

AUBURN AREA COMMUNITY THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS:

# a Holiday Walk in the Woods

Dec. 16 at 5PM

Dec. 17 at 10AM & 5PM

A celebration of music  
and traditions  
representative of our  
whole community

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Co-hosted by  
Kreher Preserve  
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# Full Schedule of Performers

**Friday Dec. 16**  
**5-7:00 PM**

**Charlotte Hendrix**  
"We Need a Little Christmas"  
from Mame

**Esperanza House Children's  
Choir**  
"Alumbra Lucerito"

**Zeph Embers**  
"Mijiza" an original

**Bekah Taylor, Mary Margaret  
Buck, Bette Gibson, Julia  
Decoteau**  
"Last Christmas" by Wham

**Virginia Posthumous**  
"Mary, Did you Know" by  
Lowry and Greene

**Michael Knotts**  
White Christmas

**AU Chamber Choir**  
"Carol of the Bells"



**Saturday Dec. 17**  
**10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**Charlotte Hendrix**  
"We Need a Little Christmas"  
from Mame

**East Alabama Community  
Ballet**  
Nutcracker Selections

**Jhonen & Chris Alonzo**  
You're a Mean One, Mr.  
Grinch by Hague and Geisel

**Abby Freeman**  
"White Christmas" by Berlin

**Auburn Indian Music Ensemble**  
(Chaitra Gururaj  
Gopikrishna Deshpande  
Vibhu Deshpande  
Deepa Devarakonda  
Balasubramaniam Karanam  
Tejaswini Karanam  
Deepa Devarakonda  
Aditya Maiyya  
Vasvi Prakash)  
"Sangeeth" a medley

**Virginia Posthumous**  
"Mary, Did you Know" by  
Lowry and Greene

**Alsobrook Performing Arts**  
(Lottie Mason, Eva Kate Mason, Sam  
Mason, Josiah Mason, Annie Mason,  
Kirkley Muncie, Chip Nicholson, Jude  
Nicholson, John Stuart Nicholson,  
Hudson Owen, Amy Chang, Kyllie  
Mcintosh, Baylor Sullivan)  
SparkleJollyTwinkleJingley  
from Elf

**Saturday Dec. 17**  
**5-7:00 PM**

**Milla Kaye and Edward  
Pearson**  
Instrumental Carol of the Bells

**First Baptist Church of  
Opelika's Latino  
Congregation Choir –**  
"Campana De Belen"

**Miranda Silano**  
"Walking in a Winter  
Wonderland" by Bernard and  
Smith

**Bekah Taylor, Mary Margaret  
Buck, Bette Gibson, Julia  
Decoteau**  
"Last Christmas" by Wham

**Susan Youngblood**  
Congregation Beth Shalom -  
Chanukah Music

**David Carter**  
"Gold and Green" by  
Sugarland

**Jessica Connelly, Zeph  
Embers, Lyndsey Minerva**  
"Let It Snow"

**Extra Welcome Music:  
Friday & Saturday Evening**

Larry Wells and Friends  
Holiday Winds music by the  
Turtle Pond

**Don't Forget:**  
Free crafts at the end of the  
trail with the Jan Dempsey  
Community Art Center staff.

# REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/24



## STEM Sprouts' Class

(one-year-olds)

## Explorers' Class

(two-year-olds)

## Investigators' Class

(three-year-olds)

## Junior Scientists' Class

(four and five-year-olds)

2,3, and 5-day schedules available

Hours: 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. or 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

(various optional programs available: early drop-off  
7:30 a.m., lunch program, STEM Play)

**Register here: [bit.ly/ADS23-24](https://bit.ly/ADS23-24)**

Questions: Lillie Brooks, Office Manager  
[lb Brooks@auburndayschool.com](mailto:lb Brooks@auburndayschool.com)



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# Performer Bios

Abby Freeman is a senior Industrial Design student at Auburn University. She grew up dancing at Make Your Move Performing Arts and is now an on staff choreographer. Previous credits include Emma (Emma: A Pop Musical), Godspell (Telly and Choreographer), All Together Now (Soloist), Hands On a Hardbody (Choreographer).

