

## **Meet the Cast**



**Morgan Robbins** – Mary (she/her) Morgan is ecstatic to be in Pace University's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. She is currently a sophomore here at Pace. Some of her past credits include Ensemble (u/s Witch) in *Big Fish* at Pace University, as well as Cathy in *The Last Five Years* and Regina George in *Mean Girls*. Morgan is so endlessly grateful and proud of each and every person who worked on this production. She also wants to thank her parents for the never-ending love and support. Enjoy the show!



**Phoenix LaFreniere** - Jesus (she/her) Phoenix is currently a senior here at Pace and is stoked to be in this production of *Jesus Christ Superstar!* During her time at Pace, she has also been in *She Loves Me* (ensemble, U/S Ilona) and *Pippin* (ensemble, U/S Leading Player). Phoenix would love to shout out the cast, crew, and creative team of this production for killing it every single day. She would also like to thank her friends and family for all of their love. Enjoy the show



**Meilani Cisneros** - Judas (she/they) Meilani is so excited to be a part of this production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Her previous roles include Ally in *Mamma Mia!*, ensemble/Vanessa Understudy in *In The Heights*, ensemble in *Carrie*, and Young Nala in Disney's *The Lion King* National Tour. It is her first Pace production and she is so thankful for the creative team and directors for trusting in her! She's grateful to her family, the cast, and her friends for supporting her!



**Jacob Greening -** Priest 1 (he/him) Jacob is excited to be in his second show at Pace. He was last seen in *Putting It Together* (Voice 10). Regional credits: *South Pacific* (Lt. Cable), *All Shook Up* (Dean Hyde), and *Newsies* (Specs). He would like to thank the cast and crew for their dedication and his family for their support. @igreening.



**Maria Nalieth** - Priest 2: I'm thrilled to be a part of *Jesus Christ Superstar*! This production has been such a fun learning experience and I'm so grateful for everyone in the cast and crew! I would like to thank my parents for always being my biggest supporters and allowing me to be a part of the Musical Theater Program!



**Zachary Quinn -** Priest 3 (he/him) Zachary is a junior in the Musical Theatre BFA Program at Pace University. Zach is a trained gymnast of 10 years and can be seen in commercials and background work of TV shows such as *Jessie* and *Sonny with a Chance*. Recent credits include: *Kinky Boots* (Charlie), *West Side Story* (Tony), *All Shook Up* (Chad), *Spring Awakening* (Ernst), and *Newsies* (Finch). He is thrilled to be performing in his second show with Sands Performing Arts, and he hopes you enjoy this SUPERSTAR team!



**Denver Dickenson Jr.** - Herod (he/they) Denver is so excited to be playing Herod in Pace's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. His Previous roles include Eddie Flagrante in *Zombie Prom* and Leading Player in *Pippin*. This is his first Pace production and he is so excited for everyone to see the hard work the cast, crew, and creative team have put into this show! Finally, he wants to thank his family and friends for supporting him!



**Najm Muhammad** - Pilate is so excited to be a part of his first Pace show! You could have recently seen him associate directing and choreographing part of Papermill Playhouses New Voices Concert, Angel in Rent at Black Rock Theater in Connecticut or Pepper in Mamma Mia at the Great Lakes Theater in Petoskey Michigan! Email: najmmuhammadd@gmail.com instagram: @najmmuhammadd



**Swetha Vissapragrada -** Annas (she/her) Swetha is thrilled to be playing Annas Pace's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Past credits include Natasha in *Three Sisters, Four Women* at Lost Nation Theatre and Little Red in *Into the Woods* and Voice 4 in *Putting it Together* at Pace University. Swetha would like to give a shout out to the production's crew, creatives, and swings for all their hard work and her parents, friends, cast, and senior class for their endless love and support. Enjoy the show, she can't wait for you to see it!



**Dalton Joseph** - Caiaphas (he/him) Dalton is thrilled to be performing in his second production at Pace following his role as Charlemagne in *Pippin*! Some favorite credits include: *SpongeBob* (Quisisana Resort), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame, West Side Story* (Walt Disney Theatre), *Catch Me If You Can* (Steinmetz Hall), *Amahl* and *The Night Visitors* (Opera Orlando), *Les Misérables, Into The Woods, Legally Blonde* (Alexis and Jim Pugh Theatre). He would like to give special thanks to his parents, siblings, Carly, the class of '26, and of course Shaggy.



**Cal Wright** - Simon (he/him) Cal is in his junior year at Pace University and thrilled to be a part of this incredible production. His most recent credit was Sands Performing Arts' production of *Pippin* as Theo. He'd like to thank his family, friends, and this team for their continued love and support.



