

INTO THE WOODS JR



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA | 2025

Director's Note



Working with this incredible group of talented young performers has been an absolute joy and one of the most rewarding experiences of my career.

Their energy, dedication, and enthusiasm have made every step of this journey a true pleasure.

Watching them grow into their roles and bring their characters to life has been a powerful reminder of why I love what I do.

I am endlessly proud of each and every one of them.

This show is the result of countless hours of hard work, creativity, and teamwork from the entire cast and crew.

We are thrilled to share it with you.

Thank you for being part of this special moment.

We hope you enjoy the performance as much as we've loved creating it!



TE PAEPAE O AOTEA
production of

INTO THE WOODS JR

Music and Lyrics by
JAMES STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Book by
JAMES LAPINE

Originally Directed on Broadway by **JAMES LAPINE**

Orchestrations by
JONATHAN TUNICK

Original Broadway Production by
HEIDI LANDESMAN ROCCO LANDESMAN RICK STEINER
M. ANTHONY FISHER FREDERIC H. MAYERSON JUJAMCYN THEATERS

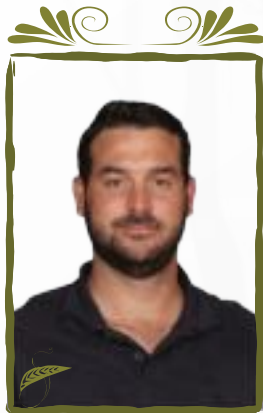
Originally produced by the Old Globe Theatre, San Diego, CA

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DURING THE PERFORMANCE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
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ARE TURNED OFF DURING THE PERFORMANCE

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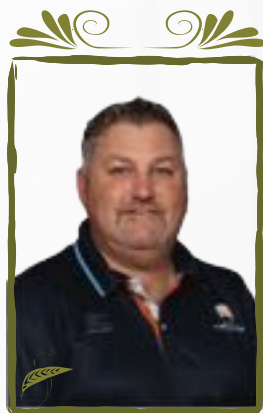
CREATIVE TEAM



DIRECTOR
KEVIN BARNARD

Kevin is a foundation teacher of Te Paepae o Aotea and shares his passion for the theatre as the lead teacher of Drama and a Junior Curriculum Lead. Born and raised in South Africa, Kevin has had the incredible opportunity to live and work all over the world. The stage always felt like home no matter where he resides. Kevin has been hooked on theatre since an awakening experience as a 12 year old.

Over the years, he's had the joy of appearing in productions of Grease, Footloose, and Disco Inferno. This production marks his first time directing a full-scale musical. Of this experience he says it has been an "absolutely thrilling adventure"



TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
SHAUN CAMPBELL

Shaun has been involved in all aspects of the Performing Arts over the last 30 years. On stage credits include over 20 productions for New Plymouth Operatic Society. He was last seen playing the role of "Buddy" in the NPOS 2023 production 'We Will Rock You'. He has directed 'Little Shop of Horrors' and 'Annie' as well as musically directed 'Beauty and the Beast' for Hāwera Repertory Society, 'Footloose' and 'Rock of Ages' for Hāwera High School.

Shaun is currently Music leader at Te Paepae o Aotea. He is passionate about getting students on stage, as being in a school production can be a life changing experience and something they'll never forget. He directed Lion King JR our first show as Te Paepae o Aotea. As for Into the Woods JR .

"This show has always been a favourite of mine and it's so great to finally be a part of the creative team, bringing our favourite storybook characters to life"





VOCAL COACH

PAULA FREARSON

Manaia local, uri of Ngāruahine and Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi, music has always been an important part of Paula's life. She teaches piano and singing at Te Paepae o Aotea as an Itinerant Music Teacher. Paula has enjoyed success with Hāwera Repertory Society, playing piano in the live band for 'Bugsy Malone' and 'Aladdin' as well as performing onstage in 'Through the Decades' and in the lead role of 'Donna' in 'Mamma Mia' in 2022.

In 2024, Paula participated in the World Choir Games in Auckland with Ombre and is now singing with a small group of friends in EVE. She has been grateful to work with the talented High School students of Hāwera in "Footloose" and "The Lion King Jnr and returns to offer vocal support for "Into the Woods JR".



CHOREOGRAPHER

JULIA SCOTT

Julia, a year 13 student at Te Paepae o Aotea started her dance journey at the age of 3 with Michelle Glover Academy of Dance. She learned Jazz, ballet and competed in competitions all over New Zealand. At age 14 she joined the professional dance company TYDC, based in New Plymouth. At age 15 she received a nomination to go to Nationals for jazz and ballet which made her the first to do so in Hāwera's history.

Julia began teaching very early on choreographing her first dance at Tawhiti primary school as a year 4 student for a Pokémon dance in the school production and again for the following productions Wizard of Oz and Shrek.

At age 16 she became the youngest certified NZAMD dance teacher in New Zealand with the highest marks across the board as well as the first certified ballet teacher under the NZAMD syllabus. Her most recent project was choreographing for Normanby Primary school's "Cinderella and Rockafella" in December 2024 before joining us for "Into the Woods JR".





