

# **MCF: WHAT A LIFE!**

**AN ORIGINAL MUSICAL  
BY TODD FLETCHER**



**AUGUST 20-21, 2016**

# CAST AND PRODUCTION TEAM

## **Back row, from left:**

Kay Hamblin, Julie Frazier-Smith, Matthew Frazier-Smith, Elisabeth Acer Crawford, Olymar Marco Brown, Samantha Giani, Whitney Branch, Jessica Surer, Victoria Haschke, Lauren Riba, Leah Morris, Anastasia Kolesnikova, Jami Reimer, Sandra Preciado, Samantha Forrest, MJ Breton, Jonathan Morris

## **Front row, from left:**

Francis Accilien, Mikey Rosenbaum, Ivan Semashev, Lachlan Schiller, Zak Rahman, Jonathan Xie, Haosong Zheng, Ethan Frederiksen



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# MCF: WHAT A LIFE!

AN ORIGINAL MUSICAL BY TODD FLETCHER

DIRECTED BY JONATHAN MORRIS

## CAST, IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE:

**Geoffrey** Jonathan Xie (Sat), Zak Rahman (Sun)

**Donatella** Olymar M. Brown

**Mrs. Fleming Today** Elisabeth Acer Crawford

**Mrs. Fleming as a Child** Lauren Riba (Sat), Whitney Branch (Sun)

**Mrs. Fleming as a Teenager** Victoria Haschke

**Company Women** Whitney Branch, Samantha Giani  
Victoria Haschke, Anastasia Kolesnikova,  
Leah Morris, Lauren Riba, Jessica Surer

**Mrs. Fleming as an Adult** Leah Morris (Sat), Jami Reimer (Sun),  
Sandra Preciado (Act II)

**Friend** Anastasia Kolesnikova

**Chaperone** Samantha Giani (Sat), Victoria Haschke (Sun)

**Constantin** Haosong Zheng (Sat), Mikey Rosenbaum (Sun)

<b>The Nine American Schoolgirls</b>	Whitney Branch, Olymar M. Brown, Samantha Giani, Victoria Haschke, Anna Kolesnikova, Leah Morris (Sat), Sandra Preciado, Jami Reimer (Sun), Lauren Riba, Jessica Surer
<b>Border Guards</b>	Ethan Frederiksen, Ivan Semashev
<b>Cheesy French Guy</b>	Ethan Frederiksen
<b>Doctor (Sat)</b>	Ivan Semashev
<b>Dottoressa (Sun)</b>	Victoria Haschke
<b>Ronnie</b>	Lachlan Schiller
<b>Gordon</b>	Ethan Frederiksen (Sat), Francis Accilien (Sun)
<b>Mr. Crist, MCF's Father</b>	Ivan Semashev (Sat), Mikey Rosenbaum (Sun)
<b>Swiss French Banker</b>	Ethan Frederiksen (Sat), Jonathan Xie (Sun)
<b>Swiss German Banker Ensemble</b>	Francis Accilien, Haosong Zheng, Mikey Rosenbaum
<b>Swiss Italian Banker</b>	Ivan Semashev (Sat), Zak Rahman (Sun)
<b>Pro Board Members</b>	Ethan Frederiksen, Haosong Zheng
<b>Anti Board Members</b>	Mikey Rosenbaum, Ivan Semashev
<b>Alexa, the Lawyer</b>	Victoria Haschke (Sat), Anastasia Kolesnikova (Sun)

**The Cris-Ettes**

Whitney Branch, Olymar M. Brown, Samantha Giani,  
Victoria Haschke, Anastasia Kolesnikova, Jami Reimer,  
Lauren Riba, Jessica Surer

**Lead Consultant**

Haosong Zheng

**Consultants**

Ethan Fredericksen, Mikey Rosenbaum, Ivan Semashev

**Student**

Francis Accilien

**Valedictorian**

Anastasia Kolesnikova

**Note:** *Sat will be performing on Saturday. Sun will be performing on Sunday.*

**COMPANY CHORUS**

Soprano: Michelle Arslanian, Whitney Branch, Victoria Haschke, Leah Morris,  
Sandra Preciado, Jami Reimer, Lachlan Schiller, Jessica Surer