**Rama Ndiaye -** Peter (she/her) Rama is a junior here at Pace and is beyond excited to be a part of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. I am so grateful to be amongst an incredible cast and crew. Last year's fall show I was a swing in *Pippin* and it was such a euphoric experience. I love the process of making a show so I cannot wait for people to see what amazing work and passion everyone has put into this production! Thank you and enjoy the show!!!!! Instagram- @maerama



**Nyomi Nee** - Soul Girl 1 (they/them) Nyomi is a senior MT, and is so excited to be in *Jesus Christ Superstar*. They have enjoyed their time at Pace and are so grateful for the opportunity to put on such a beautiful classic show. They want to thank their parents for supporting them in their wildest dreams, and also all their teachers and professors from many years of theater school.



**Noa Brenner** - Soul Girl 2 (She/Her) Noa is ecstatic to be a part of *Jesus Christ Superstar*! She is a junior and this is her first Pace mainstage production. Noa is currently President of New Origins Workspace, Pace's student theatre organization and has worked with others in her class to found it. She is also a member of Frequency A Cappella. She would like to thank everyone who has lifted her up during this process. It's been such a special one. Enjoy!



**Christy Do** – Soul Girl 2 (She/Her) This is Christy's first Pace show and first time being a swing! She is super excited to be a part of this production and to be covering for her cast mates. She would like to thank her family, friends, and teachers, and directors for all their support and guidance. If you'd like to follow along on her other projects, you can find her on Instagram @\_.chrisssyyyyy.\_!



**Selah Simmons** - Soul Girl 3: Hello, my name is Selah Simmons and I'm super excited to be participating in my second show here at pace! I've always loved theater and I'm so glad I get to attend this amazing school and continue to train! I'm super excited to be a swing for the first time and I can't wait till the show opens!



**Matthew Madonna** – Ensemble: I'm thrilled to be a part of *Jesus Christ Superstar*! This production has been such a fun learning experience and I'm so grateful for everyone in the cast and crew! I would like to thank my parents for always being my biggest supporters and allowing me to be a part of the Musical Theater Program!



**Netza Jimenez** – Swing: Netza is a junior BFA Musical Theatre Major who is very excited to be apart of this amazing production. This is his second production at Pace, after debuting in the spring as Karl in Big Fish! Love you JCS Fam!



**Mason Olshavsky** – Swing (he/him) Mason is currently a junior achieving his BFA in Musical Theatre at Pace. He starred in *Agartha*: The Opera-Musical in Bulgaria for The Bulgarian National Radio. Mason has also appeared on America's Got Talent, and is most recently featured as Tiresias in the *EPIC*: The Musical Official Concept Album.

## **Meet the Creatives!**

**Andrew Lloyd Webber** has composed the scores of some of the world's most famous musicals. From *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (1969) to *Cinderella* (2021), his work has been consistently seen on world stages. Before the COVID pandemic hit, Lloyd Webber had shows continually running in the West End for 48 years and on Broadway for 41. When *Sunset Boulevard* joined *School Of Rock, CATS* and *The Phantom Of the Opera*, he equalled Rodgers & Hammerstein's record of four shows running simultaneously on Broadway. He is one of the select group of artists with EGOT status, having received Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony Awards.

Lloyd Webber owns seven London theatres, including the iconic London Palladium and Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. Over the past three years the latter has been completely restored and renovated at a cost of over £60 million. It is one of the biggest projects ever undertaken by a private theatre owner in recent times. His mantra that every penny of profit made from his theatres is ploughed back into the buildings has meant that considerable work has been undertaken across his theatre portfolio during the pandemic, including the complete remodelling and reseating of the Gillian Lynne.

Lloyd Webber is passionate about the importance of musical education and diversity in the arts. The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation provides 30 performing arts scholarships every year for talented students with financial need and supports a range of projects such as the Music In Secondary School Trust and commissioning research into diversity in theatre. Andrew Lloyd Webber was knighted in 1992 and created an honorary life peer in 1997. To mark his 70th birthday, his bestselling autobiography *Unmasked* was published by Harper Collins in March 20.

**Tim Rice** has worked in music, theatre, and films since 1965 when he met Andrew Lloyd Webber, a fellow struggling songwriter. Rather than pursue Tim's ambitions to write rock or pop songs they turned their attention to Andrew's obsession – musical theatre. Their first collaboration was based on the life of Dr. Thomas Barnardo, the Victorian philanthropist, *The Likes of Us*. Their next three works together were much more successful – *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Evita*.

