



DIAMOND VALLEY SINGERS
PRODUCTION OF



The Addams Family

A NEW MUSICAL
COMEDY

July 9 - 17, 2021

@Warrandyte High School

www.dvsingers.org

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

They're creepy and They're kooky
Mysterious and Spooky
They're all together ooky
The Addams Family

Welcome to the mansion that could double as a museum, home to all of your favourite characters and opening its doors to a few new ones, this show is sure to keep you on your toes! This show has been a long time in the making, Charli and I pitched this show to DVS in 2019 to be their 2020 July stage show. Four lockdowns later and here we finally are!

Writing this and reflecting back on the last few months I am blown away by the talent and dedication of the many people you will see tonight onstage as well as those who have worked so hard behind the scenes.

I have always been a lover of the Addams Family, the dark humour and satire never fail to make me laugh and I have always been drawn to shows with strong female characters. When I pitched this show I wanted to stay as true to the iconic characters as I could whilst exploring the new dynamics of a grown up Wednesday Adams and how it forces the family to adapt.

Firstly, thanks to Charli, Nicola and Angela for all their hard work on this show and their infinite patience with me. With Charli's choreography, Nicola's musical expertise and Angela's never ending organisation and ability to stay up to date with all the covid guidelines, we have created a show I am very proud of and one that is sure to thoroughly entertain our audience. Charli in particular has been the heart and soul of this production, always being five steps ahead of everything we need, and being my rock in moments of doubt. Without her this show would be nowhere near as good as it is.

Thank you to the Diamond Valley Singers committee who took a huge leap of faith in Charli and me when we pitched The Addams Family. As an inexperienced team we are very proud to have produced this show and have been incredibly lucky to be doing so with the guidance and support that the committee has provided.

Special thanks also goes to Steve Wilkie, the mastermind behind our beautiful sets who has spent hours planning sourcing materials and designing everything from the staircases to the special effects throughout the show. Thanks also to Mark Clark and Trevor D'Ambrosio who helped with the build. To Malcolm for the best publicity in any show I have ever worked on, Mary for the incredible work in adapting the traditional orchestra into a band format, Anita for her calming reassurance and very well managed back stage, Tanya and Jacquie for the incredible work on costumes, Bek for sourcing and styling the wigs, Dianne and Robyn for the sound, and Michael and Tam for adapting my very vague descriptions into incredible lighting!

Last but not least, to the incredibly talented cast and ensemble in this show who have ensured that every rehearsal and performance was filled with endless laughter and many jaw dropping moments that even after months of rehearsal still blow me away. Week after week they have made me laugh until I've cried with all their antics (scripted and unscripted) and it has been a joy to work with every single person in this show.

Katey Jones

CREATIVES

Katey Jones Co-Director
Charli Lewis Choreographer/Co-Director
Nicola Ramsay Musical Director
Marie-Louise Wright Conductor

ON STAGE TALENT

Matt Biscombe	Gomez
Sophia Bubner	Morticia
Brett Harvey	Uncle Fester
Paris Dallow	Wednesday
Kaisha Thompson	Pugsley
Elizabeth Carr	Grandma
Scott Patton	Lurch
Jack Maher	Lucas Beineke
Amanda Middleditch	Alice Beineke
Ryan Smith	Mal Beineke

ASSORTED ANCESTORS

Ben Chapman	Maddy Crowe	Marlene Di Battista
Annette Dick	Tobi Rose	Lauren Gikas
Maia Gikas	Bek Goldsmith	Lucas Ioppolo
Anthony Julian	Ivy Liew	Cara Lofts - Dance Captain
Frank Meerbach	Robyn Parker	Leigh Patton
Zoe Petropolous	Nicola Ramsay	Phoebe Ridley
Thomas Ridley	Maxine Shand	Rachael Shand
Hannah Sleeth	Gabrielle Tucker	Hannah Wade
Steve Wilkie	Horatio Yenand Bella



THE STORY...

In its typical creepy, kooky, mysterious, and spooky fashion, the ghoulish Addams family is visiting the graveyard for an annual gathering of all family members, living dead, and undecided, to celebrate what it is to be an Addams.

However, the family encounters an unforeseen obstacle when Wednesday decides to introduce her new “normal” boyfriend Lucas to the family. In protest, Uncle Fester enlists the help of the Addams’ ancestors to call an end to the young budding romance. As Wednesday admits that she is falling in love, Morticia, Gomez, and Pugsley worry about her changing ways.

As the families of Wednesday and Lucas come together for dinner one fateful evening, chaos ensues and the two families find themselves admitting deep secrets and coming together in ways they never would have imagined. The Addams Family Broadway Musical tells the story of love and friendship through adversity, with a comical and macabre yet poignant spin.

