# **CHARLOTTE'S WEB**



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# "CHILDREN ALMOST ALWAYS HANG ONTO THINGS TIGHTER THAN THEIR PARENTS THINK THEY WILL."

E.B. White, Charlotte's Web



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#### A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTORS

In 2000, Publisher's Weekly named Charlotte's Web the bestselling children's paperback of all time. Generations have been drawn to the story of a pig and a spider, a story of growing up and of finding a place in the world, and a story of friendship and sacrifice.

Some might consider the story a bit dark for children. The farm animals often remind Wilbur of the end that awaits him. Templeton is cynical and self-serving. The title character passes away. Yet, it is this honesty, we think, that has allowed the story to resonate with children. Sometimes the world is scary. Sometimes we feel alone. What is the best way to face these challenges? According to E. B. White, it is through friendship.

Wilbur does not have the courage or the intelligence to save himself. He needs Fern to step in early in the story, and Charlotte to save him later. Each of these characters see his goodness and do what they can to preserve his life. As these characters make sacrifices, Wilbur begins to define himself as someone who is worth saving, and in an act that truly shows how he has grown, he earns the title of Humble.

We wanted to focus on the aspects of friendship and connection in the story. Neither Wilbur nor Charlotte judge each other at the beginning. Instead they want to learn from each other and connect.

We used the aerial silks in the production to help illustrate the work that friendship may sometimes require from us, and the beauty of what it ultimately becomes. Sit back and watch a pig and a spider bond, and consider how we might be an influence that can help, comfort, and bring out the best in all around us.

-Shawnda & Bradley Moss



#### BYU COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND MEDIA ARTS

## **CHARLOTTE'S WEB**

ADAPTED BY JOSEPH ROBINETTE

BASED ON THE BOOK BY E. B. WHITE

**AERIAL ARTS CHOREOGRAPHER** 

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

COMPOSER

RAMSI NIA STOKER

**ALECIA HOLMES** 

HANNAH HERRING

SCENIC DESIGNER

LIGHTING DESIGNER

**RORY SCANLON** 

COSTUME DESIGNER

MARIANNE OHRAN

KIRSTEN WATKINS

MAKEUP DESIGNER

**PROPS DESIGNER** 

SOUND DESIGNER

MICHAELA FORDHAM **AUBRIANNA HOCKETT**  JACEY GARDNER

PRODUCTION MANAGER

DRAMATURG

DRAMATURG SUPERVISOR

JENNIFER REED

JESSA CUNNINGHAM

JANINE SOBECK KNIGHTON

**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** 

TRAVIS COYNE

ASST. SCENIC DESIGNER

JOSHUA FAWCETT

**ASST. MAKEUP DESIGNER** 

MARNEÉ PORTER

ASST. COSTUME DESIGNER

ASST. STAGE MANAGERS

MADELINE GREGERSEN

JESSICA THERIAULT

MEREDITH WALSH

DIRECTORS

**SHAWNDA & BRADLEY MOSS** 

May 27-28, June 2-4, 8-10, 2016, 7:00 p.m. May 28, June 2, 4, 10-11, 2016, 2:00 p.m. PARDOE THEATRE, HARRIS FINE ARTS CENTER

Charlotte's Web is produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois.

Please silence all mobile phones and electronic devices. Photography, video and audio recording and texting are forbidden during the performance.

