

Monroe County Civic Theatre
& Bloomington Parks & Rec Present

The 35th Annual Shakespeare in the Park

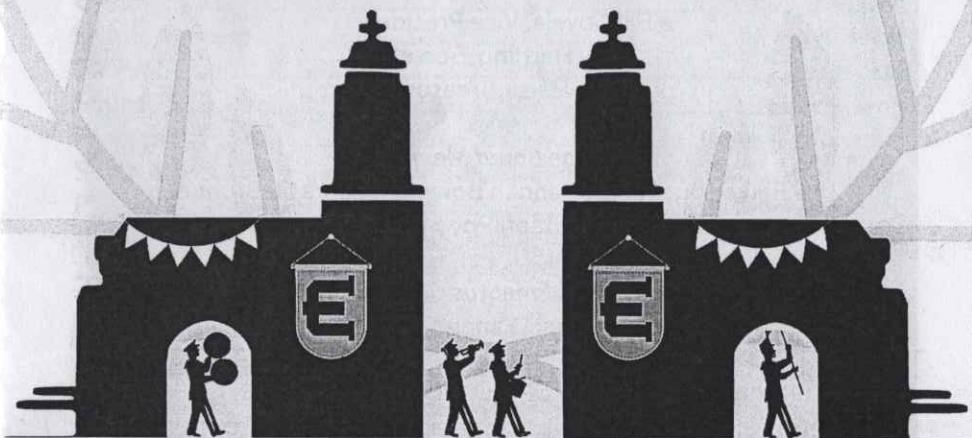
THE COMEDY OF ERRORS

May 30, 31, June 1, 6, 7, 8 | 7pm

June 2 & 9 | 2pm

Waldron Hill & Buskirk Park

Free! Donations Accepted at mcct.org



35 Years of Shakespeare in the Park

There is something about Shakespeare. For more than three decades, MCCT has presented the works of the Bard to the Bloomington Community totally free of charge. Over the course of Shakespeare in the Park, we have performed all but a handful of Shakespeare plays, from comedies to tragedies to histories. Hundreds of local performers have been a part of these shows, both on stage and in the background. We've launched careers of actors and technicians, helped people understand the poetry and prose that makes Shakespeare both famous and infamous, and celebrate the very best of the Bloomington community.

MCCT has been, and continues to be, an all-volunteer organization where we encourage anyone who has ever thought "I wonder if I can do that" to give performance a try. We rely on generous donors, grants, and good old fashioned hard work to bring shows to our community, and to bring new actors, writers, directors, and crew to the stage.

Thank you for celebrating 35 years of Shakespeare in the Park with us! Enjoy the show.

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Emily Bedwell, President
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Zilia Balkansky-Selles, Hannah Bowman, Laura DeBrunner,
Becky Staaf, Roy Sillings

Emeritus

Maryann Iaria, Dianne Shewmaker

Special thanks to Patty & Sam Ardery, Steve Heise, & Janet Templeton-Heise for underwriting the 2024 Monroe County Civic Theater season with their generous support.

Cast

Duke Solinus.....	Sophia Hoffman
Egeon.....	Roy Sillings
Antipholus of Ephesus.....	Ben Sledge
Antipholus of Syracuse.....	Noel Patrick Koontz
Dromio of Ephesus.....	Kenny Hertling
Dromio of Syracuse.....	Eric Van Gucht
Adriana.....	Anne Stichter
Luciana.....	Emma Rodes
Balthazar.....	Vashton Jackson
Angelo.....	Fletcher Coley
Amelia, Abbess.....	Zilia Balkansky-Selles
Luce.....	MaryAnn Iaria
Officer.....	Simone Monras-Pickard
Courtezan (May 30-June 2).....	Sonia Velazquez
Courtezan (June 6-9).....	Marie Renehan
First Merchant.....	Adeline Jones
Second Merchant.....	Helen Schomacker
Doctor Pinch.....	Scott Anderson
Singer.....	Dianne Shewmaker

Crew

Director.....	Devin May
Rehearsal Stage Manager.....	Kelsey Beal
Costumes.....	B. Stryker DeLong
Hair & Makeup.....	Jennifer Whitaker
Sound Design.....	Devin May
Sound.....	Grace Geng
Props.....	Hannah Bowman
Set Design.....	Roy Sillings
Playbill & Poster Design.....	Emily Bedwell

Thank You To:

Monroe County Public Library	Becky Staaf	Callie Rekas
Bloomington Stichery	Olive Bea	Camden Daley
Kim Melluck	Margaret Lion	

Meet the Cast & Crew



Scott Anderson

Doctor Pinch

Scott was in *Richard II* and *Measure For Measure* in college in the 1970s. That reinforced a love of Shakespeare that started in high school with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Tempest*. My favorite tragedy for a long time was *Othello*. In college that became *King Lear*.