SONGLIST

Act I

1. Overture — Orchestra
2. When You’re an Addams — Addams Family, Ancestors
3. Fester’s Manifesto — Fester
4. Wednesday’s Growing Up — Gomez
5. Trapped — Gomez
6. Pulled — Wednesday, Pugsley
7. One Normal Night — Company
8. But Love (Reprise 1) — Fester, Ancestors
9. But Love (Reprise 2) — Fester, Ancestors
10. Secrets — Morticia, Alice, Female Ancestors
11. Gomez’s What If? — Gomez
12. What If? — Pugsley
13. Full Disclosure — Company
14. Waiting — Alice
15. Full Disclosure (Part 2) — Company

Act II

16. Entr’acte — Orchestra
17. Just Around the Corner — Morticia, Ancestors
18. The Moon and Me — Fester, Moon (Cara), Female Ancestors
19. Happy/Sad — Gomez
20. Crazyer Than You — Wednesday, Lucas, Mal, Alice
21. Not Today — Gomez
22. Live Before We Die — Gomez, Morticia
23. Tango De Amor — Morticia, Gomez, Ancestors
24. Move Toward the Darkness — Company
25. Bows/When You’re An Addams (Encore) — Company

IN THE PIT

Conductor Marie-Louise Wright

KEYBOARD 1

Gerard Banner, Katy Neesham

KEYBOARD 2

Timothy Wilson

REEDS 1

Ruth Vandersman

REED 2

Tony Robinson

REED 3

Derek Wright

Trumpet

Damien Eagland

TROMBONE

David Wheelan

GUITAR

Malcolm Wilton

BASS

Tom Young, Ben Bates

PERCUSSION

Heather Wright



Antony Steadman 19/03/89 - 31/03/21

The creatives and cast dedicate The Addams Family production to Antony Steadman who died suddenly in March 2021.

Antony performed the role of Buffalo Bill in DVS' production of Annie Get Your Gun (2019) and won the role of Uncle Fester in The Addams Family - one of his "dream" roles. He had joined the Diamond Valley Singers committee this year.

Our condolences to those who loved him.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The Addams Family is a relatively new musical and one that Diamond Valley Singers have not performed before. The Addams Family has progressed through a variety of artistic genres. Beginning as a cartoon written by Charles Addams, it then successfully transformed into a TV series in 1964.

Years later The Addams Family musical opened on Broadway in 2010. It is a comedy based on the original family members, with music and lyrics written by Andrew Lippa. He kept each character in mind as he composed the songs. For example, Gomez sings in a flamenco style to match his Spanish ancestry. Wednesday is a modern girl, thus her songs reflect this. Uncle Fester is quite kooky/fun and his songs have a vaudeville feel to them. There is a solo for every lead character and they all sing brilliantly in character with the appropriate emotions.

The chorus have worked hard to learn the harmonies and varying musical styles. Some songs are for the entire chorus and others are just for female chorus.

The show is accompanied by a smaller band than DVS is used to. Under the capable direction of Marie-Louise Wright, they are certainly not lacking in sound. We hope you enjoy watching and listening to DVS's version of The Addams Family.

Nicola Ramsay



**For all your lighting and musical needs contact
Michael Gerrish 0419 388 054**

**Email: Starmiststudio@yahoo.com
www.starmiststudio.com.au**

PRODUCTION TEAM

<i>Co-Directors</i>	Katey Jones & Charli Lewis
<i>Choreographer</i>	Charli Lewis
<i>Musical Director</i>	Nicola Ramsay
<i>Conductor</i>	Marie Louise Wright
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Anita Wilton
<i>Stage Crew</i>	Naomi Robertson ASM, David & Jenny Edmonds
<i>Scenic Artist</i>	Merinda Gallagher
<i>Special Effects</i>	Steve Wilkie
<i>Costumes</i>	Jacquie Walsh & Tania Blanksby
<i>Set Design</i>	Steve Wilkie
<i>Set Construction</i>	Steve Wilkie, Mark Clark, Trevor D'Ambrosio, cast & volunteers
<i>Lights & Technical Advice</i>	Michael Gerrish
<i>Lighting Design</i>	Tamblyn Smith
<i>Lighting Operators</i>	Tamblyn Smith, John Keys & Zack Patton
<i>Sound</i>	Robyn Mulder, Dianne Richter & Gary Richter
<i>Props</i>	Mark and Michelle Jones, Cast & Crew
<i>Repetiteurs</i>	Gerard Banner & Timothy Wilson
<i>Publicity</i>	Malcolm Wilton & cast
<i>Front of House</i>	Jennie Barnett, Kristen Barnett, Mary MacDonald, Jen Bennett & volunteers
<i>Parking</i>	John Keys & volunteers
<i>Programme & Ticketing</i>	Angela Hennel
<i>Poster & Artwork</i>	Liam Evans
<i>Photographer</i>	Trevor D'Ambrosio
<i>Videographer</i>	Bod
<i>Foyer Display</i>	Charli Lewis & cast
<i>Production Manager</i>	Angela Hennel

Our audio equipment is supplied by

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CREATIVES

Katey Jones - Co-Director

This is Katey's first show with DVS and one she is sure to always remember! Katey and Charli chose to bring this show to life for its show stopping numbers and endless jokes throughout the script. Katey has previously been the director and musical director of junior productions such as Guys and Dolls jr, Sticks and Balls an Original Musical and BYTE on Broadway with BATS as well as performing in many productions such as Guys and Dolls, Footloose and Chicago with BATS and SPW in the Mitchel Shire.

