>	Balaga, Anatole, Dolokhov, Ensemble
<b>In My House</b>	Marya, Natasha, Sonya
<b>A Call to Pierre</b>	Marya, Pierre
<b>Find Anatole</b>	Pierre, Anatole, Hélène, Natasha
<b>Pierre &amp; Anatole</b>	Pierre, Anatole
<b>Natasha Very Ill</b>	Sonya
<b>Pierre &amp; Andrey</b>	Andrey, Pierre
<b>Pierre &amp; Natasha</b>	Pierre, Natasha
<b>The Great Comet of 1812</b>	Company

# Leadership

## Admin Team

**Company Manager**

Nate Kauffman

**CM Apprentice**

Kylee Solt-Linville

**Communications Manager**

Val Lewin

**Marketing Manager**

Kylee Solt-Linville

**Marketing Apprentice**

Nick Snyder

**Marketing Apprentice**

Hayley Mulema

**Dramaturg**

Ari Collins

**Assistant Dramaturg**

Leigh Shimshi

**Accessibility Coordinator**

Abby Sarrat

**Special Events Coordinator**

Cassidy Harper

## Creative Team

**Co-Director**

Megan Stickles

**Co-Director**

Val Lewin

**Asst. Director**

Abby Sarrat

**Asst. Director**

Sky Laraque

**Music Team**

Ambha Chandran, Kolton Sidhu,

Katie Musick, Kylee Solt-Linville

**Choreographer**

Ella Loudermilk

**Asst. Choreographer**

Beata Mirowicz

**CO-Dance Captains**

Nick Snyder, Claire Brannan

# Leadership

## Production Team

**Assistant Production Manager**

Brinlyn Cohen-Rider

**Stage Manager**

Emma Londoño

**Asst. Stage Manager**

Wyatt Mayfield

**Asst. Stage Manager**

Raania Awan

**Co-Costume Designer**

Leo Levitt

**Co-Costume Designer**

Audrina Allen

**Asst. Costume Designer**

Julian Isaac

**Asst. Costume Designer**

Maeve Lucas

**Props Designer**

Joyce Ngassam

**Asst. Props Designer**

Kelsee Solt-Linville

**Scenic Co-Designer**

Sam Lopez

**Scenic Co-Designer**

Xander Martin

**Projection Designer**

Danny House

**Lighting Co-Designer**

Teri (Abby) Green

**Lighting Co-Designer**

Sophia Boehm

**Asst. Lighting Designer**

Gaby Gah

**Asst. Lighting Designer**

Violet Libby

**Sound Designer**

Nikki Mosaddegh

**Asst. Sound Designer**

Abby Sarrat

# Advisory Board

## Executive Board

Marci Shegogue, Hope Villanueva, Tina Craun,  
Seoyoung Kim, Rikki Howie Lacewell

## Alumni Board

Ari Rubinstein, Gillian Gravatt, Claire Gelillo,  
Grace Awono, Chase Pasekoff,  
Jen Jeon, Avery Hook

## Parent Liaison

Crystal Rathke

# Mentors

Ginger Ager, Jordan Hersh, Rikki Howie Lacewell,  
TJ Lukacsina, Elly Makowski, Kristina Martin,  
Rooster Sultan, Marci Shegogue

# Staff

**Managing Director**

Marci Shegogue

**Production Manager**

Sean Cooper

**Production Associate**

Jordan Hersh

# Crew

Emily Crawford, Sam Greenberg, Elliot Hebeisen,  
Charlotte Hmel, Nate Durland, Jameson Pennell, Alexis Hanlein,  
Ethan Zulu, Anna Romano, Jiandra Harvey, Luke Atkinson,  
Shreyas Estoll, Elisa Stanger