Alto 1: Sandra Preciado, Lauren Riba

Alto 2: Olymar M. Brown, Samantha Giani, Jami Reimer

Tenor: Matthew Frazier-Smith, Ethan Frederiksen, Jonathan Xie

Bass: Mikey Rosenbaum, Zak Rahman, Ivan Semashev, Haosong Zheng

**DANCE CORPS**

Francis Accilien, Whitney Branch, Olymar M. Brown, Matthew Frazier-Smith, Ethan  
Frederiksen, Samantha Giani, Victoria Haschke, Leah Morris, Sandra Preciado, Zak  
Rahmen, Jami Reimer, Lauren Riba, Mikey Rosenbaum, Ivan Semashev, Jessica  
Surer, Jonathan Xie, Haosong Zheng

## ACT ONE

	Overture	
Scene 1	Casa Fleming, TASIS Campus "Recipe for a School"	MCF & Company
Scene 2	Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, 1917 "This Little Spot"	MCF as a Child
Scene 3	Lausanne, Switzerland, 1926 "There Is No Place That I'd Rather Be"	MCF as a Teenager Company Women
Scene 4	Perugia, Italy, 1930 "This Time"	MCF & Constantin
Scene 5	Europe, 1937 "Whatever Could Go Wrong"	MCF & American Schoolgirls
Scene 6	"Pictures Come True"	Ronnie
Scene 7	A Ship on the Atlantic, 1955 "No Standing Still"	MCF & Gordon
Scene 8	Locarno, Switzerland, 1956 "Here There Must Be A School"	MCF & Company

## ACT TWO

Scene 1	Casa Fleming, TASIS Campus	
Scene 2	Swiss Bankers' Offices, 1960 "Wir Sind Molto Desolés"	MCF & Bankers
Scene 3	Fleming College, Lugano, 1970 "Not In My House"	MCF & Cris-ettes
Scene 4	Thorpe, Surrey, England 1976 "The Consultation"	MCF & Consultants
Scene 5	The American School in Switzerland, Today "Alma Mater" "It's Up To You"	Company MCF & Company

## SYNOPSIS

Geoffrey, a young graduate student in education, interviews Mrs. Fleming for his dissertation. He asks her how one goes about creating a school. Mrs. Fleming gives him her recipe, and reflects on episodes from her life as his questions bring them to mind.

As a child in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, the young Mary Crist daydreams of traveling the world and having adventures. Mary graduates from Radcliffe and goes on to travel Europe in the company of other young ladies. The journey is marked by problems at the borders, many admirers, and even more flat tires!

Back in the US, Mary Crist marries Mr. Fleming and has three children. Before long, she founds a children's program called Frog Hollow and hits on the idea of doing a program in Switzerland called Frog Hollow's Swiss Holiday. The first season is extremely difficult and is capped by one of her young charges, Ronnie, falling very ill with polio. Mrs. Fleming decides not to repeat the Swiss program, but Ronnie's positive outlook gives her strength and she changes her mind.

She rents Villa Verbanella — a beautiful property in Ticino — and is inspired to found a year-round school, instead of just a summer program. The school is a success and she seeks bank loans to be able to expand. The bankers do not share her conviction, however, and only her perseverance allows her to find the financial backing necessary.

TASIS continues to grow and evolve, but Mrs. Fleming hits a setback with her next venture, the short-lived Fleming College. Matters come to a head in a board meeting. Her next venture — to open an American school in England - is greeted with scepticism by virtually everyone, but she goes ahead all the same and proves them all wrong.

Geoffrey is stunned at the rich story she has told him. Mrs. Fleming assures him that it wasn't all plain sailing; there were mistakes and failures along the way. She wonders whether her students have at least embraced part of her passion and conviction; Geoffrey assures her that she has changed the lives of thousands, and extracts of letters from former students confirm this. Mrs. Fleming is reflective for a moment, then snaps into action. There's so much to do — “no time to stand still!”

## SOGGETTO

Geoffrey, un giovane student e laureando in pedagogia che sta scrivendo la sua Tesi, intervista la Signora Fleming. Le chiede come si fa a fondare una scuola e la signora Fleming gli svela la ricetta. Alcuni episodi della sua vita le riaffiorano alla mente a mano a mano che lui le pone delle domande.