Katey made the decision to pitch this show to DVS with her best friend Charli in order to continue to develop her skills and to experience working with a new theatre company. Katey has thoroughly enjoyed the experience working with DVS and all the cast and crew involved and is very grateful for everything that they've taught her.



Charli Lewis - Co-Director & Choreographer

Charli is thrilled to have taken on the role of co-director and choreographer as her first time on a production team, having previously performed roles such as Ariel Moore in Footloose, Winnie Tate in Annie Get Your Gun, Sally Perks in Puffs, and even Wednesday Addams.

After falling in love with this show in high school and becoming familiar with Diamond Valley Singers as a company during her role as Winnie Tate in our 2019 production of Annie Get Your Gun, Charli knew this show would be perfect for DVS. She is so proud of what this group have achieved despite the various challenges, and hopes you enjoy the show.



Nicola Ramsay - Musical Director/Flight Attendant

This is Nicola's 5th musical with DVS. She has enjoyed performing in a range of shows with them. She was Eurydice in 'Orpheus of the Underworld', Celia in 'Iolanthe', Gladys in 'The Pajama Game' and Dolly in 'Annie Get Your Gun'.

This time Nicola has taken on the role of Musical Director. Being unfamiliar with this show, she has really enjoyed learning the songs and harmonies and then teaching them to the cast. She has had previous MD experience with Eltham Little Theatre and their Junior musicals.

As well as being part of the creative team, Nic has also been having fun as an Addams Family featured ancestor - a flight attendant. She has enjoyed acting alongside former cast members and meeting new ones.

When Nicola isn't involved in shows, she is either teaching (singing, flute and piano) or playing golf.



Marie-Louise Wright - Conductor

Born in Graz Austria and at one year old moved to Switzerland. At age 11 came to Australia, where Marie-Louise was introduced to the Violin via the free in schools music programme which allowed all state school students to learn an instrument. During her time at Preston Technical School she was able to conduct the House Choir for an inter House Choir Competition. This fleeting moment of conducting whetted her appetite for conducting, but it was many years before it came to fruition.



Marie-Louise studied Violin with Tim Wachtel, Zefferino Mendes and Warwick Stengards and conducting with Robert Rosen and Peter Clinch. She has attended International Conducting Workshops in Brisbane with Marvin Rabin, and Robert Culver as well as attending Symphony Australia workshops as an observer in Melbourne and Tasmania, taking part in The Beat Starts Here in Adelaide and a conducting workshop with the Royal Australian Navy Band.

Marie-Louise currently conducts Surrey Hills Orchestra, Eltham Orchestra and its two string ensembles and has set up and taught the strings programme at Briar Hill Primary School for 16 years. She was past conductor of Henry Touzeau Strings for Melbourne Youth Music, Preston Junior Strings and Victorian Concert Orchestra.

Marie-Louise has conducted many operettas by Gilbert & Sullivan and Johann Strauss. She has also conducted many musical theatre productions including her favourites Oklahoma and The Pirates of Penzance. Marie-Louise has also been privileged to conduct 8 out of the 9 Beethoven Symphonies. Her favourite music is Ballet especially that of the Romantic Era and her long term ambition is to conduct Ballet and Operetta.

ELTHAM ORCHESTRAS INC.

The Eltham Orchestra was established in 1975 and has been going from strength to strength since. Today the Orchestra consists of 3 levels. A beginner string group, and extension string group for players who are between beginner strings and the orchestra standard, and of course, the Eltham Orchestra itself.



The Orchestra rehearses every Wednesday from 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. for Strings and 8.00 – 10.00 p.m. for Woodwinds with a full Orchestra overlap from 8.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. The Orchestra currently is in need of full time flute/piccolo, brass, double bass, violas, percussion and as many string players as we can get. Look us up on elthamorchestras.com. In 2018 Eltham Orchestra, together with Surrey Hills Orchestra had the privilege to play at the Sydney Opera House.

www.elthamorchestras.com/

OUR TALENT

Matt Biscombe - Gomez

No stranger to the stage, Matt is thrilled to be treading the boards with DVS for the first time. Most recently, Matt toured nationally as Doctor Bartolo in Co-Opera's production of "The Barber of Seville."

Prior to this, Matt performed with Melbourne Opera ("Tannhauser," "Lohengrin," "HMS Pinafore") and in his hometown of Geelong in a number of plays with Theatre of the Winged Unicorn ("The Woman in White," "Two Gentlemen of Verona," "Wuthering Heights," "Three Sisters"). A keen student of classical voice, Matt has twice been a soloist in performances of Handel's "Messiah." Matt hopes you enjoy this performance.



Sophia Bubner - Morticia

Sophia is delighted to be playing Morticia, a role that is quite different from her previous experience at DVS playing the bright and upbeat Annie Oakley in Annie Get Your Gun. Although a far cry from her usual roles, she has loved delving into the dark and kooky, developing her baritone and perfecting her 'crazy eyes' in order to bring Morticia Addams to life.

