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# HAMLET CAST

## **HAMLET:**

Jeffrey Chips

**CLAUDIUS, POLONIUS, GUILDENSTERN,  
PLAYER KING, LUCIANUS, FORTINBRAS,  
GRAVEDIGGER 1:**

Bob Colbert

**OPHELIA, GHOST, GRAVEDIGGER 2, PUPPETEER:**

Alexandra Hellinger

**GERTRUDE, HORATIO, LAERTES, ROSENCRANTZ,  
PLAYER QUEEN, VOLTEMAND, CORNELIUS:**

Lauren Scheller-Wolf

**UNDERSTUDIES:**

Sydney Forschein, Felicia Perez, Adelaide Schmich



# PRODUCTION TEAM

Director: **Cat Aceto**

Production Designer: **Cat Aceto**

Music Composer: **DiGregorio**

Fight Choreographer: **Ella Mizera**

Stage Manager: **Lauren Scheller-Wolf**

Assistant Stage Manager: **Felicia Perez**

Fight Captain: **Alexandra Hellinger**

Backstage Crew: **Siena Forschein, Sydney Forschein,**

**Luna Myers, Adelaide Schmich**

Producers: **Jeffrey Chips, Cat Aceto, Bob Colbert**

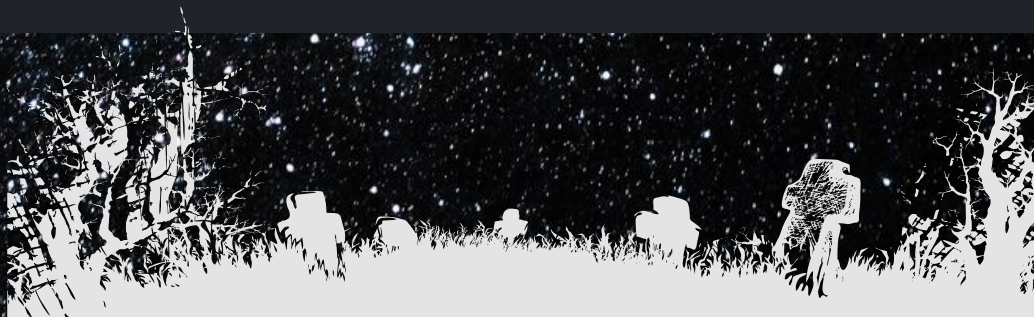
A white, stylized skull graphic with a hollow eye socket and a wide, toothy grin, set against a dark, starry background.

Cat Aceto  
**Director  
and Designer**

**Cat Aceto (she/her)**

*Previously with SCSC: Assistant Director/Designer of Macbeth, Puppet Designer of The Merry Wives of Windsor, Puppet Designer of Pericles*

Cat Aceto upped her puppet game during the pandemic, from a useful way of dealing with casting issues to an overwhelming obsession. Working in the genre of modern shadow puppetry, she uses paper puppets and a variety of found objects in connection with flashlights, work lights, and overhead projectors to create layered, surreal landscapes in which she sets stories both short and long. Her filmed work can be seen on instagram at Cat\_Aceto. In addition to her work with Steel City Shakespeare Center, she currently serves on the executive committee of Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks, for whom she produces *Ciphers to this Great Accompt*, an annual online Shakespeare-themed puppet slam featuring an international collection of puppet artists. See PSiP's website for details on the upcoming show, April 27, 2024.





Jeffrey Chips  
**Hamlet**

**Jeffrey Chips** (he/him)

*Previously with SCSC: As director: Henry V, Macbeth, Pericles, A Christmas Carol; A Radio Drama, As You Like It (virtual), Richard III, The Seven Voyages of Sinbad, The Tempest, A Christmas Carol (2016), Much Ado About Nothing, A Christmas Carol (2015), Twelfth Night.*

*As actor: Pericles in Pericles, Jaques in As You Like It (virtual), Marley/Young Scrooge/Bob Cratchit in A Christmas Carol (2015, 2016), Don Pedro/Dogberry in Much Ado About Nothing, Malvolio/Sir Andrew/Sebastian in Twelfth Night.*

*As playwright: The Heavy Gait of Night, The Seven Voyages of Sinbad, A Christmas Carol.*

Jeffrey is the Founder and Artistic Director of Steel City Shakespeare Center, producing 25 productions in 11 years. He has also directed productions of *Cymbeline* and *King Lear* with Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks and previously worked as an understudy with the American Shakespeare Center on productions of *The Tempest*, *Henry V*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Richard III*. He holds a BA in theatre from Allegheny College and an MLitt and MFA in Shakespeare and Performance from Mary Baldwin University, earned while training at the American Shakespeare Center. He is a resident of West View and serves as the Program Coordinator at the West View Hub. He is also a bookseller at Riverstone Books and a teaching artist at Act One Theatre School. He thanks his wife, Megan, and sons, Samuel, Isaac, and Joshua, for all of their love and inspiration.