# Pit

**Conductor and Keyboard**

Marci Shegogue

**Bass**

Blaise Ryan

**Drums**

Dean Ceresini

**Reeds**

Giovanni Santos, Kenta Sato

**Cello, Bass Clarinet**

Bertie Bennett

**Accordion and Keys 2**

Ethan Amir

**Guitar**

Evie Hall

**Viola**

Noah Kirkland

# Meet the Company

**Abby Sarrat (Asst. Director, Asst. Sound Designer, Accessibility Coordinator)** is a recently graduated senior from Churchill High School. This is her 5th show at The Free Theatre and 14th production overall. Abby works on directing and sound, occasionally pitching in with scenic, and helps ensure the company is accessible for all. She will miss her friends and the community at The Free Theatre, but is so grateful for everything she got to learn. She's so excited to attend college at the University of Washington in Seattle and will forever be thankful for the memories The Free Theatre brought her.

**Addie Silvestro (Ensemble, Balaga U/S)** is participating in her 5th & final Free Theatre production, & she is so thrilled for everyone to see the show! Outside of theatre, she likes to make zines, read novels, & hang out with her dog Penny. Thanks to all of her friends & family <3

**Ambha Chandran (Asst. Music Director, Opera Singer)** is so excited to participate in her fourth show at The Free Theatre. She can't wait to be onstage again and really enjoys this show.

**Amelia Stickle (Featured Dancer, Ensemble)** could not be happier to be in this company with her friends! She is so grateful for the experiences this show has given her and thanks the company for making this experience wonderful!

**Anderson Lazo (Ensemble)** is a senior at Boonsboro High School and couldn't be more proud and excited to be part of this amazing production for his second time. Previous Free Theatre credits include 9 to 5. He wants to thank everyone in the company for making it such a wonderful show.

**Beata Mirowicz Hobart (Assistant Choreographer and Ensemble)** absolutely loves The Free Theatre. This is her fifth and final show here, and she would like to thank everyone for the impact they have had on her. Keep making art and being amazing!

# Meet the Company

**Blake Hill (Ensemble)** is so excited to be in his first-ever Free Theatre show! Previous show credits include Catch Me If You Can and Little Women. He would like to thank all the wonderful people he has befriended during this show for accepting him so quickly!

**Brinlyn Cohen-Rider (Assistant Production Manager)** is so excited and honored to be in her new position this year. She is a senior at Churchill HS, and this is her 8th show at The Free Theatre. She has loved seeing The Free grow over these past few years and is so grateful to be part of such a welcoming community. She hopes you enjoy the show, but remember: if you see a mistake, no, you didn't ;)

**Charlotte Hmel (Crew)** is participating in her second show at The Free Theatre following Newsies. She's happy to have made new friends and gained experience from this show and Newsies. She's excited for more productions to come.

**Claire Brannan (Featured Dancer, Servant, Sonya U/S)** is so excited to be participating in her second show with The Free Theatre. She would like to thank the entire creative team for making this show possible.

**Corinne Schully (Featured Dancer)** is a rising 10th grader at Quince Orchard HS. She is so excited to perform not only this incredible show but also many shows to come. Though this is only their second production at The Free Theater, it has quickly become one of her favorite parts of the week, and I always look forward to it!!

**Daniel Munter (Ensemble)** absolutely loves performing with The Free. He did Newsies earlier in the season and loved it, and he encourages others to leap into theatre as he did!

# Meet the Company

**Danny House (Bolkonsky, Projection Designer)** is a graduating senior from DeMatha Catholic High School. He has been with The Free Theatre for seven shows including: Footloose, 9-5, Mean Girls (Crew), The Prom (AD), HADESTOWN (AD and Projections), Alice by Heart (Projections), and Natasha Pierre and The Great Comet of 1812. Daniel has been involved in many different aspects of the productions at Free Theatre and will be going to California Institute of the Arts this fall for character animation.

**Eaddy Holmes (Mary Swing, Featured Dancer, Servant, Ensemble)** is so excited for her second Free Theatre production! She is a rising senior at National Cathedral School and was previously in Newsies. Eaddy is so grateful for this incredible group of people and wants to thank them for putting together one of the coolest shows she's ever done (thanks especially to the Featured Dancer crew, Creative Team, Katie, and Marci!).