Before joining the Addams clan, Sophia has portrayed many roles in amateur productions both in Melbourne and her home town of Adelaide. Some of her favourites have included Nessarose in Wicked (MBM Productions), Sarah Brown in Guys and Dolls (G & S Society of SA), Serena in Legally Blonde (Hills Musical Company) and Milly in Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Northern Light Theatre Company).

When not on stage, Sophia works as a Prep teacher, a career she chose in no small part because of the daily dose of singing with her students.



Brett Harvey - Uncle Fester

Brett has been passionately involved amateur theatre since 2003. He has performed numerous lead roles with various theatre groups. His favourite roles include Doug in Cosi, Leo Bloom in The Producers (both with Broadford Amateur Theatrical Society), and Captain Tempest in Return To The Forbidden Planet (with Seymour Performers Workshop).

In more recent years, Brett directed the Armistice Centenary 1918-2018 Show which toured Mitchell Shire. He has enjoyed performing in one-act play festivals alongside his wife Elizabeth (Grandma Addams). In 2019, he wrote and performed in a play titled I Love the Way You Cook. Brett is also President of Seymour Performers Workshop and directs the annual Seymour One-Act Play Festival.

Brett loves the role of Fester Addams and knows you will enjoy all the kookiness on show!



Paris Dallow - Wednesday

Paris is originally from Auckland, New Zealand and has a Bachelor of Music Theatre from the Arts Academy, Federation University Australia. Some of her credits include *Heathers: The Musical* (Heather McNamara Understudy/Ensemble) and *Seussical* (Bird Girl Understudy/Ensemble) with FedUni as well as *Under Milk Wood* (Lily Smalls and Others) and *The Cagebirds* (The Mistress) with Epsom Girls Grammar School. Other highlights of Paris' include recently performing as a soloist at the 2020 New Zealand Attitude Awards, and starring in the short psychological thriller *The 12th Day* (Mary). *The Addams Family* is Paris' first show with DVS and she is thrilled to be playing Wednesday Addams, a long-time "dream role" of hers.



Kaisha Thompson - Pugsley

Kaisha's ideal day involves singing and thinking of ways to torture her sister..... the role of Puggsley was always calling and she is beyond excited to get the chance to play her dream character. Kaisha enjoys her character roles and has previously played Grumpy in *Snow White*, Young Fiona in *Shrek Jr* and The Mad Hatter in *Alice in Wonderland*.

Kaisha has also appeared in a number of short films and recently won best supporting actor in 'The boy who cried mud' at the GBiennale short film festival. Kaisha would sing all day every day if she could and has competed in a number of eistedfodds and singing competitions.

This is Kaisha's first show for DVS and her first time performing with an adult cast.



Elizabeth Carr - Grandma

Elizabeth has been in many musicals over the years and this is her second show with DVS. Some of her previous stage credits include *Stepsister Grace* ('Cinderella' - DVS), *Hope Cladwell* ('Urinetown' - BATS) and *Jack's Mother* ('Into the Woods' - Waterdale).

In her other life, Elizabeth is a Performing Arts teacher and podcaster. She is so grateful to finally have this show on the stage, and hopes you enjoy watching her creepy and kooky family!



Scott Patton - Lurch

The Addams family is Scott's second show with Diamond Valley Singers, he was previously in *Annie Get your Gun* where he played the roles of Pawnee Bill, 'The Messenger', and was a member of the ensemble. He is also a member of the DVS's set building team where he has worked on the last three show's sets.

Relatively new to musical theatre Scott relishes the challenge that live theatre brings. The Addams Family provides him with the opportunity to work with some exceptionally talented and professional people which has enhanced the experience. Also, Scott is excited to share the stage with his son, Leigh, who has taken on a role in the ensemble.

Scott has often been called Lurch throughout his life; this role offers him the opportunity to fulfil the title he has been lumped with for decades!

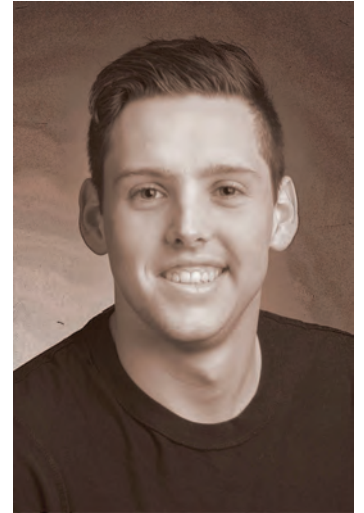


Jack Maher - Lucas Beineke

Jack Maher is playing Lucas Beineke, Wednesdays loveable fiancé.

This is Jack's first show with DVS. He has completed certificate 3/4 in Screen Acting and his past performances include Gaston in Beauty and the Beast, Sky Masterson in Guys and Dolls, Willard Hewitt in Footloose and Rooster in an upcoming production of Annie.

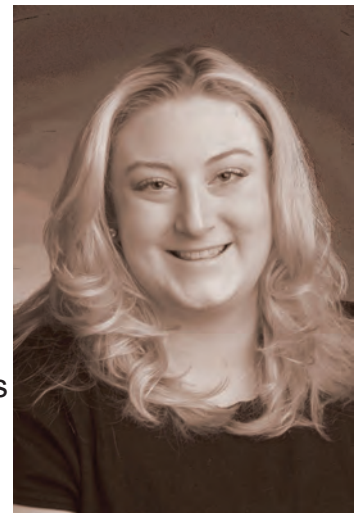
Jack has loved every moment of this show and hopes you all enjoy it!