Gia da bambina a Swarthmore, la giovane Mary Crist sognava ogni giorno di girare il mondo alla ricerca di avventure. Si laurea a Radcliffe, poi riprende a viaggiare attraverso l'Europa a bordo di una Ford Phaeton in compagnia di altre giovani ragazze. Il viaggio è costellato da problemi alle frontiere, da numerosi ammiratori e da ancor più numerose forature. Ritornata negli Stati Uniti, Mary Crist incontra e sposa il Signor Fleming da cui avrà tre figli. Poco tempo dopo fonda un programma in Svizzera chiamato "Frog Hollow's Swiss Holiday". Il primo anno è estremamente difficile anche a causa della grave malattia, la polio, contratta da Ronnie, uno dei giovani allievi. La Signora Fleming decide così di non ripetere il programma svizzero, ma l'atteggiamento positivo di Ronnie le dà forza di cambiare idea. Affitta Villa Verbanella - una bellissima tenuta in Ticino - e così incoraggiata fonda una scuola, anziché solamente un programma estivo. La scuola ha successo, quindi cerca dei crediti presso le banche per poterla ampliare. Purtroppo i banchieri non condividono i suoi propositi, e solamente la sua perseveranza le permetterà di trovare i finanziamenti necessari. Mentre TESIS continua a crescere e ad evolversi, purtroppo la Signora Fleming incontrerà meno successo col progetto successivo, il Fleming College, che avrà vita breve. Una riunione del consiglio particolarmente contestata segna la svolta. La sua avventura successiva - aprire una scuola americana in Inghilterra - è accolta con scetticismo praticamente da tutti, ma la Signora va avanti ugualmente e i fatti le danno ragione.

Geoffrey è stupito dall'incredibile storia che lei gli ha raccontato. La Signora Fleming gli dice che non tutto è filato liscio, ci sono stati errori e insuccessi durante questo percorso. Si chiede se i suoi studenti hanno almento in parte condiviso la sua passione e convinzione; Geoffrey le assicura che ha cambiato la vita di migliaia di persone, alcuni esempi di lettere di ex studenti confermano tutto ciò. La Signora Fleming riflette un attimo, poi entra in azione...c'è così tanto da fare - non c'è tempo da perdere!

## ORCHESTRA / MUSICIANS

<b>Conductor</b>	Jonathan Morris
<b>Flute I</b>	Alessandra Alfonsi
<b>Flute II</b>	Maria Francesca Rizza
<b>Clarinet I</b>	Rui Franca
<b>Clarinet II</b>	Andrew Bone
<b>Bassoon</b>	Boglarka Marot
<b>Trumpet</b>	Flavia Pedretti
<b>Horn</b>	Charles Crabtree
<b>Percussion</b>	Daniel Bagutti
<b>Pianoforte</b>	Jonathan Morris
<b>Violin I</b>	Tiziano Baviera
<b>Violin I</b>	Alberto Franchin
<b>Violin II</b>	Filippo Tessini
<b>Violin II</b>	Anna Francesio Quirici
<b>Viola</b>	Sara Dambruoso
<b>Cello</b>	Tommaso Tesini
<b>Cello</b>	Silvia Longauerova
<b>Double Bass</b>	Simone Turcolin
<b>Electric Bass &amp; Mandolin</b>	Eric Walser
<b>Guitar</b>	Alessio di Tonno