#### **CAST LIST**

**FERN ARABLE** 

Elyse Allen

JOHN ARABLE

Taycen Timothy

MARTHA ARABLE

Rebecca McDonnell

**AVERY ARABLE** 

Isaac Moss

HOMER ZUCKERMAN

Billy Dahle

**EDITH ZUCKERMAN** 

Richelle Sutton

LURVY

Anton Moss

BABY WILBUR/FAIRGOER

Connor Dahle

WILBUR

Garret Rushforth

**TEMPLETON** 

Teagan Clark

CHARLOTTE

Meg Flinders

GOOSE

Christine Detweiler

GANDER

Devin Jarvis

SHEEP

Chelsea Mortensen

**SETTINGS** 

The Arables' House The Zuckerman Barn

The County Fair

LAMB

Michaella Scholz

BABY SPIDER/FAIRGOER

Isabel Moss

BABY SPIDER/FAIRGOER

Kennedy Brandon

BABY SPIDER/FAIRGOER

Jane Miller

REPORTER

Rachael Beck

**PHOTOGRAPHER** 

Eddie Hall

**FAIR JUDGE** 

Andrew Justvig

**FAIR ANNOUNCER** 

Camilla Hodgson

UNCLE/SPECTATOR

Sophie Determan

ENSEMBLE/STORYTELLER 1

Brittney Metler

**ENSEMBLE/STORYTELLER 2** 

Stacy Wilk

ENSEMBLE/STORYTELLER 3

Liz Baker

ENSEMBLE

Jana Wilhite, Ashley Ottesen, Carter Brandon, Mason Brandon

#### MEET THE CAST

From Winston Salem, NC. Freshman in preacting. Her favorite roles include Elyse Allen Fern Arable Student/ASL Performer in The Taste of Sunrise. Vesna Krasna in the Mask Club production of Snegurochka, Maria in The Sound of Music, and the Baker's Wife in Into the Woods. She is so grateful to be Fern in this production and she is excited to be headed on an ASL mission to Washington Vancouver this August. Elizabeth Baker From Salt Lake City, UT. Majoring in technology and engineering education at Ensemble/Storyteller 3 BYU. Her humble acting career began in elementary school when she was the Scarecrow in The Wizard of Oz, and extends most recently to her role as Nancy in the musical Oliver! and her role as Mrs. Savage in The Curious Savage, both performed at West High School. She is thrilled to be making her debut on the BYU stage.

Rachael Beck Reporter

Rachael has been at BYU for one year now and is absolutely loving it. Her favorite previous roles include Titania in Murray's Shakespeare in the Park production of A Midsummer Night's Dream and Elizabeth Bennett in Olympus High School's Pride and Prejudice. She lives with her darling husband and their two kitten children: Wendal and Waldo.

Kennedy Brandon Baby Spider/Fairgoer

From Spanish Fork, UT, Kindergartner making her debut performance here in Charlotte's Web.

Mason Brandon Ensemble

From Spanish Fork, UT. Second grader who has participated in the plays Robin Hood and Cinderella.

Carter Brandon Ensemble

From Las Vegas, NV. Fourth grader living in Spanish Fork, UT. He has participated in Robin Hood, Cinderella, Alice in Wonderland, and Way Out West.

Teagan Clark Templeton

From Murray, UT. Junior at BYU studying playwriting and performance. Some of her favorite roles have included Hermia from A Midsummer's Night Dream, Queen Gertrude in Hamlet, and most recently Nanny in Baby with the Bathwater. She would like everyone to know that playing Templeton is an absolute delight.

Connor Dahle **Baby Wilbur** 

From Pleasant Grove, UT. Connor is excited to be in his first real play. He will be going into fourth grade at Odyssey Charter School next year. He loves to read and is excited to be in a play with his dad.

Billy Dahle Homer Zuckerman Billy is happy to be in his first play in more than 15 years. He lives in Pleasant Grove with his wife and three wonderful boys, one of whom is in this play with him. He wants to thank his family for all their support.

Sophie Determan Uncle/Spectator

From Sioux Falls, SD. Sophie is a theatre studies/interdisciplinary humanities major. Her recent stage credits include Olivia in The Twelfth Night at the Echo Theater and Margaret in Much Ado about Zombies at the Covey Center for the Arts. One time while performing in Where the Wild Things Are at an elementary school, she totally fell face-first off the stage in a monster mask.

Christine Detweiler Goose

From Ashburn, VA. Junior studying theatre education with a minor in English. Previous roles include Belle in A Christmas Carol, Reno's Angel in Anything Goes, and the Dance Captain in Kiss Me, Kate. Christine is excited to be involved in her first main stage production at BYU and to be working with this awesome cast.

Meg Flinders Charlotte

From Littleton, CO. Sophomore in the music dance theatre program. Her most recent roles include performing at BYU as an ensemble member in Beauty and the Beast and as Katar in the stage adaptation of Princess Academy.

Eddie Hall Photographer From the Big Island, HI. Edie is a freshman applying to the BFA acting program next fall. Excited to be part of the production, she enjoys loud music, cash money, and eating good food.

Camilla Hodgson Fair Announcer

From St. Louis, MO. Senior in theatre education and has performed in BYU Young Company's production of Henry V.

Devin Jarvis Gander

From Pismo Beach, CA. Majoring in recreation management at BYU. He is very excited and honored to be a part of this wonderful production of Charlotte's Web! He would like to thank all his friends and family members for encouraging him to audition and participate in the theatre arts again!