**Eliana Shimshi (Assistant Dramaturg)** is a senior in high school and has been a part of The Free Theatre for two years. At The Free Theatre, she has been in HADESTOWN (Worker), and Newsies (Lead Dramaturg). Outside of the Free Theatre, she has been in Into the Woods (Jack's Mother), The Sound of Music (Elsa Schraeder), and The Little Mermaid (Atina). Eliana is going to Long Island University in the fall to study musical theatre, and is very excited to work more on theatre on and off stage.

**Emma Londoño (Stage Manager)** is so excited to be putting on her final production at The Free Theatre! Best wishes to all company members and their theatrical journeys!

**Evie Hall (Ensemble, Roving Guitar)** had so much fun in their first production at The Free Theatre! Thanks to all the awesome people who they met along the way and who made this a wonderful experience. The music was crazy hard but we persevered!

# Meet the Company

**Ella Loudermilk (Choreographer)** is so excited to be closing out her sixth Free Theatre show with this incredible group of people! Previous Free Theatre credits include Mean Girls, The Prom, HADESTOWN, Alice by Heart, Newsies. She wants to thank all her family, friends, and peers for helping her on this incredible journey, and she is thrilled to be taking her next steps to Syracuse University for Acting!

**Gaby Jaimes-Cruz (Marya)** is a sophomore at Quince Orchard HS. This is her third show at The Free Theatre, and is so excited to perform in this year's production of Great Comet. She was also in cast for Alice by Heart and Newsies. She would like to thank her friends, family, and directors for all their support and hopes they enjoy the show!

**Gigi Espinoza (Featured Dancer, Ensemble)** is so excited to be doing her 3rd show at The Free! She'd like to thank her family and friends for always being so incredibly supportive of her.

**Guhner Jones (Opera Singer, Anatole U/S, Ensemble)** is extremely honored to be back for another fantastic show at The Free Theater. He is very grateful for Marci and the rest of the leadership and company that made this show amazing.

**Hayley Mulema (Natasha U/S, Servant, Marketing Director Apprentice)** is a sophomore at Walter Johnson participating in her fourth show at The Free Theatre. Her previous credits include: HADESTOWN (Fate 3), Alice by Heart (Cheshire Cat), and Newsies (Katherine). She is so happy and grateful to be in such a beautiful show with this talented cast and crew.

**Jamie Pennell (Props Design, Scenic Design)** is working in theatre for the first time! His friends strongly encouraged him to join The Free Theatre.

# Meet the Company

**Jiandra Harvey (Sound Crew, QLab Tech)** is excited for this show! This is their first production with The Free Theater, and there will hopefully be more to come!

**Joyce Ngassam (Props Co-Designer)** is excited to be a part of her third show with The Free Theatre, and second show as a designer! Previous credits include Alice By Heart, Newsies, and now Great Comet. A big thanks to Marci, friends/family, and of course our wonderful company!!

**Julian Isaac (Assistant Costume Designer)** is thrilled to be a part of The Free Theater for the first time. They had an incredible time working with Audrina and Sam G. to craft the costumes for this show, and would like to thank Sam L., Nikki, and the whole Free Theater company for making his first (and sadly last) time such a joyful and memorable experience.

**Katie Musick (Mary)** is so excited to do her 5th Free Theatre production. Previous Free Theatre credits include Mean Girls, Hometown, Alice by Heart, Newsies. Outside of The Free, she is involved in student government, choir, and her own school's theatre department! She wants to thank her friends for this amazing experience!

**Kelsee Solt-Linville (Props Co-Designer)** is very happy to be doing her fifth show with The Free Theatre; her previous credits include Newsies, Alice By Heart, Hometown, and The Prom. She wants to thank the entire company for being such a family to her. She also wants to shout out her co-designer Joyce for putting up with her.