Bob Colbert  
Claudius, Polonius,  
Guildenstern, Fortinbras,  
Player King, Gravedigger 1

**Bob Colbert (he/him)**

*Previously with SCSC: As actor: Charles Dickens in *A Christmas Carol*, Will Shakespeare in *The Heavy Gait of Night*, Pistol/French King/others in *Henry V*, Falstaff/Dr. Caius in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Simonides/Lysimachus/Cleon in *Pericles*, Polonius/Horatio in *Hamlet*  
As director: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (upcoming), *The Merry Wives of Windsor**

Bob is thrilled to be returning to Steel City Shakespeare Center. Bob has also performed with such Pittsburgh theater companies as Poor Yorick's Players, Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks, and Gemini Children's Theatre. At Gemini, Bob performs in both their mainstage shows and their field trip/school outreach program and recently served as a teaching artist for the SCSC Youth Academy's Summer Camp. Enjoy the show!





Lauren Scheller-Wolf  
Gertrude, Laertes, Horatio,  
Rosencrantz, Player Queen

Stage Manager

**Lauren Scheller-Wolf** (she/her)

*Previously with SCSC: As actor: Boy/Katharine/Dauphin/Gower in *Henry V*, Jane Fairfax in *Emma*, Mr. Page/Hostess in *The Merry Wives of Windsor**

*As stage manager: *Henry V, Emma**

Lauren Scheller-Wolf is thrilled to be back at SCSC for *Hamlet*! Lauren is a recent University of Pittsburgh graduate, where she earned a BPhil in Theatre Arts and English Writing and focused on performance and stage management. Lauren has worked onstage or behind the scenes with several Pittsburgh theatre companies, including Saltworks Theater Company, Mon River Arts, the McKeesport Little Theater, Gemini Children's Theater, Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks, and Prime Stage Theatre. Next up, she'll be stage managing for Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks' world premiere of *This Could be True*. She hopes you enjoy the show!





Alexandra Hellinger  
**Ophelia, Ghost,  
Gravedigger 2,  
Puppeteer**

**Alexandra Hellinger** (she/her)

*Previously with SCSC: Mina Murray in Dracula*

Alexandra is thrilled to be joining Steel City Shakespeare again for another production! She was a part of the staged reading of *Dracula* and had to come back for more! A recent Seton Hill University Graduate, Alexandra currently works at Saltworks Theatre Company performing for children and young adults all over the Pennsylvania area. She is ecstatic to be joining this group of wonderful people who inspire her and push her to be her very best self! She would like to thank her family and friends who support her in all of her endeavors. Website:

<https://ahellinger8.wixsite.com/my-site>







## DiGregorio Music Composer

### **DiGregorio**

DiGregorio is a powerful symphonic metal band that captivates audiences with their immersive soundscapes, fierce compositions, and hauntingly beautiful melodies. Drawing inspiration from esteemed acts such as Within Temptation, Lacuna Coil, and Tarja, DiGregorio has honed their own unique blend of symphonic metal, infusing it with their own signature style and artistic expression. Founded by guitarist, lead vocalist, songwriter, Suzanne DeCree, DiGregorio was born out of a deep passion for music and a desire to create something truly extraordinary. Suzanne focuses on creating an ever deepening, atmospheric world that started with House of Gregory, Chapter 1.

Taking a hard turn from the normally frenetically energetic Gothic/Symphonic Metal that launched the band, DiGregorio's new EP, *Loveless Ruminations*, is a rich sonic tapestry focusing more on atmosphere. Furthermore, DiGregorio is about to release a lyric video for their electrifying single, "Black Widow" featuring the talented vocalist Seethe.

With a rapidly growing presence on the music scene and a bright future ahead, DiGregorio continues to captivate audiences with their symphonic metal mastery. Their unwavering commitment to their artistry and their relentless pursuit of excellence make them a force to be reckoned with in the realm of symphonic metal.