## PRODUCTION TEAM

<b>Producer</b>	Lynn Fleming Aeschliman
<b>Music Director</b>	Jonathan Morris
<b>Assistant Music Director</b>	Samantha Forrest
<b>Orchestration</b>	Samantha Forrest
<b>Drama Coach</b>	Kay Hamblin
<b>Choreographers</b>	Matthew Frazier-Smith, Julie Frazier-Smith
<b>Stage Manager</b>	Heidi Jones
<b>Set Designers</b>	Derick Chappel, Todd Bearden
<b>Set Builder</b>	Todd Bearden
<b>Lighting Designers</b>	Derick Chappel, Todd Bearden
<b>Lighting Assistant</b>	Ben Gordon
<b>Sound Engineer</b>	Thomas Corrado
<b>Sound Assistants</b>	Todd Bearden, Alessio di Tonno
<b>Costume Designer</b>	Lima Guggiari
<b>Costume Department</b>	Kay Hamblin
<b>Wardrobe Mistress</b>	Lima Guggiari
<b>Production Manager</b>	Marie-Josée (MJ) Breton
<b>Production Coordinator</b>	Samantha Forrest
<b>Videographer</b>	Milo Zanecchia
<b>Videography Assistant</b>	Andrea Pellerani
<b>Photographers</b>	Kim Nelson, J. Graham Pearsall
<b>Administrator &amp; Assistant to the Producer</b>	Jessica Surer
<b>Administrator</b>	Claire Giulini

## SPECIAL THANKS

The TASIS Maintenance Team  
The TASIS Kitchen Staff and Dining Room Team  
The EMME Company  
Bottega del Pianoforte, Lugano  
Ambrosius Pfaff Pianos and Keyboards  
Members of the Conservatorio della Svizzera Italiana  
Gianna Kestenholz, Jacopo Riva, Sarah Bearden, Paola Prentice

## CAST BIOGRAPHIES



**Francis Accilien '18** *Gordon (Sun); Swiss German Banker; Student; Dance Corps*

Francis is from the US and will be a junior at TASIS. He has studied theater for two years and has appeared in the plays *Kilroy is Here* (spring 2014), *Guys and Dolls* (spring 2015), and *Kiss Me Kate* (spring 2016). He has sung in choirs since 2013 and took a Music Literacy course in 2015.



**Whitney Branch** *MCF as a Child (Sun); American Girl; Cris-Ette; Dance Corps*

Raised in Lugano, Switzerland, Whitney has trained with a vocal coach since the age of 13. She is currently studying law and hopes to pursue a career in international relations.



**Olymar M. Brown** *Donatella; American Girl; Nurse Maid; Dance Corps*

Olymar grew up in Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela. She holds a degree in Education and a Master's in Biological Science and published three scientific papers during her Master's studies. Along with work as a botany laboratory technician, Ms. Marco Brown spent five years as Biology Department Head at a high school in Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela. She speaks Spanish, English, and Italian, and enjoys outdoor activities, scuba diving, and yoga.



**Elisabeth Acer Crawford**, *PG66 MCF Present*

Elisabeth wrote, directed, and starred in her first play at age six. This has continued throughout her life—including during her PG year at TASIS! Her students have performed for schools, museums, benefits, and special organizations such as The Alliance Francaise in Chicago and Greenwich, Connecticut. She has taught myriad subjects in public and private schools and camps in New York, Boston, and Chicago and has always loved singing in choirs. She also founded her own *a cappella* group in Chicago. Having started a camp teaching French through music and drama, in 1971 she brought that curriculum to CDE's second year and again, as a founding teacher, to The Stanwich School in Greenwich, CT. In 2000, she took on the role of MCF four days before showtime and is thrilled and honored to be reinvited to play the role tonight!



**Ethan Fredericksen '18** *Swiss French Banker (Sat); Pro Board Member; Gordon, (Sat); Consultant; Dance Corps*

Originally from Athens, Georgia, Ethan is a junior at TASIS. He has been attending the School for two years and has taken vocal lessons from Mr. Morris during his entire TASIS tenure, performing with the high school choir.



**Samantha Giani '16** *Chaperone (Sat); American Girl; Cris-Ette; Dance Corps*

Samantha is very proud to be involved in the musical *MCF: What a Life!* She attended TASIS during her junior year, from 2014-2015, and involved herself in many of the School's music events. This is her first time appearing in a musical, and she is excited to work with such an incredible team.



**Victoria Haschke '13** *MCF as a Teenager; Chaperone (Sat); Dottoressa (Sun); Alexa the Lawyer (Sat); Dance Corps*

Victoria was born and raised in Lugano and studied at TASIS between 2006 and 2011 before going to boarding school in Millbrook, New York. Although she didn't graduate from TASIS, she has maintained her relationship with the School by working for the summer theater productions for three consecutive summers between 2012 and 2014, and now by returning to perform on the TASIS stage after five years. Past roles at TASIS include Annie in *Annie*, Cinderella in *Into the Woods*, Liat in *South Pacific*, and Young MCF in *MCF: What a Life!* She is currently studying Theater and Italian Literature at Bard College and will begin her junior year this fall.



