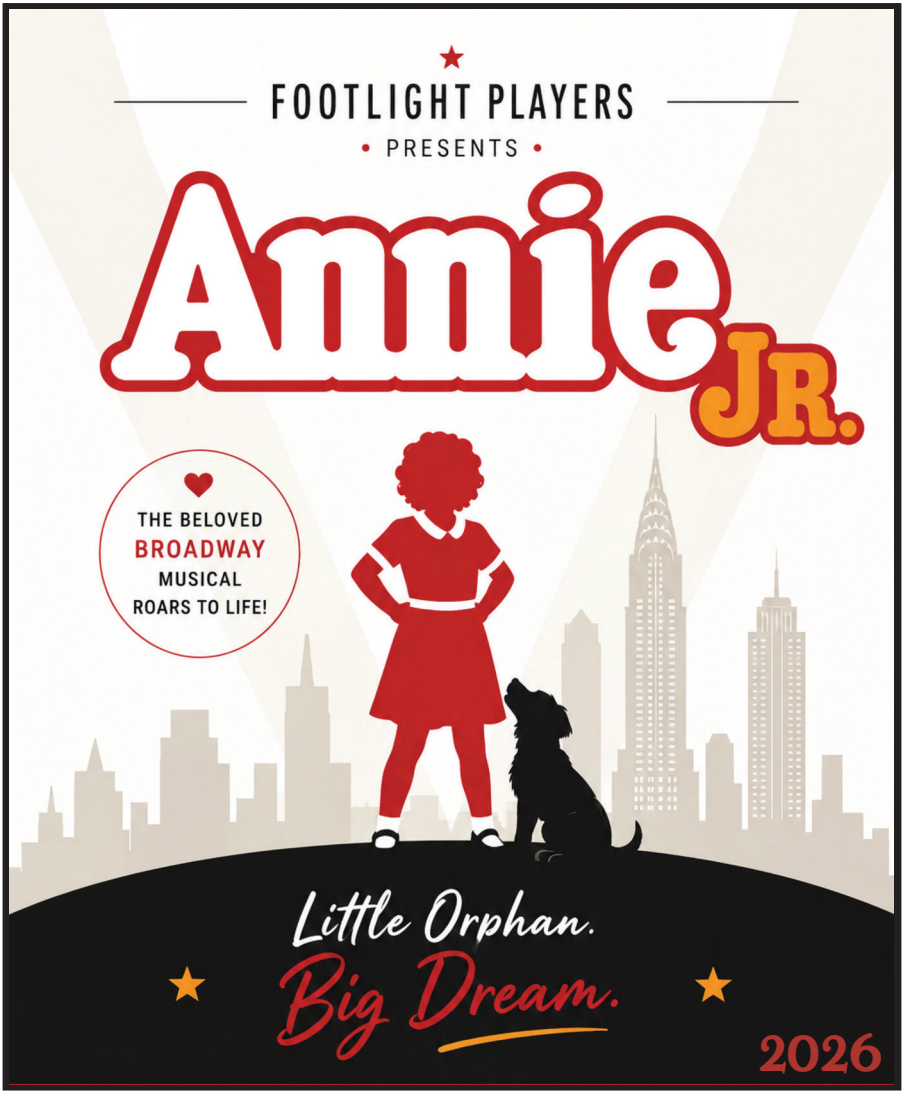
PLAYBILL

THE COMMUNITY FOOTLIGHT PLAYERS
OF LA GRANGE PARK



The Community Park District

Footlight Players

La Grange Park



Directed by:
Ben Sulzberger

Music/Sound Design
Joey Calumet

Choreographed by:
Michele Ritacco

A special thanks to
all of our fantastic volunteers

Laundry Cart Cast



Mabel Abbott (Sound Effects Person)
This is Mabel's third production with the Footlight Players. She previously appeared in Beetlejuice Jr. and Peter Pan Jr. Mabel also enjoys karate and dance.



Nora Adams (Cecille)
Nora is 9 years old and excited to participate in her first Footlight show! She has been in shows at Ovation and Children's Theatre of Western Springs where she played the role of Small Alice in Alice in Wonderland. She has also sung on the professional stage with her mom and their cello trio.