Amanda Middleditch - Alice Beineke

Amanda is thrilled to be taking part in The Addams Family as her first production with Diamond Valley Singers. Amanda found her passion for singing and performing with The Australian Youth Choir, then moved into musical theatre with Eltham Little Theatre's youth productions; Sheik, Rattle 'n' Role (2008), Gum Shoe (2009) and Alice the Musical (2010).

Amanda moved away from Musical Theatre in 2011 to focus on Opera Performance, where she trained at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, Melbourne Conservatorium of Music and Opera Scholars Australia and received a Bachelor of Music Performance from Melbourne University. Amanda is beyond excited to perform this role with the incredible DVS team, cast and crew.



Ryan Smith - Mal Beineke

Ryan Smith is an award winning actor, writer and director. He is the co-founder of renowned theatre troupe Picked Last For Sport which has received Melbourne Fringe Awards and Greenroom nominations.

He is a long time musical theatre performer, playing roles such as The Beast in Beauty and the Beast (SPW), Nicely Nicely Johnson in Guys and Dolls (BATS) Sam Pickles in Cloud Street (Latrobe University).

This is his debut performance with the Diamond Valley Singers.



DVS' Choral Program commences on Wednesday July 14 at the Uniting Church in Diamond Creek. It will be a light program open to all who wish to participate.

Keep checking our website for further details including audition dates for our junior production for 2022 - Shrek Jr.

www.dvsingers.org

Ben Chapman - Judge

This is Ben's first foray into musical theatre. Previously Ben has enjoyed being involved in improvisational theatre performances. He has also done some extras work in television, a favourite being an extra on Neighbours.

Ben enjoys sewing in his spare time and that enables him to make costumes exactly as he wants them. The phrase "break a leg" doesn't sit comfortably with Ben and he and his family prefer to use their own way of wishing luck in the theatre by saying "Don't fall off your go-go platform"



Maddy Crowe - Model

This is Maddy's first show with Diamond Valley Singers, performing as a featured dancer. Although coming from a background of dance, training at Melbourne Dance Theatre from the age of two, Maddy hopes to pursue Musical Theatre in the future.

Recently, Maddy performed in ADS Industry's "PUFFS" as Leanne and is soon going to be portraying the role of Brooke in Waterdale's "Be More Chill". Maddy hopes to continue interacting with the DVS community and get involved in future productions.



Marlene Di Battista - Southern Belle

Marlene was a calisthenic girl for many years but after having children who were involved in theatre and dance she decided to join them. This is Marlene's 12th production with DVS and her character this year in the Addams Family is a Southern Belle. She has performed Barnum with Dandenong Theatre Group, Dinkum Assorted with Essendon theatre Group, Mama Mia with Michelle Slater Performing Arts Group plus Stepping Out and several Music Halls with Eltham Little Theatre. She was part of the Mahler 8 at the Melbourne Town Hall and is an active member of the Heidelberg Allstars



Annette Dick - Diva Vampire

Annette has the pleasure of being an ancestor to the Adams Family clan. This is her first performance with DVS since 2015. She has been performing with Melbourne Opera and Gilbert and Sullivan for the past several years and is looking forward to this wonderful production with DVS.

Her character is a Diva Vampire which she is thoroughly enjoying as she likes to be a wee bit silly on stage. She loves to dance and hopes that our dance routines will bring you all some enjoyment and possibly some laughter.

She performs in Channel 9 Carols by Candlelight which she has done for the past 19 years. She loves listening to, and performing in operas, and she also loves going to Zumba classes. She loves animals and has three cats and two dogs.



Tobi Rose - Flapper

This is Tobi's first show with DVS. She is currently undergoing classes with Action Drama Studio as well as Dancing in various styles with Elevation Dance Studio.

Theatre has been a very big outlet for Tobi and has helped her tremendously to deal with hard situations throughout life. Highlights have been playing "Susie and others" in "Puffs", assisting in writing an original one act play for ADS.

Eventually, she hopes to make it into the professional theatre scene and perform in musicals across Broadway.



Lauren Gikas - Spider Whisperer

This is Lauren's first show with Diamond Valley Singers and she is very excited to be involved in The Addams Family. Lauren has always had a love for theatre and music and was in every show during her time at ELTHAM College.

She has most recently starred as Matilda in Matilda The Musical (2019) and had planned to play Roxie in Chicago (2020) but due to lockdown the show unfortunately could not go on. Lauren has really enjoyed working with DVS and is eager to continue her involvement in the future.



Maia Gikas - Cheerleader

Maia is 14 and loves to dance, sing and act. She has performed in her school musicals and plays such as Fantastic Mr Fox, The Worm and The Best of Broadway. Maia has also had the opportunity to experience the life of the show from backstage when she was a prop hand for Matilda the Musical.

Another passion Maia has is Latin and Ballroom dancing and she loves to compete in competitions. This is Maia's first show with Diamond Valley Singers and she looks forward to being a part of the many more to come in the future.