**Kolton Sidhu (Dolokhov)** is so grateful to be in her 4th Free Theatre show! Previous Free Theatre Credits include Newsies (Jack Kelly) and Alice by Heart (Alfred). Thank you to everyone who has made this experience so amazing. Love y'all, and super excited to keep working with this company!

# Meet the Company

**Kylee Solt-Linville (Marketing Director, Company Manager Apprentice, Sonya)** is so happy to be a part of her sixth Free Theatre production! Previous Free Theatre credits include Mean Girls, The Prom, HADESTOWN, Alice by Heart, and Newsies. There is no other way she'd rather spend her Sundays!

**Liam Milligan (Andrey)** has immensely enjoyed his second and final Free Theatre production. Previously in Newsies, he wants to thank the entire company and creative team, and he plans to attend Cornell University to study Chemistry in the fall.

**Maeve Lucas (Ensemble, Assistant Costume Designer)** is an upcoming Academy of the Fine Arts musical theatre student, who is excited for her sixth production of the year. Some of her favorite roles include Belle in Beauty and the Beast, Orpheus in HADESTOWN, and Agnes in She Kills Monsters. She would like to thank her mom for driving her to rehearsal, and Marci for creating this wonderful program!

**Megan Stickles (Director)** still thinks that Come From Away deserved the 2017 Tony Award for Best Musical, despite liking Great Comet more than Dear Evan Hansen. Nevertheless, she is so excited to return for her sixth and final Free Theatre show, and her fifth as Director. She has absolutely loved her time at the Free, has no idea what to do with Sundays for the rest of her life, and is devastated to be leaving. However, she is so excited to study drama at NYU next year! Special thanks to Beata for letting her crash out when needed, Ella for doing double duty theatre with her for all these years, her family for letting her disappear for so many tech weeks, and the entire company for making this show so amazing. And thank you to Kylee, Kolton, Kelsee, and Hayley for being the best carpool ever, and for generally being pretty on time <3

# Meet the Company

**Mia Lepore (Natasha)** is a rising senior at WJHS in her second Free Theatre show. She is absolutely ecstatic to be playing Natasha in The Free Theatre's production of 'Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812.' This is the honor of her high school career, and she is savoring every moment. She is immensely grateful to the prod team for entrusting her with this role and thanks the cast and crew for everything they do for this show.

**Morgan Foote (Hélène)** is excited to be a part of her 6th show at The Free Theatre after being in Mean Girls, The Prom, Hometown, Alice by Heart, and Newsies. She's thrilled for the chance to be in Great Comet. She is so thankful to be a part of this company.

**Myles Rathke (Pierre)** is incredibly grateful for his time with The Free Theatre, this being his fifth and final show with the company. It has been such a unique experience for him; he's met so many amazing people and been brought out of his comfort zone as a performer and out of his shell as a person over the last two and a half years. Being Pierre has also been a new experience for Myles, and he's so grateful to have been given the opportunity to play such a character with the support of the company. Myles thanks The Free Theatre and cannot wait to see what great things they have in store for the future.

**Nate Kauffman (Company Manager, Featured Dancer, Ensemble)** is so excited to perform in his 8th and final Free Theatre show. He has loved spending his Sundays over the past four years with such a supportive and kind group. He will miss his friends and all the opportunities he has had to grow as a leader and performer in the company. Nate is excited to pursue his BFA in Dance Performance and Choreography next year at Elon University.

# Meet the Company

**Nick Snyder (Featured Dancer, Ensemble, Marketing Director Apprentice, Co-Dance Captain)** is so excited to perform in his 2nd show with The Free Theatre. He joined the company in the fall for Disney's Newsies and loved the experience, and he is so glad to be back! Nick would like to thank his friends and family for supporting him, as well as the entire Free Theatre company for making this such an amazing show!