**Anastasia Kolesnikova '17** *American Girl; Friend; Alexa the Lawyer (Sun); Cris-Ette; Valedictorian; Dance Corps*

Nastya is very excited to take part in the production of *MCF: What a Life!* She was in the TASIS Middle School productions of *I Want a Dog*, *Alice in Wonderland Jr* and *Aladdin Jr*. Nastya will begin her junior year at TASIS in the fall and is glad to be back on stage after taking two years off to focus on her schoolwork.



**Leah E. Morris '06** *MCF as an Adult (Sat); American Schoolgirl; Cris-ette; Dance Corps*

Soprano Leah E. Morris is a TASIS alumna and has been groomed in classical voice studies under the guidance of Maestro Jonathan Morris. Leah has also recently completed her diploma in Classical Acting (Shakespeare) at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. While attending drama school, she performed the roles of Anabella in J. Ford's *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*, Olivia in Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, and Ariel in Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Leah has also performed the combined roles of La Bergere and La Chouette in Ravel's *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges* with the FAVA program and has sung in various concerts throughout Europe.



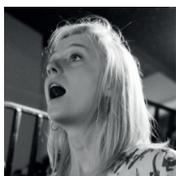
**Sandra Preciado** *MCF, Act 2; Dance Corps*

Sandra is a multi-disciplinary performing artist, director, and choreographer. Born in Guadalajara, Mexico, Sandra has been working and studying around the world for the past 10 years. She attended the Max Ballet Academy in Florence, Italy, and then continued her training at the Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts in Toronto, Canada. Most recently, Sandra received a Master's Degree in Musical Theatre at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. She has choreographed and directed shows such as *Newsies*, *Hairspray* and *Cats*, among many others. Fluent in Spanish, English and Italian, Sandra has worked as a teaching artist around the world, most recently with The American School in Switzerland's Dedicated Performing Arts Team for the TASIS Summer Programs.



**Zak Rahman '17** *Geoffrey (Sun); Swiss Italian Banker, (Sun); Bass; Dance Corps*

Zak is incredibly excited, grateful, and honored to be completing his senior year at TASIS this upcoming academic year. He achieved principal roles in the *Merchant of Venice* and *Fiddler on the Roof* while attending 10th grade at TASIS and played *Oliver!* in his home country of Canada. Zak believes that a team of invaluable supporters lies behind every performer, and thanks his family, both blood and otherwise, for supporting him.



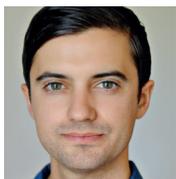
**Jami Reimer** *MCF as an Adult (Sun); Dance Corps*

Jami is an educator and classically trained soprano and pianist from Winnipeg, Canada. She holds a Bachelor's of Music in Piano, Vocal, and Conducting Studies from Canadian Mennonite University and will graduate this academic year from an after-degree program in education at the University of Manitoba. Jami is an active member in the Winnipeg choral scene, singing with professional contemporary ensemble Camerata Nova. Opera roles include Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, and Peep-Bo in *Mikado*. She also composes for the choir and performs as a singer-songwriter and in the rock scene in Winnipeg and surrounding area. Jami teaches with the Dedicated Performing Arts Team at TESIS Lugano in the summer and enjoys traveling around the world on her bicycle.



**Lauren Riba '19** *MCF as a Child (Sat); American Girl; Cris-Ette; Dance Corps*

Lauren is a South African student who has been at TESIS for the past year. Her passions include singing, acting, playing guitar, and dancing. She is excited to be performing in her second theater production at TESIS and thoroughly enjoyed contributing to this special event.



**Mikey Rosenbaum** *Constantin (Sun); MCF's Father (Sun); Swiss German Banker; Anti Board Member; Consultant; Dance Corps*

Mikey recently relocated to New York City from Los Angeles by way of Nashville. Mikey works as a professional actor half of the year while also writing, directing, and composing, specifically for the TESIS Summer Program each year. His work has been produced all over the world. In addition to stage work, Mikey has a long list of film credits. Mikey received his BM in Musical Theater from Belmont University.