Zilia Balkansky-Sellés

Amelia, the Abbess

Selected roles, with MCCT: Cecily Neville, Duchess of York (*Richard III*), Katherine (*Henry VIII*), Don Pedro (*Much Ado About Nothing*); Feste (*Twelfth Night*); Miss Prism (*The Importance of Being Earnest in a Pandemic*); with Cardinal Stage, Grandma Georgina (*Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*). Film roles: Human (*The Cats that Can*, by Robin Lea Pyle); Claudia Böhm (*Laid Bare*, BFA senior thesis film, by Morgen D. Ludwig). Zilia's poetry has been published in *Trigger Warnings*, *Stormwash*, and in *Comparative Woman*. She participates in spoken word events with the Writers Guild at Bloomington. Zilia has a Master's in Information Science from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. (2018) in Folklore Studies from Indiana University. She serves as an Academic Advisor for the Hutton Honors College at Indiana University. Zilia has served on the MCCT board since 2023. In summer 2022, Zilia climbed and summited Mount Kilimanjaro.



Kelsey Beal

Rehearsal Stage Manager

Kelsey (she/her) is excited to return to backstage work after a five-year hiatus! She previously appeared in MCCT's audio production of *Alice in Vaudeville* and is thrilled to return to in-person theatre. She would like to thank Kenny and MCCT for putting on this show and Moccasin the Cat for putting up with late dinner times. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Hannah Bowman

Props Master

Hannah (she/her) is originally from Indianapolis, IN but came to Bloomington in 2018 to start her career. She currently works at Catalent Biologics as a Principal Scientist in Manufacturing Sciences and Technology - Drug Substance. Hannah has a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin and a BS in Chemistry from Purdue where she also minored in lighting design. Her theatre experience from Cathedral High School, Summer Stock Stage, Purdue University, and now MCCT spans most aspects of working backstage. Previous MCCT credits: *Halloween Spooktacular* (SM); *The Mousetrap* (TD); *One Act Showcase: When Dreams Become Reality* (TD); *Love Lost and Love Found* (SM); *Vanya, Sonia, Masha, and Spike* (TD/Production SM).



Fletcher Coley

Angelo

Fletcher (he/him) has done many things in his life, but he's never done Shakespeare in the Park! He just finished Freshman year at Bloomington High School South (finally), and offers this advice to anyone who hasn't been to high school: don't go. In his free time, Fletcher enjoys drawing, acting, taking naps, and annoying people. He'd like to thank his friends Benadryl, Cooker, and Embryo for their support (even though one of them didn't come to his birthday party). He'd also like to thank Neutrogena sunscreen, because he's ginger, and wouldn't survive five minutes in the sun without an inch-thick layer of it covering his entire body.



B. Stryker DeLong

Costumer

Beckie (she/her) has designed costumes for stage, screen, and events throughout the country. Her first Shakespeare in the Park was in 2012 and she is happy to be continuing the tradition this year. When not spending time with MCCT, Beckie can be found at her day job at Bloomington Stitchery, or dancing with Different Drummer Belly Dancers and Caravanseria Dancers. She has judged cos-play costume contests at Gen-Con in Indianapolis, Comic Con in Columbus, and Bloomington Toy Con. For MCCT, Beckie has appeared as Felicity in *Farndale*, Mickey in *The Odd Couple*, and Mrs. Boyle in *The Mousetrap*. Love, thanks, and a tip of the hat to John and her community of misfits – they know who they are!



Grace Geng

Sound

is a retired engineer, and has found her new passion in Theatre and Filmmaking. She has taken some acting and Improv classes at the Second City in Chicago, and Constellation in Bloomington. Grace made her MCCT debut in *Richard III* and directed her first show in last fall's *One Act Showcase, When Dreams Become Reality*.