**Nikki Mosaddegh (Sound Designer)** is thrilled by the opportunity to join the Free Theatre for her second show. She'd like to thank the entire company for making the Free such a welcoming place to practice the art of bringing theatre to life, as well as her family for supporting her decision to pursue theatrical technology and design at New York University.

**Owen Landle (Anatole)** is absolutely thrilled to be back with The Free! This is his second production here after Alice By Heart (Duchess), and other credits locally include Seussical (Horton), The Prince of Egypt (Ramses), Little Women (Laurie), and Sweeney Todd (Beadle). In the fall, he's headed for his BFA in musical theatre at the University of Hartford. He would like to thank everyone who came out to support, especially all his Howard County friends. Enjoy The Comet :)

**Raania Awan (ASM)** is so happy for her fourth show as **Assistant Stage Manager** at the free theatre! She has been a part of the company since HADESTOWN!

**Sam Greenburg (Costume Co-Designer)** is so happy to be given the chance to be a **Costume Designer** for this show! It's been an amazing opportunity to explore new possibilities, and she hopes to return in the fall!

**Nate Durland (Lights crew)** is happy to be a part of his first show with the Free Theatre, and he is excited for many more to come!

# Meet the Company

**Timo Silberman (Balaga)** is thrilled to be a part of this incredible cast for Natasha Pierre! Previous credits include Crutchie in Newsies and Nigel/Dormouse in Alice by Heart. Timo will be a junior at Quince Orchard High School. Timo is so excited about the show and cannot wait to continue working with The Free!

**Teri Green (Lighting Designer)** has had an amazing time being a part of The Free Theatre for the past 4 productions. Great Comet is her final high school theatre production, and she'd like to thank the entire company for all their hard work. She'd also like to give an extra special thanks to her fellow lighting designers and crew. None of this would be possible without all of you!

**Alexis Hanlein (Lights Crew, Props Crew)** is so excited to be a part of her first show at The Free Theater! She would like to thank her friends for introducing her to this amazing company. She has met so many kind people during this production.

**Sophia Boehm (Lighting Designer)** is happy to be returning for her fourth show with The Free Theater. She could not be happier with how this show has turned out, and it's all thanks to the amazing cast and crew. She wants to thank everyone who has had any part in putting this show together!

**Violet Libby (Lighting Designer)** is very overjoyed to be a Lighting Designer at The Free Theatre! Her first show was Newsies, and Natasha will be in the second of many more shows! She wants to thank Gaby and Abby for giving her rides to and from rehearsals and for being very supportive of her journey in lighting design, as well as Joyce for motivating her every day to do the best she can. She is a rising junior at Northwest and plans to do theatre for the rest of her high school career.

# Meet the Company

**Sam Lopez (Co-Scenic Designer)** is happy to be returning for his fourth show with the Free Theater and his second as scenic designer. He would like to thank Xander, Brinlyn, Sean, and the scenic crew for making his first year with Free Theater leadership go as smoothly as it did!

**Saura Herranz-Jimenez (Ensemble, Featured Dancer)** is so happy to have done 4 shows with The Free Theatre. Previous Free Theatre credits include Hometown, Alice by Heart, and Newsies. Saura will attend Syracuse University next fall for Theatre Management and hopes to direct in the future. She has loved every second of her time here and will miss The Free immensely.

**Sky Laraque (Assistant Director, Ensemble)** is thrilled to be in her third show with The Free Theatre! Sky was ensemble in both Alice By Heart and Newsies, and now joins the creative team as Assistant Director and Ensemble in Great Comet! She wants to thank her friends for making her experience at The Free Theatre special, and her family for supporting her passion.

**Tania Rivera (Helene U/S, Ensemble)** is so grateful to be making her Free Theatre debut in Great Comet!! Some of her past favorite roles include Rusty in Footloose, SpongeBob in SpongeBob, and Rita Hanson in Groundhog Day. When not in the theater, she loves shopping at TJ Maxx and baking sweet treats for her friends. Thanks a million to the whole company and everyone, like my friends and family, who have supported me through this entire process! Stay gold!