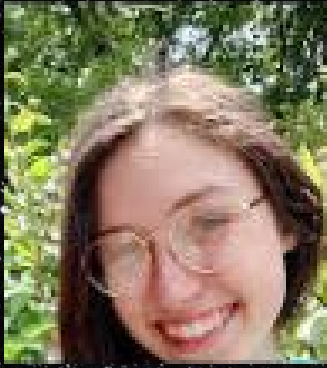
Ella Mizera  
Fight Choreographer

**Ella Mizera (she/her)**

*Previously with SCSC: Harriet Smith in Emma, Xander/Hamnet in The Heavy Gait of Night, Mistress Ford in The Merry Wives of Windsor, Malcolm/Lady Macduff in Macbeth*

Ella is a senior at the University of Pittsburgh studying theater and nonprofit management. She is also the co-founder of a local youth-led Shakespeare company, the Youth Shakespeare Society of Pittsburgh, and will served as fight choreographer for their summer 2023 show, *Much Ado About Nothing*. Ella hopes you enjoy the show!





**Felicia Perez** (she/her) is passionate about theater, writing, and all things Shakespeare. She has been a member of Steel City Shakespeare Center's Youth Academy for five years now, and has marveled at how the organization has grown since that winter in 2020. Her recent credits include Dogberry in YSSP's *Much Ado About Nothing*, Paris in YSSP's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She is currently directing *The Taming of the Shrew* with the Youth Shakespeare Society of Pittsburgh.



**Siena Forschein** is enthusiastic to work in Steel City Shakespeare Center's *Hamlet* as intern. Some of her previous work include honorable mentions in the Pittsburgh Public Theater Monologue and Scene contest, once as Therio/Julia in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* and once as Hortensio in *The Taming of the Shrew*. She was run crew for Youth Shakespeare Society of Pittsburgh's *Much Ado About Nothing*, she has also worked with Steel City Shakespeare Center Youth Academy in three years of summer camp and a year of winter classes. Siena's love of Shakespeare is matched by love for making art, and reading.

**Adelaide Schmich** is a scribe of fantasies, creator of worlds, conveyer of stories, and student of the world. In other words, she's a writer, artist, actress, and bookworm. She loves Shakespeare's works and has participated in the PPT Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest since she was nine, winning Best Scene in 2021! She also enjoys getting lost in books, calling people Shakespearian insults (thou cream-faced loon!), and procrastinating schoolwork. She's loved working with Steel City Shakespeare in the past and is really excited to have this chance to intern with them!



Adelaide Schmich  
**Production Intern**



Luna Myers  
**Production Intern**



**Luna Myers** is a 14 year old homeschooler with a passion for semicolons and crows. She participated twice in the PPT Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest, and has dabbled in local theater and summer camps. She is thrilled to be supporting SCS in this production of *Hamlet* as a teen intern!



Sydney Forschein  
Production Intern



**Sydney Forschein** is grateful to have this chance to work with Steel City Shakespeare as an intern! Her previous credits include; Youth Shakespeare Society's *Twelfth Night* as Fabian, and Verges/Ursula in their *Much Ado About Nothing*. She also worked at Gemini children's theater production of *A Fairly, Wizardly Adventure* on light board. And also won honorable mention in the Pittsburgh Public Theater's Shakespeare monologue and scene contest in 2023.





William Shakespeare  
**Playwright**

**William Shakespeare** was born in Stratford-upon-Avon, England in 1564, the son of John Shakespeare, a glovemaker, and Mary Arden, the daughter of a prominent Catholic family in Stratford. At the age of 18, he married Anne Hathaway, and together they had three children, Susanna, Judith, and Hamnet.

In the late 1580s/early 1590s, Shakespeare arrived in London around the same time the English Navy defeated the Spanish Armada, establishing England as the strongest military power in Europe and London as the major hub of European culture and art. He joined the Lord Chamberlain's Men as an actor, shareholder, and writer and also gained fame and influence as a writer of poems, including 154 sonnets.

After the death of Queen Elizabeth in 1603 and the arrival of King James, the Lord Chamberlain's Men became the King's Men and served as the main playing company for the Royal Court.

In his career, he wrote several of the most beloved works in the history of the English language, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *Macbeth*, *The Tempest*, and many more. In 1614, he sold his share in the King's Men and retired to Stratford for a brief time before his death in 1616.