Tim has since worked with other distinguished popular composers such as Elton John (*The Lion King, Aida*), Alan Menken (*Aladdin, King David, Beauty and the Beast*), Björn Ulvaeus and Benny Andersson (*Chess*), and Stuart Brayson (*From Here to Eternity*). He has also written with Freddie Mercury, Burt Bacharach and Rick Wakeman among others.

Tim founded his own cricket team in 1973, which has now played over 750 matches, and was president of MCC, founded in 1789, in 2002. He crops up here and there in all branches of the media, drawing on his extensive knowledge of the history of popular music.

As an EGOT, he is one of only 17 people in the world to have won an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony award, was knighted by HM Queen Elizabeth II in 1994, and is the proud owner of a boxer dog and two dozen chicken.

Rebecca Aparicio - Director (she/her) Rebecca is a Cuban American, New York-based, bilingual director and writer. Recent directing: Las Boringueñas by Nelson Diaz-Marcano (6 Hola Award Nominations), Jardin Salvaje by Karen Zacarias (GALA Hispanic Theatre, Helen Hayes recommended), Beastgirl, based on the chapbook by Elizabeth Acevedo, book by C. Quintana and music by Janelle Lawrence (Kennedy Center, Helen Hayes nominated); The House on the Lagoon by Caridad Svich (Gala Hispanic Theatre, Winner Best Direction Broadway World-DC), Sarita by Maria Irene Fornes (Roundabout Theatre Refocus Series), and Siluetas, book by Erlina Ortiz and music by Robi Hager (Powerstreet Theatre Company, 6 Barrymore Nominations). Past Fellowships & Awards include: Roundabout Theatre's Inaugural Directing Group, MTC Jonathan Alper Directing Fellow, The COOP's Clusterf\*\*k Writing Cohort, and a two-time SDCF Observership Award recipient. As a writer, her work includes the award-winning musical Pedro Pan (New York Musical Festival, Musical Theatre Factory, Rhinebeck Writers Retreat, FringeNYC), Tree Tales (Prospect Theatre), Hindsight 2020 (Live & In Color), Legacy (Prospect Theatre), and The Garcia Sisters (Red Mountain Theatre. Rebecca is a member of the Latinx Playwrights Circle, a steering committee member of the Latinx Theatre Commons, and is a founding member of Magic Forest Theatre (dedicated to creating new musicals for young audiences). She also serves as a board member for Rhinebeck Writers Retreat.

**Kelsey Burns** – Co-Director/Choreographer (she/they) Kelsey is a NYC-based choreographer, movement director, and dancer. Choreographer of Evita (Axelrod PAC), Romeo & Juliet (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival), and award-winning film "The Coronation." Associate choreographer for Sammi Cannold's "Evita" at American Repertory Theatre & Shakespeare Theatre Company. Associate choreographer for "Death of Desert Rose" developmental lab, choreographed by Katie Spelman. BA: NYU Gallatin. IG: @kelsinmotion

**Angela Ortiz** - Musical Director (she/her/ella) Angela is delighted to be making her Pace University debut! Her most recent music directing credits include original shows/cabarets for Prospect Theater Company, Broadway Housing Coalition, Teatro Latea, Ziegfeld Ballroom, Green Room 42, and The Chelsea Factory. As an arranger, orchestrator, and composer, her recent shows include *She Sings Me Home* (Green Room 42, NYC) and *Olivia O.* (Spark Theater Festival, NYC). As a pianist specializing in Latin music, Angela has toured extensively, performing at venues such as The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, and The Blue Note, amongst many others. Angela has also been a dedicated teacher for over 20 years, maintaining a private studio of voice and piano students, and leading masterclasses on a variety of musical topics. Angela holds a B.Mus from NYU, with additional studies at Berklee School of Music, and is currently in her second year of the BMI Composer/Lyricist Workshop. Thanks to the cast a crew for all your hard work and dedication!

**Sarah Hasson -** Scenic Designer (she/her) Sarah is a senior at Pace studying production & design with a minor in stage management. Her previous design work includes *Putting It Together* (Props Design), *Top Girls* (Sound Design), *Antigonick* (Asst. Scenic), and *The Wolves* (Asst. Scenic). She is so grateful for this amazing team and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Claire Lewis** - Costume Designer: Claire is a senior Production and Design major at Pace. Previously, they were the assistant costume designer for Pace University's production of *Big Fish*, as well as the costume designer for four FTVC short films.