MUSICAL NUMBERS



Opening (Part 1)	Narrator, Cinderella, Jack, Baker, Baker's Wife, Stepmother, Florinda, Lucinda Little Red Riding Hood, Jack's Mother
Opening (Part 2)	Baker, Baker's Wife, Little Red Riding Hood
Opening (Part 3)	Narrator, Jack, Jack's Mother
Opening (Part 4)	Narrator, Baker, Baker's Wife, Witch
Opening (Part 5)	Baker, Baker's Wife, Witch
Opening (Part 6)	Narrator, Witch
Opening (Part 7)	Stepmother, Cinderella, Cinderella's Father
Opening (Part 8)	Baker's Wife, Baker, Cinderella, Narrator
Opening (Part 9)	Baker, Baker's Wife, Cinderella, Jack Jack's Mother, Little Red Riding Hood, Stepmother, Florinda, Lucinda, Cinderella's Father
Cinderella at the Grave	Cinderella, Cinderella's Mother
Hello, Little Girl	Wolf, Little Red Riding Hood
Underscore after Hello, Little Girl	Rapunzel, Baker's Wife
I Guess This Is Goodbye/	
Maybe They're Magic	Jack, Baker's Wife, Baker
Rapunzel	Rapunzel
Baker's Reprise	Baker
I Know Things Now	Little Red Riding Hood
A Very Nice Prince	Cinderella, Baker's Wife
Giants in the Sky	Jack
Agony	Cinderella's Prince, Rapunzel's Prince
It Takes Two	Baker, Baker's Wife
Rapunzel's Reprise	Rapunzel
Stay With Me	Witch, Rapunzel
On the Steps of the Palace	Cinderella
The Potion (Part 1)	Baker, Milky-White
The Potion (Part 2)	Witch, Baker, Milky-White, Mysterious Man, Jack, Baker's Wife
Finale (Part 2)	Florinda, Stepmother, Steward
Finale (Part 3)	Steward
Finale (Part 4)	Lucinda, Stepmother
Finale (Part 6)	Narrator, Company
Curtain Music	Company



CAST



NARRATOR

Anthea Sharrock

I've always loved performing whether it be in the pipe band, dancing or acting, performance is a part of my life. Since playing Zazu in The Lion King Jr. I couldn't wait to get back on stage to make new memories and friends.



CINDERELLA

Miley Davidson

I have been performing all my life, and theatre is my biggest passion. Like many others in this cast, Into the Woods JR. is my first production with Te Paepae O Aotea, and I am so excited to play Cinderella.



JACK

Anastazja Kowal

I've loved performing from a young age, I have been in all kinds of shows, but this one has been most memorable. Over the past couple of years, I have begun directing short plays. I'm forever grateful for these opportunities, especially having the privilege of playing Jack.



JACK'S MOTHER

Lauren Kalin

I'm super excited to bring the character of Jack's Mother to life! I love singing and acting, so theatre has always been a big passion of mine. This will be my second musical with Te Paepae o Aotea, but my first time being a featured character for the school, and I can't be more grateful to have this opportunity.



BAKER

Tyrese Whakaruru

Acting and being involved in productions wasn't a big thing for me, but I have really enjoyed singing since I moved back to New Zealand. I have only been involved with theatre since year 10. I am excited to be involved in my first production with Te Paepae o Aotea.





BAKER'S WIFE

Erina Frearson

I have been passionate about music and singing from a young age and this is my second production with Te Paepae o Aotea, my first playing Adult Nala in The Lion King Jr. I am glad to see where these opportunities may lead me in the future.



LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD

Kateia Mills

I am excited to portray Little Red Riding Hood in Te Paepae o Aotea's Into the Woods JR. Being a part of a production for the first time has solidified my passion for theatre, and I'm looking forward to future performances



THE WITCH

Taiharuru Ratima

Kia ora, I'm so excited we can share this production Into the Woods JR. with our school community. All of us have had so much support to pursue our passion for drama. Enjoy the show!



CINDERELLA'S PRINCE

Robbie Saysell

Music is my greatest passion in life, this is why I feel so grateful for the opportunity to immerse myself in such a musical environment. Into the Woods JR. is the second production I have taken part in and I feel that it has had a great positive impact on my confidence and ability to perform on stage.





CINDERELLA'S STEPMOTHER

Elizabeth Cudby

This is my first time on stage since being the skater girl in Footloose for Hāwera High School and in the ensemble for Hāwera Repertory's Bugsy Malone. I have really enjoyed playing the sassy stepmother.



FLORINDA

Evita Morellon

I am so honoured to be a part of Te Paepae o Aotea's 's Into the Woods JR. production. I've found being a part of the cast so enjoyable and a great way to explore different extracurricular activities. Drama is a completely different world, and one that I will cherish forever.



LUCINDA

Amelia Garrett

I have always loved performing; I have been involved with shows such as The Lion King JR. and Beauty and the Beast. I also have had experience playing the trumpet, trombone and flute. I love the chance to be on stage; I know I am making life long memories.