Alsobrook Performing Arts is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community theatre, operating out of Southside Center for the Arts in Opelika! We are committed to providing accessible arts opportunities to the Opelika community through flexible and affordable performing arts classes, musicals, plays, and community performances like this one! Visit [alsobrookperformingarts.org](http://alsobrookperformingarts.org) for more info or follow us @alsobrookperformingarts on Facebook or Instagram.

The Auburn Music Ensemble is directed by Chaitra Gururaj. She brings her previous experience as the director of the Indian Music Ensemble at Emory university, Atlanta, GA. Through her cultural initiative 'Sunada Chaitanya Foundation' she is striving to bring the music of the east to the west to further cross cultural understanding. She has been training students in south Indian classical music (also referred to as carnatic music) in the United States since 2007. Prior to 2007, she was and continues to be an empaneled artist for south Indian music in All India Radio (AIR Bangalore). In addition to

classical music, she is well-versed in other genres of Indian music such as semi-classical, contemporary and folk music.

Bekah Taylor is a student at Southern Union State Community College. She has been in several productions with AACT. Her most recent role was the fun loving Cindy Barnes in "Hands on a Hardbody" When she is not performing she enjoys reading, cooking, hanging out with her best friends, and listening to music. She hopes you enjoy the performances!

Bette Gibson is a senior at Reeltown High School. Where she is the current Color Guard Captain! All her life she has loved to sing and perform. She has been in several productions with AACT including her most recent role in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" as a member in the ensemble. While not performing you can find her twirling flag, reading, and listening to music. She hopes you enjoy!

Charlotte Hendrix is a singer and improvisational comedian, who was last seen (and not heard) in AACT's hilarious production of "Check, Please" in the role of "Mime." Other past roles include Lady of the Lake in Spamalot (AACT), "Ronnelle" in Little Shop of Horrors (Damascus Theater Company, Damascus, MD) and PePe: The Mail Order Monkey Musical (original cast, "Bridge Lady," Washington DC Capital Fringe Fest). She is the Director of Communications of External Relations at





# Performer Bios

Auburn's Museum.

David Carter first started performing with AACT all the way back in 2013 in the musical "The Secret Garden." Since then he's performed in AACT productions of "Spamalot" (2018) "End Days" (2021), "All Together Now" (2021), and most recently "Hands on a Hardbody" (2022). By day he's a mild-mannered and very absent-minded history professor who teaches about the Civil Rights and Vietnam War eras and other aspects of U.S. history since the Civil War.

East Alabama Community Ballet is the area's only community ballet company. Dancers from any area school or studio are invited to participate in EACB productions while continuing their classes at the studio of their choice. East Alabama Community Ballet seeks to provide more performing opportunities for young dancers while promoting the art of ballet in East Alabama. <https://www.eacballet.com/>

Esperanza House is a non-profit organization with a focus on youth development, childcare, education, and advocacy in the Auburn-Opelika Area. They work with the local Hispanic community, and some of their elementary students are performing at the Holiday Walk. The choir is led by Vanessa Rodriguez, a professional artist and musician, and a music teacher specialized in early childhood. She was born in Bogota, Colombia, and with more than 10 years of

experience, she teaches from her Latin culture. She has performed as a guest artist, director of musical initiation groups and in vocal training for musical theatre works.

First Baptist Church of Opelika's new Latino congregation is under the leadership of Daniel Gonzalez. The group includes singers from 11 different countries. They will have a special Christmas program (Navidad Latina) on December 25th at 11 am at FBCOPELIKA. The launching of public services will be January 15th, 2023.

Jessie Connelly is a Senior musical theatre major at Coastal Carolina University. She has been a part of AACT since she was 7 as an actor, choreographer and teacher. She's preparing for her senior showcase in New York and is so happy to be able to come back to AACT one more time before the big move!