Kenny Hertling

Dromius of Ephesus

Kenny (he/him) is happy to be back working with MCCT on another fun show here for Shakespeare in the Park. Kenny is a story teller who has worked as an actor, fight director, and intimacy director, along with many technical roles. Shakespeare's work is so much fun to be a part of when you get to see the hijinks of lost relationships and word play. Hope you folks enjoy the show!



Sophia Hoffman
Duke of Solinus

Sophia (she/her) is so excited to join MCCT for the *Comedy of Errors!* She has previously appeared in MCCT productions of *Richard III* as Anne and *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* as Nina. This past year, Sophia has also worked with Constellation Stage & Screen on their productions of *Curious George and the Golden Meatball* as Netti/Ensemble as well as *Alex Gold: Stuck on Repeat* as Diane/Ensemble.



Maryann Iaria
Luce

Maryann (she/her) is thrilled to be performing again in Shakespeare in the Park. She choreographed *Richard III* for Shakespeare in the Park last year. For Brown County Theater, she played 3 supporting roles in a *Christmas Carol*. For Cardinal Stage: *A Streetcar named Desire* (Mexican Woman); for IU Opera & Ballet *Romeo & Juliette* (Lady Capulet), IU & Ballet, Supernumerary. Other credits: *The Vagina Monologues*, BEAT Showchoir, Shakespeare in the Park -Mechanicals - *Midsummer's Night Dream*, *Trojan Women* (Chorus), *All's Well that Ends Well* (Clown), *Wildcat*, (Featured Role), *Sweet Charity*, (Nicki), Indianapolis, Indiana Footlite Musicals dinner/theatre. She is dedicating this performance to her late partner, Mike.



Vashton Jackson
Balthazar

Vashon (he/him) enjoys acting as a hobby and is very excited to be apart of the 35th anniversary production of Shakespeare in The Park and is grateful that he was given the opportunity.



Adeline Jones
First Merchant

Adeline (she/her) has participated in Shakespeare In The Park for 4 years, and looks forward to participating in more MCCT productions in the future.



Noel Patrick Koontz
Antipholus of Syracuse

Noel (he/him) is a PhD student in drama and theatre education at IU and teaches English, film, and theatre at The Academy of Science & Entrepreneurship, where he established The Academy Theatre Company to produce devised student works. He recently appeared as Pablo/Collector in Eclipse Productions *A Streetcar named Desire*. Noel is excited to be a part of *The Comedy of Errors* and the 35th Anniversary of Shakespeare in the Park. He would also like to recognize the generosity of his MCCT castmates and the unending love and support of his family. Abrazos!



Devin May
Director

Devin May (he/him) is participating in his seventh Shakespeare in the Park. First was *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck) in 2013 and most recent was *Henry IV, Part 1* (director) in 2021. He performed in the 25th anniversary *Hamlet* (Horatio), and he is grateful to MCCT for the opportunity to direct this milestone 35th anniversary production. Devin directed *The Laramie Project* and *The Little Mermaid Jr.* for Stages Bloomington. He also teaches acting classes for Constellation and drama classes at Fairview Elementary. Learn more about his work at www.devinmay.com!



Simone Monrás-Pickard
Officer/Jailer

Simone (he/him) is currently a freshman at Bloomington High School North, and this is his first Shakespeare in the Park. He previously acted in the Stages production of *The Laramie Project* and *It's Our Town, Too* at BHSN, as well as being a part of tech for *Mean Girls*, also at BHSN. He is looking forward to being a part of more theater productions throughout the rest of his life. Simone is so grateful to be a part of *Comedy of Errors* and would like to thank his fellow cast members as well as his family for supporting him throughout this show and his theater journey at large.



Marie Renahan
Courtezan (June 6-9)

Marie (she/her) is so excited to be performing in her first production with Monroe County Civic Theatre! Prior to moving to Bloomington, she performed in several shows with Evansville Civic Theatre, including *Death of a Salesman*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Fahrenheit*



Emma Rodes
Luciana

Emma (she/her) is so excited to be playing Luciana! Emma graduated in 2023 from IU with a degree in theater, and this is her first production with the Monroe County Civic Theater. Emma is a Bloomington High School North alum and some of her past productions include *The Little Mermaid* at BHSN, *The Winter's Tale* at IU, and *Boeing Boeing* at the Brown County Playhouse. In her spare time she loves going to the lake, playing video games, and trying to teach herself to play various instruments. Emma would like to thank the wonderful crew and cast for letting her be a part of this production!