Amari Brown (New Yorker)
Amari is 7 years old and in 2nd Grade. This is her first theater production, and she is already looking forward to being part of the next show! Amari loves slime, make-up and being with her family and friends .



Maren Clairmont (Dog Catcher)
Maren is excited to make her debut with Footlights Players in the Annie cast! She loves to dance, play soccer, and basketball. In her free time, she enjoys hanging out with friends and family, exploring new places, and discovering sweet treats. She thanks everyone for their support!



Elise Colmone (Kate)
Elise is excited to join Footlight Theater for her second show! Elise is a fifth grader at Blythe Park in Riverside who loves to act, sing, dance and play soccer. She has had a blast working on Annie Jr. and hopes you enjoy the show!



Cameron Dahl (Orphan)
Cameron is excited to be part of the cast!

Laundry Cart Cast



Macie DeMonte (Orphan)
Macie is thrilled to be a part of Annie Jr., her fourth musical! She's loved every minute of her hard knock life singing, dancing and acting with her fellow orphans. Off stage, Macie paints, cooks, plays soccer, and hangs out with her family and friends. Macie thanks everyone for all the support!



Stevie Espinosa (Usherette)
This is Stevie's third foot light production. She was previously in Beetlejuice and Peter Pan. Stevie enjoys softball, acting and hanging out with her friends. She would like to thank her Miss Michelle, Mr. Ben and the cast and crew for an amazing show.



Arran Findlay (Cop/Police Officer)
Arran is a 4th grader who loves dancing, acting, volleyball and pizza. When she's not at theatre, Arran is either practicing with her competitive dance team, riding her bike with friends or reading books. This is Arran's 1st show with Footlight, but her 6th time being part of a theatre production.



Mia Amaya Fuentes (Orphan)
Mia is a creative and energetic 10-year-old who loves theater, dance, and expressing herself through the arts. She also enjoys playing sports, making art, and listening to music. Mia's enthusiasm and kindness bring joy to those around her, and she's always eager to try new things.



Nolan Gildow (Rooster)
Nolan Gildow is an energetic young actor and musician. He recently played Pugsley in The Addams Family (Stage Door Fine Arts), Michael in Peter Pan Jr. (Footlight) and Mr. Mayor in Seussical Jr. (Brook Park). He is very excited and grateful to be a part of Annie Jr!



Riley Green (Mrs. Greer)
Riley is thrilled to be performing in her third Footlight production! She loves taking the stage and watching theater whenever she can, and she is delighted to be part of such a vibrant, high-energy show alongside this incredible cast.

Laundry Cart Cast



George Heredia (Servant)
My name is George and "Annie" is my first theater production. I have two great brothers and I have made great friends during my time in the theater. I also love to play basketball. That is all about George!



Bianca Jacobucci (Officer Ward)
Bianca is excited to be in her 3rd Footlight Production. She would like to thank Michele and Ben for this opportunity. Her previous shows include Beetlejuice Jr., Peter Pan Jr., Moana Jr., and Finding Nemo Jr. Bianca is an 8th grader who also enjoys band and show choir at school.



Ella Kuharchuk (New Yorker)
Ella is a 3rd grader and is excited to participate in her first musical performance! She loves dancing, cheering, and squishies. Ella was inspired to audition when she saw her big cousin, Julian, on stage last year. She would like to thank her family, especially Julian for the encouragement.



Julian Marcano (Drake)
Julian is 10 years old and excited to be performing in his third production with Footlight. When he's not on stage, Julian enjoys playing electric guitar and making music. He loves being a part of the theater community and is grateful to be a part of Annie



Carlie Maresso (Mrs. Pugh)
Carlie Maresso is in 7th grade and loves singing, acting, and dancing. When she is not practicing for a show, she enjoys drawing, painting, skateboarding, and eating gummy bears. Carlie would like to thank Ms. Michelle, Ben, and Joey for their support! She hopes you enjoy the show!



Jude Mason (Oliver Warbucks)
Jude is thrilled to be Oliver Warbucks in Annie. This is his ninth production and he loves being on the stage! Jude would like to thank his family, his friends, and the wonderful community of theater itself! Jude would also like to thank his voice coach Ms. Shannon, and of course, Ms. Michele, Ben, and Joey!