Julia Decoteau is a junior at Auburn High School. Recently, she was the Stage Manager for James and the Giant Peach, and Assistant Stage Manager for Jack and Lil and the Beanstalk and Twelfth Night. She is also the Secretary of Student Council and a member of the Debate Team. She hopes you have a lovely time at Holiday Walk in the Woods!

Jhonen Alonzo is a 6th grader at Opelika Middle School who loves playing Roblox with his friends, taking drum lessons at Spicer's Music, and coding his own games



# Performer Bios

in Scratch. He has been singing and playing different instruments since he was a baby, but this is his first time performing in public. He's joined by his Dad, who once got a callback from Star Search in 1994.

Lyndsey Minerva is a BFA musical theatre student at Coastal Carolina University, originally from New York, but enjoying Southern hospitality and AACT with her roommate Jessica.

Mary Margaret Buck is a junior at Auburn high school. She is class vice president and involved in many clubs at her school. She has been in multiple productions with aact and most recently she was the choreographer for James and the Giant Peach! She loves to spend time with friends and family and perform! She hopes you enjoy the holiday walk in the woods!

Michael Knotts has been involved with AACT for over a year in performances such as Hands on a Hard Body. This is his first time with Holiday Walk in the Woods and he is thrilled to be involved.

Milla Kaye and Edward Pearson – Edward is a 6th grader at Drake Middle School who recently made his AACT debut as Grasshopper in James and the Giant Peach. He has been playing percussion for a year. Milla Kaye is an 8th grader at Auburn Junior High who has been playing

the violin for 7 years.

Miranda Silano is a Master's of Geography student at Auburn University. She was previously in AACT's All Together Now show, but has been in shows such as Little Women, Fiddler on the Roof, and the Sound of Music. She enjoys singing in the shower, watching bad reality TV, and reading. When not on stage, she can always be found volunteering or helping out in some way with a show. She would like to thank AACT for letting her be a part of another show!

Susan Youngblood serves as a board member of Congregation Beth Shalom, Auburn's synagogue. She often leads music there and in her "spare" time is a faculty member of AU's English Department.

The AU Chamber Choir is the premier choral ensemble at Auburn University. Under the direction of Dr. William C. Powell, the group was formed in 2008, becoming the seventh choir in the music department. They have sung for conferences led by the National Association for Music Educators and the American Choral Directors Association; and they have sung abroad in Ireland and Italy, and at national landmarks such as Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln Center, and Washington National Cathedral. Next year, Auburn choral students will perform in London's Cadogan Hall for the British





# Performer Bios

premiere of The Cry of Jeremiah by Rosephanye Powell.

Virginia Posthumous is a Junior starting her spring semester at UWG, where she will be continuing her studies in theater. She joined the AACT family back in May and hasn't taken a break from them since. She'd like to thank AACT for all the opportunities and her family for love and support.

Zeph Embers is a local Singer/Songwriter, Designer, and YouTuber! Zeph has been a part of set design, acting, lighting, and stage crew for many shows with AACT in the past. Since then he's been building himself a debt free contemporary home, where's he's spent this past summer self recording his next album. He believes in minimalism, good health, and community! We are stronger together! (Check out his originals on Spotify)

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## *commitment to community*

We are thrilled to support the Auburn Area Community Theatre! At Three Sixty, it's not just about selling real estate. We believe our community is a great place to live and work and raise a family, and we want to do everything we can to help members of our community have a better life. We started our company with a foundation of service and as we've grown, we are proud to say that our team represents people of all different walks of life who are involved in all different aspects of our community.



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Craft coordinators: **Melanie Brown and Dana Tompkins**

Treats coordinator: **Cindy Davino, Martha Williams, Rhonda Cattley**

Graphics: **Chris Alonzo**

Ticketing: **Julie Wells**

Website: **Kim Farr**

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Sara Custer and the Dempsey Arts Center for decoration loans  
*And all our volunteer guides and helpers throughout preparations and the event!***

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