**Ivan Semashev '18** *Border Guard; MCF's Father (Sat); Doctor (Sat); Swiss Italian Banker, (Sat); Anti Board Member; Consultant; Dance Corps*

Ivan is extremely happy to take part in the musical *MCF: What a Life!* He has been at studying at TESIS for three years and is originally from Russia. He has taken part in many school productions, such as *Kiss Me Kate*, *Aladdin Jr.*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. Ivan has been taking vocal lessons with Mr. Morris for the past two years, and is extremely glad to be working with so many talented people on this production.



**Jonathan Xie '16** *Geoffrey (Sat); Swiss French Banker (Sun); Dance Corps*

Jonathan graduated from TASIS in May and plans to attend UCLA in fall 2016. Jonathan discovered a new passion for singing and acting through the musical *Kiss Me Kate* in April 2016. He is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to perform at the Gala.



**Haosong “Stark” Zheng '17** *Constantin (Sat); Swiss German Banker; Pro Board Member; Lead Consultant; Dance Corps*

Stark is currently a senior at TASIS. He comes from China and is a vocalist, guitarist, and actor. He is in his third year at TASIS and has taken vocal lessons with Mr. Morris for two years, guitar lessons with Mr. di Tonno for two years, and vocal lessons in China since he was ten. He also performs as an actor in local theaters in China. He sings in the TASIS High School Choir.

## PRODUCTION STAFF/TEAM



**Marie-Josée (MJ) Breton** *Production Manager*

MJ has been a part of the TASIS family since 1994. She was Academic and Cultural Travel Director for the summer Middle School Program in Lugano, Program Director at Château-d'Oex, and currently serves as the Middle School Dean of Student Affairs during the Academic Year. Prior to her role at TASIS, she was Head of the English Department at the Collège Stanislas of Montreal, Canada, her hometown. MJ has also lived in Belgium and Germany and speaks English, French, Dutch, German, Spanish, Italian, and Russian.



**Thomas Corrado** *Sound Engineer*

Thomas was born in Italy and raised between central east Africa and northern Italy. He has studied classics and audio technologies in NAAM in Milan and has nearly 20 years of experience in audio engineering, live performances, recordings, sound design, soundtracking, and composition. He first worked with TASIS during Expo Milan 2015.



**Alessio di Tonno** *Sound Assistant*

Alessio studied modern guitar at Nerolidio Planet Music in Como, Italy, and Tecnologia Musicale e Tecnico del suono at Sonoria in Biella, Italy. He holds Trinity Rock and Pop Guitar certifications from Trinity College London in the UK. He specializes in music education for elementary and middle school students and has worked at TASIS since 2013 as a guitar teacher, band coordinator, and sound technician.



**Samantha Forrest** *Production Coordinator, Orchestral Manager, Assistant Music Director*

Samantha began her career in music at the age of 13. She is British/Australian and completed her university entrance qualification in Vienna, Austria, before returning to Australia to complete Bachelor of Music Degrees in voice and violoncello, graduating with Honors in Vocal Performance and Opera Studies. Now in her sixth year at TASIS, Samantha shares her experience and expertise as both a teacher and professional soprano coaching the TASIS choristers, conducting the school orchestra, and teaching voice and violoncello. Her professional background includes singing engagements with Opera Australia, the English National Opera, London Voices Covent Garden, the Scottish Opera, the BBC Singers London, and the Volksoper in Vienna, Austria, and theater management in London's West End. Samantha coordinates the TASIS music program and maintains elements of her performance career as a concert recital artist.



**Julie Edwards Frazier-Smith** *Choreographer*

Julie is an AmSAT certified Alexander Technique Teacher from the Balance Arts Center in New York City. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Dance and Theater from Middle Tennessee State University. Julie currently teaches Dance and Theater at TASIS. She is pleased to be involved in *MCF: What a Life!* and is looking forward to a fabulous production!