Laundry Cart Cast



Maddie McCathern (Orphan)
Maddie McCathern is a 9 1/2 year-old sweet, highly energetic, talented little lady who loves to draw and create, enjoys singing, and is getting really good at soccer. She is a certified carnivore who loves a really good steak more than just about anything in the world. This is Maddie's 2nd show with the Footlight Players, and she looks forward to performing with another great cast!



Claire McQuillan (Sandy)
Claire is thrilled join the cast for her debut with FP! She has done two shows with the BP Theatre! She is in 3rd grade, and enjoys playing guitar, gymnastics, and dancing! Claire would like to thank her family, friends, and the volunteers for their support. She's excited to play Sandy – woof!



Leah McQuillan (Louise Howe)
Leah is thrilled to join the cast for her 5th show with FP! She has performed in Beetlejuice, Starmites, WOZ, & SpongeBob. She is a 5th grader at BP and loves to perform, play piano/sax, & soccer. She would like to thank family, friends, and volunteers! She hopes you enjoy the trip to the Big Apple!



Cecily Miller (Grace Ferrell)
Cecily is in 6th grade at Hauser Jr. High, and loves music in all forms! She is excited to return to Footlight Players after performing in the ensemble for Peter Pan and Beetlejuice Jr. Outside of acting, Cecily is often on other stages playing her violin in solo performances or with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra. She would like to thank her mom, who takes her to see so many musicals, and her amazing directors for helping her grow as a performer.



Vinny Miller (President Roosevelt/Man)
Vinny is in 3rd grade at Ames Elementary, and is excited to return for his second play with the Footlight players after performing as a Lost Boy in Peter Pan. When he's not on stage here or playing his cello with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra, Vinny enjoys playing soccer and video games, riding his bike, and drawing.



Krista Papartis (Lily)
Krista is thrilled to be back with the exciting Footlight Players production of Annie Jr and can't wait to get back on stage. Outside of productions, she loves playing her trumpet and swimming for the Bullets Swim Club. She hopes you enjoy the show and love it as much as she does!

Laundry Cart Cast



Lucy Pina (July)
This is Lucy's 6th Footlight Player production. She is excited to be playing the orphan July in Annie. This has been her favorite play so far. Outside of acting, her favorite thing to do is write and listen to music.



Luci Pasano (Servant)
Luci is a silly, brave, and adventurous 10 year old who loves singing, basketball and softball and is excited to join the cast for her acting debut! When she isn't cuddling with her dogs, Mac and Steve, she loves to hang with her friends and cousins, eat hot pot, craft, read and play roblox.



Charlize Pizzolato (Servant)
Charlize "Charli" Pizzolato is a charismatic, hardworking young performer who has loved singing since she was little. After making her stage debut in Seussical earlier this year, she's excited to return to the stage in Annie Jr. When she's not performing, Charli enjoys gymnastics and spending time with friends and family!



Theodora Ross (Tessie)
Hi, I'm Thea and I'm excited to be here as Tessie, the orphanage crybaby! At home I like to play games, read, and make Kandi (I'm also plotting world domination with my fellow theater friends. Muhahaha!)



Violet Grace Schreiber (Duffy)
Violet is 13 years old and excited to perform with Footlight! When she isn't onstage, Violet sings with SEG Pop Stars Show Choir, participates in Scouts, listens to her favorite records, and enjoys spending time with friends and family. Violet is grateful for the opportunity to share her love of the arts. She thanks her parents for supporting her, encouraging her dreams, and cheering her on every step of the way.



Lilith Spevacek (Apple Seller)
Lily is excited to be in her 5th production with Footlight Players, previously performing in Wizard of Oz, Starmites, Beetlejuice Jr., and Peter Pan. She would like to thank Ben, Miss Michele, and Joey for this opportunity and all she has learned from them. She would also like to thank her family and friends for their support.

Laundry Cart Cast



Riley Sutton (Annie)
Riley is beyond thrilled to be playing Annie! She has been performing with Footlight Players for the past 4 years with her very first musical, Matilda. She is grateful for the support from the directors, her family, and friends!