Helen Schomacker

Second Merchant

Helen (they/them) is thrilled to be participating in their first in-person show with MCCT! As a recent graduate of Bloomington High School South and frequent participant of community theatre, you may have also seen them in local productions such as *Into the Woods* with Theatre South, or *The Laramie Project* with Stages Bloomington. When not performing, you can probably find them playing Sims 4 and belting showtunes in the shower. They'd like to thank the incredible cast and crew of *Shakespeare in the Park* for putting this show together and being so supportive for the whole process.



Dianne Shewmaker

Featured Singer

Dianne (she/her) has been with MCCT since 2016 and in many play since then, also singing in some besides acting. She is a retired school counselor. Dianne previously has been in Sherwood Oaks Christian Church drama group "Son Shine" several years ago. She is an Emeritus member of the MCCT Board, and she loves to sing, act & dance, having been involved with IU Swing Dance Club as well as taking ballroom classes.



Roy Sillings

Eagon

Roy Sillings (he/him) is excited to be back on stage in the park for *Comedy of Errors*. He appears frequently in MCCT Shakespeare productions and other roles from Humpty Dumpty to Dracula. He has also performed with Bloomington Playwrights, Merry MAC Players Community Theatre, Starry Night Productions, Cardinal Stage Company and at the Indianapolis Fringe Festival. He has appeared in several short films, has written several plays and designed sets. Roy holds an A.B. in Classical Languages and a graduate degree in Instructional Systems Technology from Indiana University. He has worked at Communication Disorders Technology, Inc. in software design and programming for nearly thirty years.



Ben Sledge

Antipholus of Ephesus

Ben (he/him) is a speech-language pathologist and lives in Bloomington with his wife. Originally from Mississippi, Ben has been a Bloomington resident since 2001 when he came to Indiana University to study Spanish linguistics. He enjoys cooking, trivia, baseball, and travel. In high school, Ben was actively involved in theater and has also performed in several productions with Grupo de Teatro VIDA, a Spanish-language theater organization affiliated with IU. This is Ben's second MCCT production and first *Shakespeare in the Park*.

castmates and the unending love and support of his family. A blessed



Anne Stichter

Adriana

Anne is very excited to be taking part in her first MCCT production. Anne earned her B.A. in Theatre & Psychology from Anderson University and M.A. in Arts Administration from IU. Former roles have included Don Pedro (*Much Ado About Nothing*), Maria (*Twelfth Night*), Touchstone (*As You Like It*), Florence Unger (*The Odd Couple*), Melantho/Oracle (*The Penelopiad*), and Mary Hatch (*It's a Wonderful Life (Radio Show)*). Many thanks and much love to Adam, Alistair, and Ari, who made this possible for me.



Eric P Van Gucht

Dromio of Syracuse

Eric P. Van Gucht (he/him) has worked with MCCT since 2008. His most recent role was King Edward IV in *Richard III* for last year's *Shakespeare in the Park*. Various Shakespeare shows: *Hamlet* (Marcellus/Gravedigger); two productions of *Macbeth* (Lennox); *Richard III* (Edward IV); *Henry IV, Part 1* (Ned Poins); *Much Ado About Nothing* (Borachio); and directing *Twelfth Night* for MCCT in 2019. Recent and favorite non-Shakespeare roles include: *The Mousetrap* (Christopher Wren); *Check, Please!* (Louis); *When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder?* (Teddy); *Urinetown* (Lockstock). Having grown up in Bloomington, Eric stayed in his hometown for school and graduated with a B.A. in theatre and French from Indiana University Bloomington in 2011.