Bek Goldsmith - Hippie Ancestor

Bek is very excited to perform in her first show with Diamond Valley Singers. Bek has performed in Hairspray Jr (2014) and The Wizard of Oz Jr (2014) with KidzAct, She has also performed in Cinderella (2017), Wind in the Willows (2016), and Formal (2015) with Adlib Entertainment. Most recently, Bek wrote, directed, and performed in a community show, ACE The Musical (2019). Bek is also a member of CLOC Musical Theatre, having done 8 shows in their Wig and Make-Up department.

She has absolutely loved being apart of The Addams Family, and can't wait to finally get this show onstage. Bek looks forward to many more years being involved in the wonderful community at DVS.



Lucas Ioppolo - Egyptian Mummy

Lucas is 24 years old and has been performing for most of his life. After starting drama/singing lessons when he was 9, he appeared in his first theatrical production at the age of 16. He has since gone on to have roles in sixteen productions, including lead roles in Groovyman as the Hustler, Happy Days: A New Musical as James Dean, Frankenstein as Dr. Victor Frankenstein, Peter Pan: A Pantomime Adventure as Smee, Hairspray as Mr. Pinky/Fender and Seussical as a Wickersham Brother. Lucas has a Diploma in Musical Theatre and Theatre Arts at Box Hill Institute and Melbourne Polytechnic respectively. The Addams Family is Lucas' seventeenth production overall and his first ever performance with the Diamond Valley Singers. He hopes you enjoy the show and move toward the darkness.



Anthony Julian - Caveman

Anthony has been performing for 20 years and has had many varied roles including Sky Masterson in Guys and Dolls, the Child Catcher in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Monsieur Reyer in Phantom of the Opera and Ebenezer Scrooge in Scrooge the Musical, to name a few. Anthony joins DVS for the first time in The Addams Family and has enjoyed learning the songs and getting to know everyone.

He will next be seen in the role of Albert in Terry Pratchett's Mort with CPP Community Theatre, followed by the role of Ugly in Honk with Inclusive Music Theatre, in which he's looking forward to sharing the stage with his partner Sam for the first time.



Ivy Liew - Bride

Ivy is excited to return to Diamond Valley Singers as part of the featured ensemble in The Addams Family. She has enjoyed doing musical theatre since her first high school production of Seussical jr. in 2018 where she played Mrs. Mayor. She has also undertaken singing and dance classes when she was younger.

Ivy has enjoyed improving on her acting skills, meeting new people and working on the set of The Addams Family.



Cara Lofts (she/her) - The Moon/Saloon Girl

Cara was recently seen in Tones and I's "Won't Sleep" music video (Visible Studios, 2021). Her credits include Vivienne in Legally Blonde (GPSC, 2017), Cats (YABC, 2020), Les Misérables (YABC, 2019) Wicked (YABC, 2018), NBA Half-Time Show, Universal Studios Hollywood, Disneyland, and Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Cara holds a Bachelor of Arts (English/Theatre Studies; Screen/Cultural Studies) from The University of Melbourne. She currently trains full-time with Jason Coleman's Ministry of Dance (Dip. Musical Theatre/Cert IV. Dance Teaching and Management).

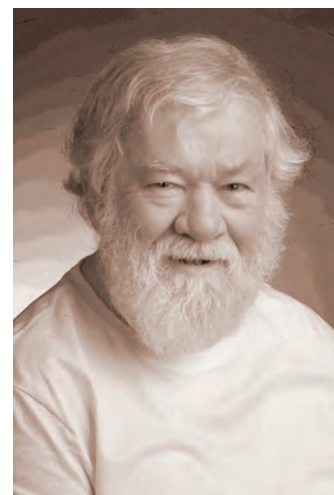
Cara is committed to making the Australian arts industry, professional and amateur, a safer and more inclusive space for BIPOC, transgender, gender diverse and neurodivergent artists. She encourages everyone to read and sign the pledge for change.



Frank Meerbach - Mad Scientist

This is Frank's fourth production with the Diamond Valley Singers. He enjoys singing and loves being part of the ensemble in shows as funny as this one.

He hopes that you will enjoy watching the Addams Family as much as he does.



Robyn Parker - Viking

Robyn is thrilled to be joining Addams Family for her first show with DVS. Robyn is fairly new to the stage, having done ensemble work in The Wizard of Oz with Nova in 2019 after a few years of singing and tap dancing.

She was looking for an opportunity to sing in a group while waiting for rehearsals for "Beautiful" with NOVA to recommence, in which she is playing Genie (Carole King's mother), and wishes she had discovered DVS years ago. When she is not rehearsing, Robyn is a physician practising at Eastern Health, and enjoys long bush walks and sampling gin.



Leigh Patton - Robber

Leigh is new to the world of musical theatre, becoming involved with DVS in 2019 when he auditioned for The Lion King Jr. After many covid related delays, he was thrilled to finally get onto the stage as part of The Lion King Jr. ensemble earlier this year.

Leigh is excited to be part of The Addams Family ensemble as well as spend time on stage with his Dad. Leigh has also really enjoyed set building and getting to know everyone.