CINDERELLA'S FATHER

Lachlan Nicholas

Taking senior drama is one of the highlights of my week. Stage allows you to present a different side of yourself. This is my first big production. I've really enjoyed being part of Into the Woods JR.





CINDERELLA'S MOTHER

Lucy Fearnley

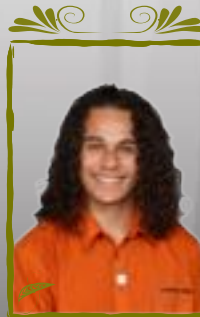
This is my first production with Te Paepae o Aotea. I have a huge passion for animals, performing arts and music. This production has helped me grow my confidence and get out my comfort zone.



RAPUNZEL

Hazel Reynolds

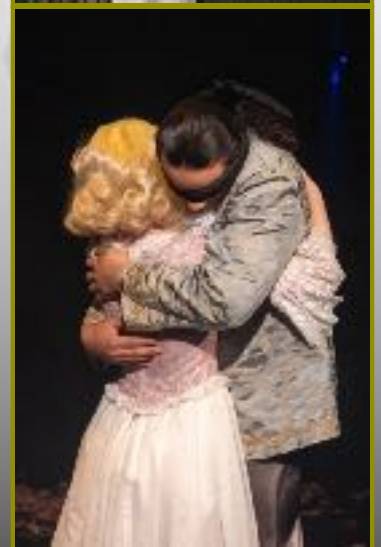
Performing arts and music are my passion. I was over the moon when I found out the next Te Paepae o Aotea production was Into the Woods JR. I find it fun getting out of my comfort zone which was the reason I auditioned. I have loved being Rapunzel.



RAPUNZEL'S PRINCE

Te Kingi Morehu Hanikawhe

My performing arts journey has just begun. In 2024 I finally left behind my fears and doubts of the stage in The Lion King JR. as Adult Simba. I have grown to learn that each show is a once in a lifetime opportunity, making new memories and new friendships is the best feeling in the world. I wouldn't trade it for all the 'gold pieces in the woods'.





MYSTERIOUS PERSON

Izzy Logan

I've been involved in theatre from a young age but I'm usually in the orchestral pit drumming. I'm very excited to be a part of my first musical on stage, furthering my passion for musical theatre.



WOLF

Jack Clarke

I have been doing theatre for 11 years. Every performance I do is different and that is what sparks my passion, but this one might be my favourite.



GRANNY

Jayda Sharp

This is my second production with Te Paepae o Aotea. I'm very excited for the shows and to be doing it all with my friends.





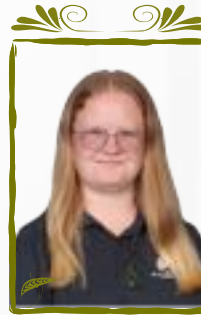
STEWARD
Leo Fagan

I have had a passion for musical theatre for a long time. I love to sing and perform. I've been in a few shows already and when I got the opportunity to be a part of Into the Woods JR. I was excited to have my own part to play.



MILKY WHITE
Tiama-Deziah Hill

This is my involvement in the second production for Te Paepae o Aotea, I'm just happy to be dramatic.



MILKY WHITE
Hannah Boothby

I had the great opportunity last year helping backstage in the production of The Lion King JR. and I am super grateful to be in the cast for Into the Woods JR.



DANCE
Niamh Clancy

It's been a while since I last performed, but I'm very excited to be in Into the Woods JR. and be able to dance with my old duo partner Julia Scott.



A photograph showing a person with a painted mustache and goatee on their face. They are wearing a dark shirt. Another person with long, purple and black dreadlocks is touching their cheek. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.





TE PAEPAE O AOTEA

Kia eke atu ki Taupaeunui o te tangata

OUR SPONSORS DESERVE A STANDING OVATION!

Thank you to the following businesses
for their support with this production



WEIR BROS
NEW ZEALAND



A special thanks to Yarrows The Bakers



Into the Woods Jr brings all your favourite Fairy Tale characters to life.
Following on from the success of Te Paepae o Aotea's production of
The Lion King JR. you have the chance to enjoy another exceptional student
production on the Hawera Memorial Stage.

Be careful what you wish for, as Stephen Sondheim's and James Lapine's
cockeyed fairytale comes to life in this adaptation of their groundbreaking,
Tony Award-winning musical.

Into the Woods JR. features all of your favourite characters -
Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (and his beanstalk) and the Witch in
this lyrically rich retelling of classic Brothers Grimm fables.

The musical centres on a baker and his wife, who wish to have a child;
Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's festival; and Jack, who wishes his
cow would give milk. When the baker and his wife learn that they cannot have a
child because of a witch's curse, the two set off on a journey to break the curse,
and wind up changed forever.

Be prepared to be Enchanted...

Into the woods
where nothing's clear
where witches ghosts
and wolves appear

Into the woods and
through the fear
you have to take
the journey