**Astyr Sinnreich (Dolokov U/S, Ensemble)** is so pleased to appear in his fourth show with the Free Theater. As an ensemble member and a swing for a lead with a guaranteed show, they have worked hard to help bring you this show, and he truly hopes you enjoy it.

# Meet the Company

**Gabrielle Gah (Lighting Designer)** is excited to be a part of her fourth and final show with The Free Theatre. She has designed lights for Mean Girls, The Prom, HADESTOWN, and Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812. She has truly enjoyed her time with The Free Theater and would like to give a huge thank you to all of her co-designers and to Sean for everything. As well as a huge thank you to the cast and crew.

**Val Lewin (Director)** is delighted to direct her final show. She has been with The Free since her freshman year and wants to thank the friends she made along the way.

**Xander Martin (Scenic Co-Designer)** is excited to be co-designing the set of Great Comet with The Free Theatre! This is her second show at the Free Theatre and she hope to continue next year!

**Leigh Shimshi (Assistant Dramaturg)** has been a part of The Free Theatre for two years with credits including HADESTOWN (Worker), Newsies (Lead Dramaturg), and now is thrilled to be assistant dramaturg for Great Comet.

**Audrina Allen (Costume Co-Designer)** is very excited to be designing costumes for Great Comet and would like to thank her Co-Costume Designer, Sam, Costume Assistants, Julian and Maeve, her best friend she met at the Free, who is no longer here, Leo, and her mom and brother.

**Maddie Schully (Ensemble)** is so excited for her fourth and final Free Theatre show, and is very sad to be leaving. She will continue her education at the University of Pittsburgh. She would like to thank her parents and friends for their support, and especially Corinne for being the best little sister ever.

**Jiandra Harvey (Sound Crew)** is very excited to do sound for The Great Comet, hopefully the first of many Free Theatre shows to come!