Zoe Petropolous - Mime

Ever since she was young, she has loved being on stage. Like most little girls, she started in ballet classes and eventually ventured off in the direction of drama and theatre. Zoe has been training at Karen Margret Studios since 2007 and trained with VYT from 2016-2017. She has also been having singing lessons since 2011 and completed VCE drama at Yarra Valley Grammar. Zoe has participated in every school musical since 2012 up to the time she graduated in 2019. Some of these include Beauty and the Beast Jr, Seussical, Peter Pan, Godspell, Legally Blond, The Book of Everything and We Will Rock You.

She is so excited to perform Addams Family with DVS. Not only is it Zoe's first show out of high school but it would have to be one of her favourite shows she has ever been involved in so far.



Phoebe Ridley - Gangster

This is Phoebe's first production with DVS. Phoebe loves to sing and plays guitar. Phoebe showed her voice ability in BYTE on Broadway, singing and dancing to some popular show tunes. She has been in the ensemble for many productions including Guys N Dolls and Footloose.

Phoebe is currently completing her first year of a Cert 3 with the Australian College of Dramatic Arts. Phoebe has loved being a part of the cast of The Addams Family playing a featured ensemble role.



Thomas Ridley - Highwayman

This is Thomas' first production with Diamond Valley Singers. Thomas has been in many productions with Bats Youth Theatre & Entertainment and Assumption College Kilmore, such as Guys 'n' Dolls (2017), Legally Blonde (2018).

In 2020 Thomas was nominated for a Georgy Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Junior Musical for his role as Schroder in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown! (2019). Thomas has had fun being in the ensemble of Addams Family and hopes everyone enjoys the show.



Maxine Shand - WitchyPoo

After 30 odd years Max has decided to take to the stage again. This might just be her midlife crisis, as she will be hitting her half-century right in the middle of our performance period.

She is excited to perform in her first show with Diamond Valley Singers. Her dancing skills are ordinary; but what she lacks in coordination, she more than makes up for in enthusiasm.

Her singing skills are not quite as good as her daughter Rachael's, but she can hold a tune. Max has thoroughly enjoyed rehearsing with DVS and might just have found herself a really great new hobby.



Rachael Shand - French Maid

This is Rachael's first show with DVS, but the second time doing Addams Family (previous show was with her high school - Norwood Secondary). Rachael is currently in year 12 and is hoping to get into the VCA next year to study Musical Theatre.

Rachael has been in love with performing since she was three. She has been doing vocal lesson for the last six years, and has been part of her high school chorale & a'capella groups (as well as school productions) since year 7. Rachael has also performed in a number of other shows including Grease the Arena Spectacular and a local show called 63 Results (written by one of her good friends). She has really enjoyed working with DVS and hopes to do more shows with them in the future.



Hannah Sleeth - Puritan

This is Hannah's second show with Diamond Valley Singers after appearing in 2019's production of Annie Get Your Gun as a member of the ensemble.

Having enjoyed the experience so much and after encouragement from several castmates, particularly Antony Steadman, Hannah decided to dust off her dancing shoes and tread the boards once more.



Gabrielle Tucker - Pirate

Gabrielle, 19 years old, has performed in many school musicals including Suessical as a Bird Girl, Peter Pan as Tiger Lily and Honk as the ugly ducklings brother but this is her first time appearing in a DVS production, joining the cast in 2020. Having come from a family that encouraged performing arts, she has always been involved in an extra curricular involving singing, dancing or acting. Usually this involved a choir and many years of ballet.

In the Addams Family she is featured as a pirate ancestor and has thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the rest of the brilliant cast and is excited for it to finally be seen by an audience.



Hannah Wade - Gambler

Hannah is excited to be an ancestor in The Addams Family in 2021. In 2019, she was a part of the DVS production of Annie Get Your Gun and in 2018, she was in the inaugural DVS junior production of Aladdin Jr. Hannah has been involved in several of Eltham Little Theatre's junior productions including Oliver!, The Little Mermaid Jr, Annie and Beauty and the Beast Jr. Hannah studied classical ballet for four years, has had singing lessons for six and a half years and has been doing gymnastics for nine years. Hannah has been in a number of school productions in both primary and secondary schools, has been in the mass choir for State School Spectacular and has been involved in many school choirs.



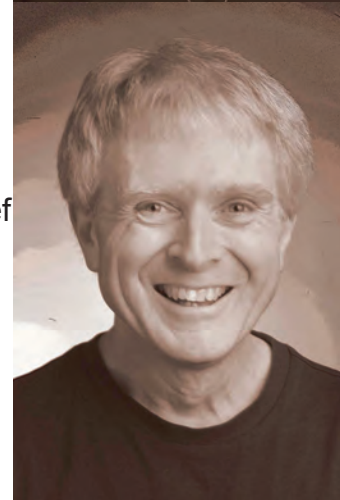
Steve Wilkie - Conquistador

This will be Steve's fourth musical production with Diamond Valley Singers. He has sung with DVS for about 13 years in their oratorios and smaller productions with some solo roles. He played the part of Bill Boggins in The Merry Widow from Blue Gum Creek 2015, a Porter in Mikado 2017 and Chief Sitting Bull in Annie Get Your Gun. During the last five years he has performed with a touring singing troupe TREK in solo roles.