Sonia Velazquez

Courtesan (*May 30-June 2*)

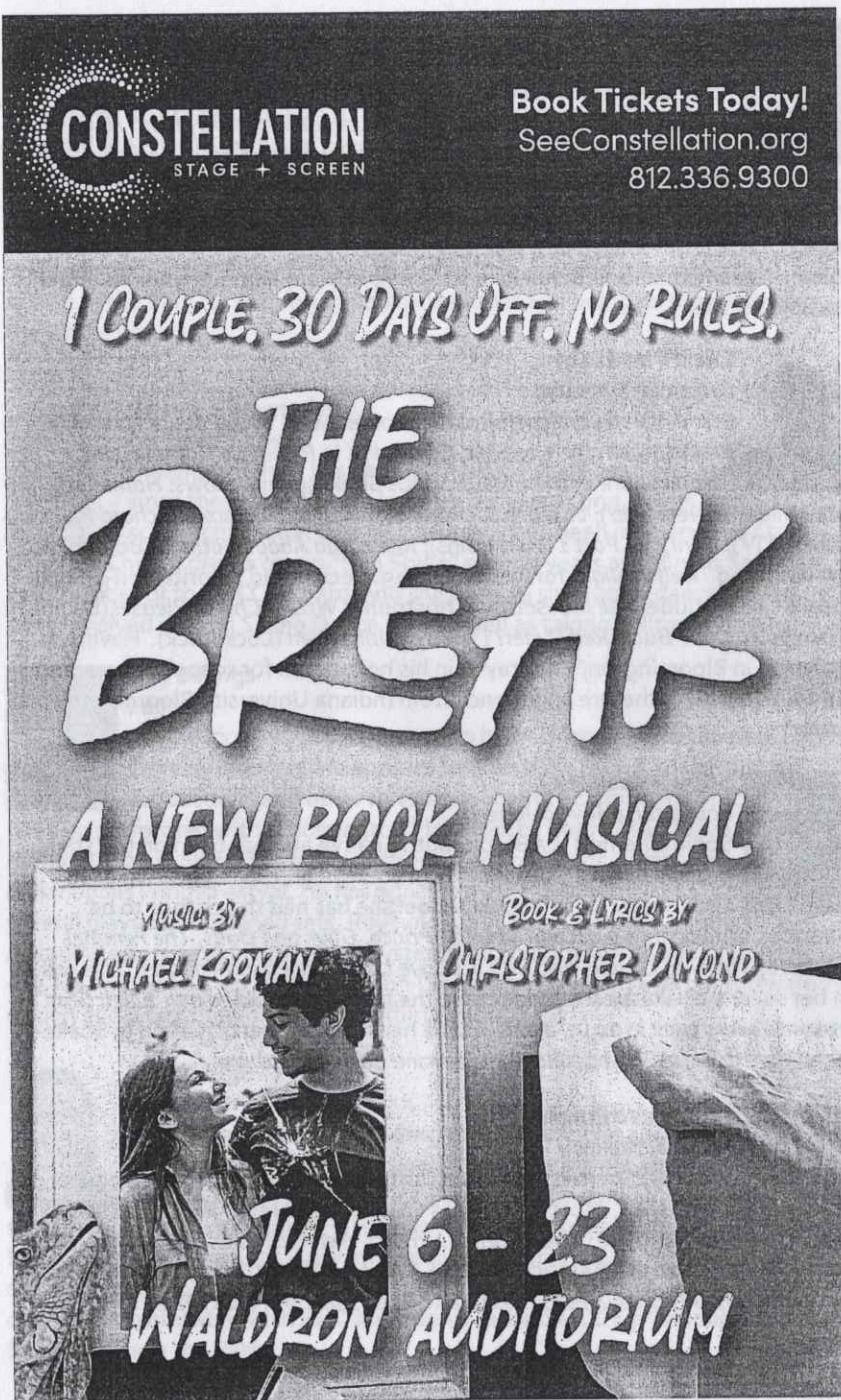
Sonia (she/her) is a Bloomington native and has been on the stage in any capacity possible from a young age. Having been in choir and theater since middle school she has had the chance to be in various productions such as *The Little Prince*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Female Version of The Odd Couple*, and MCCT's *Love Lost Love Found Cabaret*. This will be her second Shakespeare production, the first being *Romeo and Juliet: Star Crossed Lovers* back in 2019, and it will be her first time participating in *Shakespeare in the Park*. She hopes that everyone enjoys the show.



Jennifer Whitaker

Hair & Makeup

Jennifer (She/her) has long history of performing Shakespeare with MCCT, most recently as Queen Margaret in *Richard III*. Other Roles include: The Countess in *All's Well that Ends Well* (2021), Regan in *King Lear* (2018), Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing* (2016), Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2013), and Lady Macbeth (2012 & 2015).