Andrew Justvig Fair Judge

Andrew is a senior at BYU studying theatre arts studies with an emphasis in playwriting and has cerebral palsy. Andrew has performed in two BYU productions: Our Town (Simon Stimpson and Howie Newsome), and 2015 Microburst Theatre Festival (he wrote Different But Equal and played Joshua in the 10-minute play). Andrew is a seasonal cast member for the Walt Disney World Resort and plans a career in theme park creative entertainment.

Rebecca McDonnell Martha Arable

Rebecca is a junior in the theatre arts education program here at BYU. She is so excited to be performing in her first BYU production. She would like to thank all of the students she has been able to teach over the last year—they have helped her learn and grow more than they know!

Brittney Metler Ensemble/Storyteller 1 From Springville, UT. Freshman in the preacting program. Recent credits include Lorraine Sheldon in The Man Who Came to Dinner. She is excited to be in her first show at BYU and excited to get married to her best friend in August!

Jane Miller Baby Spider/Fairgoer

Jane is excited about her first appearance in a BYU production. Jane recently played Little Fan, Carol Cratchit, and Want in A Christmas Carol at the Hale Center Theater in Orem. Jane has enjoyed taking classes at HCTO, including Stage Right and Mini Musical Review. In addition to acting and singing Jane likes horseback riding and crafting. Jane also enjoys being very social in her 2nd grade Spanish Immersion class.

### MEET THE CAST (CONT.)

Chelsea Mortensen

Sheep

Lurvy

From Mesa, AZ. Chelsea is a theatre arts studies major with an emphasis in directing and acting. Other roles include Mrs. Brill (*Mary Poppins*), Clara

(Hayfever). Demeter (Persephone), and Ann Putnam (The Crucible).

Anton Moss

Anton was on his school's Shakespeare Competition Team in October. His credits include plays at HCTO, at BYU, in American Fork, in Springville, and in Spanish

Fork. He loves to write and perform.

Isaac Moss
Avery Arable

Isaac has performed in HCTO's A Christmas Carol, BYU's The Selfish Giant, American Fork's Seussical, Springville's Beauty and the Prince, and Spanish

Fork's The Hobbit. He also plays soccer and the bass.

Isabel Moss

Baby Spider/Fairgoer

Isabel loves performing in A Christmas Carol and other shows. She is in a fourth grade Chinese immersion program. She loves spending time with her family,

playing soccer and volleyball, and being with friends.

Ashley Ottesen

Senior in the BFA acting program and is grateful to be a new mom (as of April). One recent credit includes the role of Mary Shelly in the original production of A Night of Blacker Darkness, a farce by Dan Wells. She is also incredibly grateful to the directors of Charlotte's Web for including her in their production in spite of her very newness to motherhood. She hopes you enjoy this beloved story.

Garret Rushforth

From Centerville, UT. Junior at BYU. He's been performing since he was nine years old and loves it. He is excited to make his BYU debut in *Charlotte's Web*.

Michaella Scholz Lamb From CA. Junior in the theatre education program. This is her first BYU main stage production! Her favorite previous roles include Shelby in *Steel Magnolias* and Tammi in *Hairspray*. She loves the stage and avocados! And she hopes you enjoy the show!

Richelle Sutton

Edith Zuckerman

Richelle is a junior at BYU and loves the theater department. This is her first BYU main stage production and she is incredibly excited to take part in such a wonderful show. She is single and loves going on dates, sporting a wide variety of interests.

Taycen Timothy
John Arable

From Houston, TX. Taycen is a BFA acting major. Some previous roles include Macbett in *Macbett* at BYU Mask Club, Vice Principal Panch in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at the Tomball STAGE, and Lucien in *The Boys Next Door* at the Tomball STAGE.

Jana Wilhite Ensemble From Heber City, UT. Junior in theatre education and economics. Her favorite roles include Eponine in *Les Miserables*, Leslie in *Bridge to Terabithia*, and Alice in *You Can't Take It with You*.

in you can't take it with you

Stacy Wilk
Ensemble/Storyteller 2

From Lexington, KY. Junior in the BFA acting program. Her recent credits include Peaseblossom in A Midsummer Nights Dream, Alice in Thoroughly Modern Millie,

and a few short films here in Utah.