**Ethan Feil** - Lighting Designer: Ethan is a New York City based lighting designer from Washington, DC. He has designed for Stand Up! Production's *Summertime*, The Sterling Playmakers' *Ragtime* & *Godspell*, JJ Pyle's *How to Find a Husband in 37 Years*, Theater 68's *Diving Horses*, Andy Young's *Crossing Over*, Circle in the Square Theater School's Graduation Rep Series, Alex Hardin's *Wasted*, Royal Family Production's *Upta Camp* & *Women on Fire: Fair is Foul*, and Ice Berg Production's *Elegies: A Song Cycle* & *Orion and The Goatman*. He works as the TD for the Martha Graham Studio Theater and was recently the lighting design member of The 24 Hour Plays: Nationals 2024 Cohort. Enjoy the show!

**Samuel Maynard** - Sound Designer: Sam is honored to have been the Sound Designer for Pace's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*! Recent credits include: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Westside Theatre), *From Here* (Signature Theatre), *In The Heights, La Cage Aux Folles*, and *Cinderella: A Traditional English Pantomime* (Winnipesaukee Playhouse), *Big Fish* (Pace University), *TITANIC The Musical* (NYU), *Living and Breathing, Romeo and Juliet*, and *Two Sisters and a Piano* (Two River Theater.) Samuel would like to thank his partner, family, and friends for their unconditional love and support. Website: samuelmaynard.com

**Ashley Thomas** - Props Master: This is Ashley's second time being Props Master at Pace University, and it is also her first musical! She plans on being both a Props and Scenic designer in the future, and wants to thank her family for being there for her and supportive every step of the way!

**Marilisa Kroon** - Production Stage Manager: Off-Broadway: *Winesday The Musical*. Off-Off Broadway: *Be My Baby*. Previous Sands Productions: *Firehawks*, IPE New Works 2023, *BANKSY*, 9 to 5. Film: *Lonerism*. BA Stage Management Class of 2026. Big love to Umaya, Rich, and Kaitlyn.

**Umaya Loving -** 1st Assistant Stage Manager: Umaya is a junior Stage Manager from San Jose, California who is over the moon to be working with the fantastic company of *Jesus Christ Superstar*! Professional credits include *Sesame Street the Musical* at Theatre Row. Previous educational credits include *Tartuffe* (ASM), *Pippin'* (ASM), Dance Out Loud '23 (ACM), *9 to 5* 

(Flyman), and *Urinetown* (Flyman). Big love to the sweetest SM team, unparalleled PSM, and insanely beautiful group of cast and creatives.

**Kaitlyn Peatman -** 2nd Assistant Stage Manager: Kaitlyn is excited to be a second assistant stage manager for *Jesus Christ Superstar*!

**Richard Lehman -** 2nd Assistant Stage Manager: Richard is proud to be working as the 2nd Assistant Stage Manager on this Production. This is his 5th production at Pace University, with the others being *Pippin'*, *Putting it Together*, Emergence '23, and *Firehawks*.

**Marisa Berrones** - Company Manager: Marisa is very excited to Company Manage for *Jesus Christ Superstar*! This is her 4th show here at Pace University and she has loved getting to work with each and every member of the team. Her past productions include *Big Fish, Dance Out Loud 2024, and Dance Space 2023*. She will also be working on *The Apple Tree* as 1st assistant stage manager in November, so make sure to get tickets for that production too! Marisa would like to thank her parents for letting her move to New York, her computer science friends Gia and Clover for putting up with her complaining when they had to code for hours on end, and her roommate Kaitlyn for showing her where 80 Greenwich is.

**Jayson Cahillane** - Assistant Director: Jayson is thrilled to Assistant Direct *Jesus Christ Superstar*! NYC Directing: *Café Americano* @ wild project (Director), *Café Americano* @ NY Theatre Festival (Director), *10-72 Fire in Progress* (Director), Educational Directing: *From Up Here* (Co-Director), *Badger* (Co-Director), *The Risks We Take* (Assistant Director), *Wife* (Assistant Director), Acting: *Newsies* (Snyder), *Radium Girls* (C.B. Lee), *The Incomplete Life and Random Death of Molly Denholtz* (Dominic), *Legally Blonde* (Dewey), *Les Misérables* (Ensemble). Thank you beyond words to Rebecca, Kelsey, Angela, Julia, the SM team, the actors, the designers, the tech crew, company management, and each of our villages that got us here.

**Julia Erickson** - Assistant Director (she/her) Julia is a Sophomore BA Directing major and so happy to have been Assistant Director for *Jesus Christ Superstar*! Catch her at this very theater in November for IPE New Works. Huge thanks to the rest of the directing team, Rebecca, Kelsey, Angela and Jayson for being such amazing mentors and collaborators.