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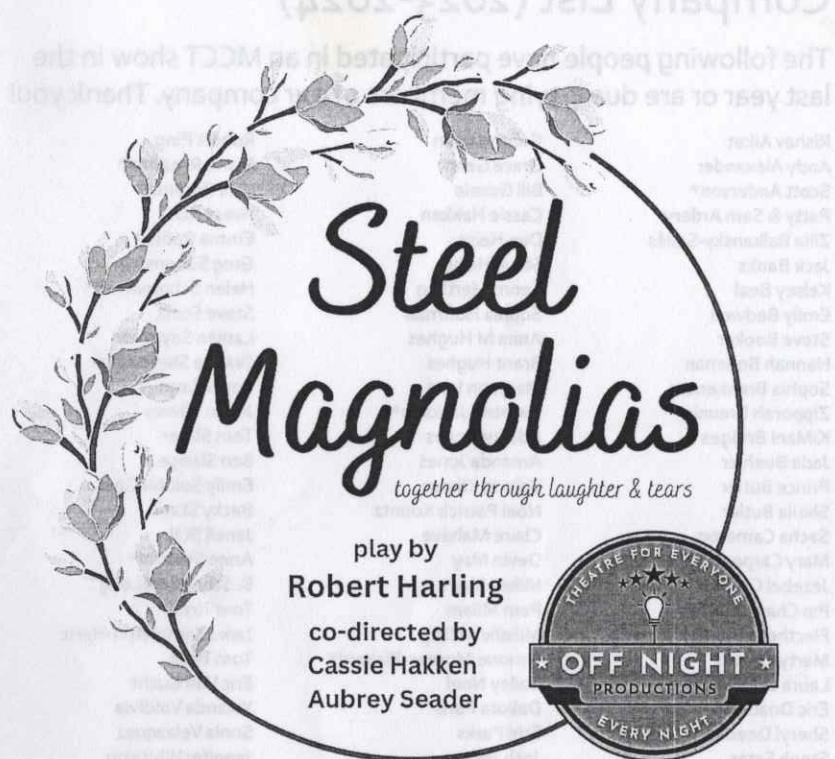
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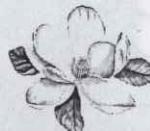
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Company List (2023-2024)

The following people have participated in an MCCT show in the last year or are due-paying members of our company. Thank you!

Rishav Aikat
Andy Alexander
Scott Anderson*
Patty & Sam Ardry
Zilia Balkansky-Sellés
Jack Banks
Kelsey Beal
Emily Bedwell
Steve Booker
Hannah Bowman
Sophia Brenneman
Zipporah Breunig
KiMani Bridges
Jada Buehler
Prince Butler
Sheila Butler
Sacha Cameron
Mary Carpenter
Jezebel Cavosie
Pip Chamberlain
Fletcher Coley*
Marty Cusato
Laura DeBrunner
Eric Doades
Sheryl Doades
Steph Estes
Rance Fawbush
Ashley Fish
Gabe Gloden
Grace Geng
Bill Goveia
Cassie Hakken
Dan Heise
Steve Heise
Kenny Hertling
Sophia Hoffman
Anna M Hughes
Brant Hughes
Maryann Iaria
Vashton Jackson*
Adeline Jones
Amanda Jones
Valerie Kilmel
Noel Patrick Koontz
Claire Mahave
Devin May
Mike Milam
Pam Milam
Mikelle Miller
Simone Monras-Pickard*
Bailey Noel
Dakota Paris
Erin Parks
Josh Pena
Bobby Ayala Perez
Cameron Perry

Robert Ping
Marie Renahan*
Kyle Resener
Avery Rist
Emma Rodes*
Greg Simons
Helen Schomacker*
Steve Scott
Larken Seymour
Dianne Shewmaker
Roy Sillings
Julian Silvers
Tom Slater
Ben Sledge
Emily Solt McGee
Becky Staph
Janell Still
Anne Stichter*
B. Stryker DeLong
Tom Taylor
Janet Templeton-Heise
Tom Trent
Eric Van Gucht
Yolanda Valdivia
Sonia Velazquez
Jennifer Whitaker

*denotes first show with MCCT

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