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*January 2027*

BOOK BY ROGER O. HIRSON

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

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AUDITIONS: AUGUST 30, 2026

PERFORMANCES: JAN 22-24, 2027

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## JUNE

**FREE** 6.13 | 12-4 PM ARTISANS MARKET

**FREE** 6.20 | 1-10 PM OFFICIAL MONTGOMERY COUNTY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

6.26 | 8 PM FAST EDDIE AND THE SLOWPOKES

## JULY

7.02 | 5-11 PM RED WHITE & CRANK FISH FRY WITH EU FT. SUGAR BEAR

7.11 | 8-12 AM ADULT DRAG KARAOKE

**FREE** 7.11 | 12-4 PM ARTISANS MARKET

**FREE** 7.17 | SUNSET OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE - FINDING NEMO

**FREE** 7.18 | 6-11 PM ISLAND HEAT AND CITY BEATS DJS ON THE LAWN

7.24 | 8 PM GOTTASWING DANCE: FOUR STAR COMBO

7.25 | 8-10:30 PM CORCORAN HOLT QUINTET CO-PRESENTED BY THE DC JAZZ FEST

## AUGUST

8.01 | 7:30PM DIVAS A BEACH - ADULT DRAG SHOW

**FREE** 8.07 | SUNSET OUTDOOR FAMILY MOVIE - HOPPERS

**FREE** 8.08 | 12-4 PM ARTISANS MARKET

8.08 | 7:30 PM A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

8.08 | 8:30-12 AM DJ DREDD PRESENTS: 1958

**FREE** 8.21 | 2-4 PM BRANDON J. DONAHUE-SHIPPIE: COME AS YOU ARE RECEPTION

# Donors 7/1/25-6/1/26

Abigail Pierce  
Adam Cohen  
Alexa Rosenthal  
Alisa Weinstein  
Alison Silberman  
Amanda Jones  
Amy Couch  
Amy McKenna  
Ana Majano  
Andrés Abella  
Angela Dietrich-Mentzer  
Antonio Mendonca  
April Snyder  
Aruna Lepore  
Ashley Swensen  
Audrey Engdahl  
Bahati Best  
Bill Snyder  
Brandy Foote  
Brenda Sandler  
Caleb Bannen  
Carl Munter  
Carl Settlemyer  
Catherine Brady  
Chanelle Cohen  
Christine Lam  
Christopher Desrocher  
Collins Family  
Courtney Jenkins  
Cristin Stickles  
Cristina Libby  
Dean Scaletti  
Deb Haase  
Deb Puhak  
Julian Isaac  
Julie Kelly  
Kaila Saad  
Xavier Ona

Dena Carson  
Donna Shimshi  
Elianne Sato  
Elizabeth Lucas  
Elizabeth McFadden  
Ellen Ferrante  
Erica Land  
Erin Orkin  
Erin Ward  
Ethan Amir  
Ethan Seldin  
Fiona Mulema  
Gayle Musick  
George Ceaser  
Gerilee Bennett  
Heidi Pirozzi  
Heidi-Rose Creuziger  
Jagjeet Sidhu  
Jamie Sullivan  
Janel Bosies  
Javier Londono  
Jeannette Mellinger  
Jeffrey Mincks  
Jennifer Phillips  
Jennifer Thomas  
Jessica Hitchcock  
Jessica Lopez  
Joan McFarland  
Joann Sorra  
Joanna Hook  
JoAnna Kwaloff  
Joanne Kyritz  
Jodi Brower-Thompson  
John Brophy  
Joy Charbonneau  
Judy Herrmann  
Julia Earp

Karen Ceresini  
Kathryn Woodrow  
Katie Solt  
Katie Stickles  
Kenta Sato  
Kimberly Sidhu  
Kimberly Summers  
Kylee Solt-Linville  
Lenny Seliger  
Levita Mondie  
Lilia Karaseva  
Linda Kantor  
Lisa Romano  
Loren Atkinson  
Lori Rosenstock  
Luna Huân Naranjo-Tôn  
Madison Stubbs  
Maggie Miller  
Maggie Penndorf  
Margaret Davis  
Margaret Hawkins  
Marianna Ona  
Maricella Luna  
Marina Romero  
Mark Marshall  
Martha Love  
Mary McClung  
Masha Belenky  
Matthew Minogue  
Matthew Roder  
Meghan Shereika  
Melia Grim  
Mercedes Loudermilk  
Michael Kharfen  
Michael Redmond  
Michal Miskin-Amir  
Michele Mirowicz Hobart  
Miki Scheidel  
Mindy Johnson  
Molly Carson  
Monica Kander  
Monica Silvestro

Nancy Hansen  
Nathan Rodriguez  
Neil Bernstein  
Olivia Foster  
Pamela Mathison-Levitt  
Patricia Chalfant  
Piper McBride  
Pradeep Chandran  
Red Smawley  
Riley Mahoney  
Robert Mirowicz  
Samuel Intrater  
Sara Schonfeld  
Sara Solt  
Sarah Henderson  
Sean Trainor  
Sharon Marshall  
Sheri Schully  
Simona Valeanu  
Sky Laramie  
Sofia Carter  
Stephanie Halloran  
Stephanie Kauffman  
Stephanie Wilson  
Steve Silvestro  
Stewart Remer  
Susan Hmel  
Svetlana Lewin  
Teresa Moffat  
The Bernstein Family  
The Cox Family  
The Kaplan Family  
The Lucas Family  
The Saad/Scheidel family  
The Sidhu Family  
Tim Ryan  
Torie Rodriguez  
Wendy Kissin

Thank you!

# Keep in touch

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Website: [thefreetheatre.org](http://thefreetheatre.org)

@thefreetheatre



# Enjoy the show!

Program By:

Kylee Solt-Linville, Nick Snyder, Hayley Mulema