**Alex Aether** -Assistant Choreographer (they/them/she/her) Alex is a commercial dance junior at Pace University. Previously featured in productions of Bob Fosse's "Crunchy Granola Suite," Paul Taylor's "Esplanade," and more, Alex is a passionate dancer, choreographer, and artist. Assisting choreography in this production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, as well as *Rent* later this semester, she aspires to choreograph for even more stage/live performances with her degree after college. Alex is ecstatic to be included in this wonderful process and they hope you enjoy every second!

**Leo Lockhart** - Assistant Choreographer (They/He/She) Leo is a Commercial Dance Junior at Pace University with a minor in East Asian Studies. They hope to use their degree to Choreograph and Dance with people worldwide. Leo's Philosophy is that Dance is a communicable language on a universal scale that breaks a multitude of barriers. This is Leo's first time on a Choreography team for a Mainstage Production at Pace University. They would like to thank the many folks who have helped them get here. As well as a huge thank you to the Cast, Creatives, and the entire team. Especially Kelsey, Rebecca, and Alex. As well as Lauren Gaul for encouraging Leo to take this opportunity and most importantly, Leo would like to thank Mom and Dad for always believing in them.

**Thomas Baia** - Run Crew (he/him) Thomas is a first-year Stage Management Major. He has been involved in theater since he was six years old. His past credits include ASM on Tuck Everlasting, Footless and Much to Do About Nothing. In addition, Thomas has also been a props expert for a production of Marry Poppins and was a featured writer for his School One Act competition.

**Lucy Furch** - Assistant Costume Designer (they/them) Lucy is a sophomore costume designer. Previous shows include *Spring Awakening* (Pace), *Alice By Heart* (New Origins Workspace) and *Big Fish* (Pace). WWJW?

**Kissel Barrantes** – Dresser: Hi! I'm Kissel (she/her) and I'd like to give a big thank you to Caton and Matsy for all their incredible support and guidance!!

**Sofie Maccarone** – Dresser: Sofie is a freshman in the stage management major at Sands College. She is very excited to be a dresser in this production and can't wait for you to see the show!

**Takara White** - Assistant Lighting Designer (she/her) is a sophomore production and design student and is thrilled to be on the lighting team for *Jesus Christ Superstar*! She would like to thank her designer, Ethan Feil, and her wonderful family and friends.

**Donovan Abeshaus -** Board Op (he/him) Donovan is a first-year IPE Directing student at Pace University. Previous production credits include *Merrily We Roll Along*, *concert version* (Director), *Misery* (Asst. Director), *Seussical*, *Jr.* (Asst. Director), *SpongeBob SquarePants*, *the Musical* (Stage Manager, Soundboard Operator), *Grease* (Stage Manager), and *Rock of Ages* (Spot Operator).

**Trevor Greenlee -** Spot Op (he/they) Trevor is a freelance stage manager based in New York City. Embarking on his second year at Pace University, Trevor is excited to be back in the chaos. Some of his favorite credits go as follows: Tartuffe (Production Assistant), Wedding Singer (Stage Management Intern) and Ramos Dance (Assistant Stage Manager). If you would like to see Trevor in a future production you can see him in Rent as Company Manager in November and DancesPace as 2nd Assistant Stage Manager in December! trevordgreenlee.weebly.com @trevordgreenlee

**Samuel Maynard** - Sound Designer: Samuel is honored to have been the Sound Designer for Pace's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*! Recent credits include: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Westside Theatre), From Here (Signature Theatre), In The Heights, La Cage Aux Folles, and Cinderella: A Traditional English Pantomime (Winnipesaukee Playhouse), Big Fish (Pace University), TITANIC The Musical (NYU), Living and Breathing, Romeo and Juliet, and Two Sisters and a Piano (Two River Theater.) Samuel would like to thank his partner, family, and friends for their unconditional love and support. Website: samuelmaynard.com

**Charlee Lawrence** - A2 (they/them) is so excited to be working with everyone on *Jesus Christ Superstar*! Enjoy the show.

**Venus Woolf** - Props Build & Run: Venus is a versatile Scenic Designer with a strong passion for theatre and a wealth of experience across multiple roles in production. In addition to her design work, she has served as a Prop Master, Sound Board Operator, and Stage Manager, contributing to the success of various college performances, including *Romeo and Juliet*, *Stop Kiss*, and *Noises Off*. Her diverse skill set and attention to detail allow her to bring rich, immersive environments to the stage. Beyond her technical expertise, Venus is also a passionate playwright, blending her love for visual storytelling with the written word to create compelling theatrical works.