**Matthew Frazier-Smith** *Choreographer*

Matthew has worked internationally as a dancer, actor, singer, director, and choreographer. He holds a degree in Theater from Middle Tennessee State University, and he is currently finishing an MFA in Dance Performance and Choreography from The College at Brockport (NY). Matthew teaches year-round at TASIS as a theater and dance educator during the Academic Year and as the Director for the Performing Arts during the Summer. Matthew is delighted to be part of this creative team and thrilled to help tell the life story of Mary Crist Fleming.



**Ben Gordon TSP '13** *Lighting Assistant*

Ben has had a lifelong association with TASIS, having attended TASIS England for 14 years and the Summer Programs at TASIS Switzerland. He graduated from TASIS England this spring and is this year's H. Miller Crist award winner. He just completed his third summer working with the Dedicated Performing Arts Team (DPAT) as Technical Coordinator and Scheduler. He also takes a keen interest in the technical side of live performances and plans to study International Events Management at university.



**Lima Guggiari '09** *Costume Designer; Wardrobe Mistress; Props*

Cultures, colors, elegance and edginess define Lima's unique fashion styling. Born in India, raised in Switzerland, and educated at TASIS and in the US, Lima has a truly global view of fashion. After completing her studies in Vocal Performance and Music Business, she decided to pursue her aspiration for fashion, returning to Europe to study at the Istituto Marangoni in Milan, Italy. Lima has a blog called Urbindi Style and works on projects which combine her love for fashion styling and music.



**Kay Hamblin** *Drama Coach; Costume Department*

Kay lived and worked as Director of Theater at TASIS for 14 years after teaching in international schools in Cairo, Egypt; Aruba; and Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. She and her dog Snowy retired to her home near San Francisco in West Marin in the Point Reyes National Seashore near her son Colin and his family Trish, Zoe, and Max, and she frequently visits Tanya, wife to her late son Seth. Kay enjoyed the success of a strong focus on Shakespeare productions here and at TASIS England as well as classic musicals. She appreciates the many memories built into the Kay Hamblin Terrace.



**Jonathan Morris** *Music Director*

Jonathan has an international career as a pianist, répétiteur, and vocalist that has spanned 60 years. His principal collaboration, initiated at the Metropolitan Opera House with Grace Bumbry, lasted 33 years and included performances at every major opera house and theater in the world. This includes performing at Nelson Mandela's first European concerts in Paris, various

performances for charity events for Prince Charles, and the inauguration of Ronald Reagan at the White House. His background encompasses performances with classical colleagues such as Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Gwyneth Jones, Rita Streich, Shirley Verrett, Montserrat Caballe, Eva Marton, Edita Gruberova, Placido Domingo, and Luciano Pavarotti, and with popular music names such as Frank Sinatra, Liza Minelli, Johnny Carson, Charlie Pride, and Dean Martin. Jonathan's collaboration with Ms. Bumbry led to engagements to teach Masterclasses to advanced professional students which began in Salzburg in 1988 and successfully continued for a decade. This led to the development of his specialist teaching studio which has given birth to many professional singers who are now enjoying enormous success in major opera houses throughout the world, including the Metropolitan New York, Covent Garden London, Salzburg Festival, Vienna Staatsoper, Grand Théâtre Geneva, Paris Opera, and La Scala Milan. He has been working with TASIS students since 1999 and continues to regularly travel to Sweden, Portugal, Croatia, London, New York, and Salzburg to teach.



**Jessica Surer** *Assistant to the Producer, Administration*

Jessica began working for the Summer Program at TASIS in 2011 and joined the TASIS Summer Performing Arts Program in 2013. She now also works during the Academic Year as Test Coordinator and Executive Assistant to Mrs. Aeschliman. Musically trained, she has enjoyed occasionally participating in TASIS concerts and musicals.



**Milo Zaneccchia '08** *Videographer*

Milo is a freelance filmmaker specializing in tourism and adventure videos. His work has taken him across central and southeast Asia, North America, and most of Europe. He has a Masters in Geopolitics from the University of Edinburgh and is Swiss/American. He was a TASIS student from 2004-2008 and has worked for TASIS in various aspects for four years.

***Jonathan Morris, MJ Breton, and Samantha Forrest would like to thank set designers Todd Bearden and Derick Chappel for their extraordinary dedication and talent.***

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