Caroline Thompson (Miss Hannigan)
Caroline is so excited to be in her first Footlight Players production. When she's not singing and dancing, she loves playing soccer and reading. She'd like to thank her family for all their support! Enjoy the show!



Penelope Velazquez (Pepper)
Penelope is 11 years old and so excited to make her Footlight players debut! She has previously appeared as Young Elsa in Frozen Jr, Chip in Beauty & the Beast Jr, and is looking forward to her upcoming role as Flounder in Little Mermaid Jr (March). She enjoys hanging out with her younger sister and studying piano. She appreciates and would like to thank everyone involved in this production. Enjoy the show!!



Ben Williamson (Bundles McCloskey/Bert Healy)
Ben is thrilled to be playing Bert Healy/Bundles McCloskey in Annie Jr! This is Ben's 7th production with the Footlight Players. When he's not acting, he likes to sing, play volleyball, and hang-out with friends. He wants to thank Ms. Michele, Ben and Joey for all of their hard work with the show!



Aila Yanz (Molly)
Aila Yanz is new to Footlight Players and is performing in her first theater production as Molly. When not on stage, Aila likes to paint, do gymnastics, and keep up with her big sisters, including fellow cast member Annika. Aila is lucky to have caught the acting bug with such a great group!



Annika Yanz (Star-To-Be)
Annika is so excited to play Star-to-Be in Annie, her 7th show with Footlight. She enjoys reading, singing, and learning the guitar. Annika would like to give a HUGE thanks to Ben, Miss Michelle, and Joey. The show wouldn't be possible without them. Enjoy the show!

Laundry Cart Cast



Amber Zermeno (New Yorker)
his is Amber's first play, and she is very excited to be in Annie Jr.! She enjoys school, soccer, reading, and making bracelets for her friends and family. She is thankful to Footlight Players for all their hard work in making this show great!



Joey Calumet
Joey is a music director and sound designer, primarily at Surging Films and Theatrics, a semi-professional theater company in Chicago. He also works as a school portrait photographer and office manager at Inter-State Studio. This is his first show with Footlight Players, and he couldn't be happier to be a part of this community. He is so proud of all the kids and how far they've come. He thanks Michele and Ben for being so wonderful to work with, and he can't wait to continue working with them and everyone who's a part of Footlight!



Michele Ritacco
Michele is overjoyed to be the choreographer for another excellent Footlight Players show. Building a new team and putting on a show in less than 9 weeks has had its challenges; however, the outcome of our hard work will be clear on stage! Michele is so appreciative to Ben and Joey and how quickly they have adapted to the Community Park District - Footlight Players. She is looking forward to many more shows with this new team. Michele can never thank her mom (Deb) and son Carl enough for their continued support in all her Performing Arts Adventures! Michele would like to thank the Community Park District Board of Commissioner and the CPD team for their continued support for the Cultural Arts! I am so proud of all our Footlight Players! Break-A-Leg!



Ben Sulzberger
Ben is a theatre artist and transplant to the Chicagoland area. He has been an actor and director in Iowa, Oregon, and Illinois. This is his first show with the Footlight Players, and he could not be prouder of the incredible work put in by these casts! Outside of theatre, Ben is frequently a substitute teacher and the writer for 'Ireland with Michael' on PBS. He'd like to thank his parents and his cat for their support, Michele & Joey for being such wonderful collaborators, and anyone and everyone — parents, volunteers, Deb, and all the staff at the Community Park District — who helped make this show happen!

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Footlight Players

La Grange Park



Spring Play – *TBD*

Audition Dates

1/20 (Wed) 4:00 – 8:00pm

1/23 (Sat) 10:00am – 7:00pm

Tech/Play Dates

5/10 – 5/16

Park Jr. High School



A Wrinkle in Time

12/5 – 2/13

Ages 9–14

11:00am – 2:00pm



Improv & Acting

Ages 7–11

Thursdays

Details coming soon.

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THE COMMUNITY FOOTLIGHT PLAYERS
OF LA GRANGE PARK



Nov. 5-8, 2026
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Thank you for your time, support & commitment!

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