Seven years later, in 1623, members of the King's Men undertook the effort of collecting all of Shakespeare's plays and publishing his First Folio. With the exception of the King James Bible, Shakespeare's First Folio is perhaps the most celebrated and most studied printed work in the history of the English language. Today we credit Shakespeare as the author of 38 plays that, over the course of 400 years, have been translated into hundreds of languages and performed throughout the world.

# SCSC 2024

## ARTIST CORE

Jeffrey Chips - Founder and Artistic Director

Lauren Scheller-Wolf - Education Director/Production Manager

Catherine Aceto

Catherine Baird

Bob Colbert

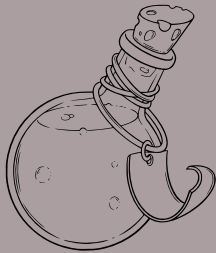
Alexandra Hellinger

Ella Mizera

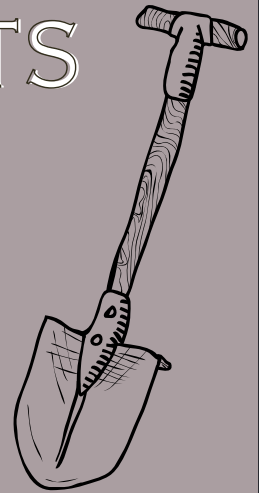
Hannah Ruth Moss

Samwise Riley

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

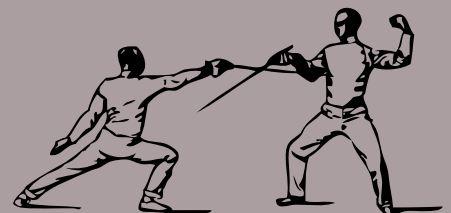


Scott Pavlot  
Jean Mientus  
Debi Ryder  
West View HUB  
Hannah Moss  
Ben Robbins



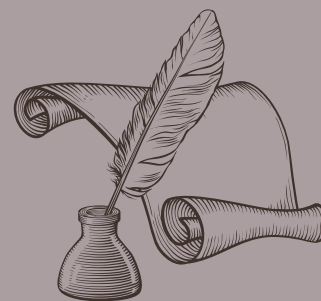
Northmont United Presbyterian Church

Megan Chips  
Ben and Rachel Myers  
Fawn Mullinary  
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Kristen and Ben Schmich



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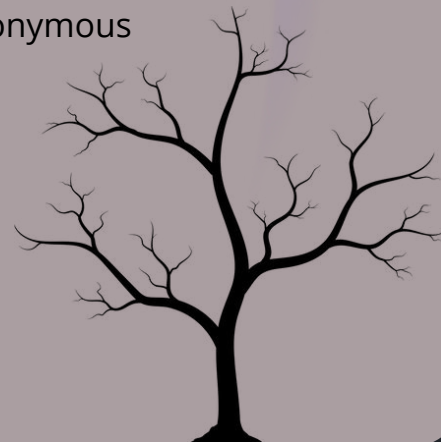
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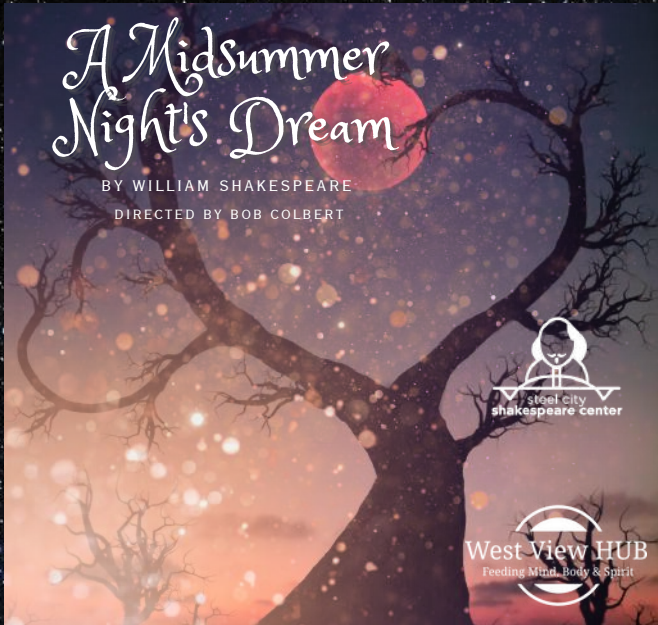
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