Steve has designed, over-seen the build and bump in of DVS's first truly two storey set for this show.

The role of Conquistador is dead good with a fun costume. We have risen to new heights for this production!

Thanks for coming and hope you enjoy the show.



Horatio Yen - Executioner

Horatio has been in numerous productions throughout his schooling. Some of the musical theatre highlights have been Footloose, Urine Town, Wild Swans and Matilda

He has also performed in a number of plays including Lord of the Flies, Animal Farm and Taming of the Shrew. Some of his favourite moments have been playing James in Wild Swans and learning all the dancing for Footloose.

Horatio was a member of multiple choirs during his school years and is currently taking weekly singing lessons. This is Horatio's first show with DVS and he's pleased to be able to continue performing after finishing school last year.



Bella - Puppy Dog

Bella first took to the stage in 2019 with Diamond Valley Singers, "Annie get your Gun". She was one of the performing dogs in Buffalo Bills Wild West show. She was escorted by Charli Lewis, our Addams Family choreographer. This year she has a cameo as the "puppy dog" referred to by Wednesday in her song "Pulled".

Bella would also like to mention that she is a Lort Smith rescue pet, and her new owners are Malcolm and Anita Wilton.

Each month she visits aged care, dementia and youth rehabilitation centres with the Lort Smith community Pet Therapy program. She also will be providing Pet Therapy to the cast in the Green Room as required.



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Behind the Scenes



Anita Wilton
Stage Manager



Robyn Mulder, Gary and Dianne Richter
Sound



Jennie Barnett
Front of House



Naomi Robertson
Assistant Stage Manager



Tamblyn Smith
Lighting & Fog Machine

PRODUCTION MANAGER'S MESSAGE

After a delay of 12 months plus one week I'm so proud, and relieved, that our production of The Addams Family (TAF) has finally made it to the stage. The creative team and cast have managed to weather all adversity thrown their way in the two years since the show was first floated with the DVS committee, to produce a show that is highly entertaining, fun and engaging.

I thank Katey, Charli and Nicola for persevering with rehearsals, for constantly adapting schedules to meet ever changing COVID restrictions and for remaining positive throughout. Their leadership and dedication has gone well above and beyond the usual for a production during pre-COVID times.

Putting on shows in these times means facing many challenges previously unknown, and to be brave, strong and above all, resilient. This production group has shown all three traits as we postponed, then changed dates, altered rehearsal schedules, changed bookings, cancelled performances and more recently shuffled "groups of 10" through rehearsals, all the time hoping we could make it to the stage. The last lockdown was a real test for us as we were so close to opening night, however, the one week shuffle has paid off.

I thank our wonderful talented and committed cast, including our principals who have shown fantastic leadership and great dedication to the production. While our ensemble has worked hard to learn everything quickly, ensuring rehearsals were productive, energetic and intense. Above all, everyone has been flexible which we have discovered is a key requirement right now. I thank everyone who supported us in some way throughout our long, long, long journey, and those who are supporting us by assisting during performances.

Cast member Antony Steadman died in March and this was a huge shock to us all. He was so positive about the show and such a good mentor to many and his untimely death left us all in shock. We still miss him, and the group dedicates our performances of TAF to Antony.

Maintaining a passion for something when things look hopeless requires trust, faith, commitment, support, and love; everything a family provides. We have all this within the TAF group; we have shared a very difficult 18 months of our lives. We truly are "family" now.

Angela Hennel

DVS Youth Production March 2022 - Directed by Lexi Patman



SHREK
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JR.

TDImages

We thank Trevor D'Ambrosio from TDImages for his beautiful photographs used in the foyer display and this program, and urge you to consider using his services.

Email: trevor@tdimages.com.au
Mob: 0400 161 862
www.tdimages.com.au



2021 One-Act Play Festival (SOAP Festival)

Seymour Performers Workshop will be hosting its 2021 One-Act Play Festival (SOAP Festival) on Saturday 21st August 2021, where performers from around Victoria will get to perform their wonderful plays and potentially win some of our prestigious awards. Again, this year we will have a welcome BBQ breakfast for purchase, and a licenced bar as part of the event.

This year we are encouraging school groups and youth groups to enter their plays so please pass our details onto other groups or schools in your area who may be interested. Additionally, please pass our information onto anyone whom you know would be interested in this event.

All the entry details are available on our Seymour Performers Workshop:

<https://spworkshop.org.au/>

Payments will be made through www.trybooking.com and I have also attached a copy of our Info Pack & Application Form which can be submitted to my email address. Application closes at 5pm on Sunday 25th July 2021.

There is also information about the 4 other play festivals: Anglesea, Gippsland, Kyneton, and Monash respectively, on the Victorian Drama League (VDL)

website: <https://vdl.org.au/vdl-events/category/one-act-play-festivals/>



Diamond Valley Singers thank

Our creative team, Katey, Charli and Nicola for their vision,
skills, determination, resilience and leadership

Shirley Geraghty, Joe Caruana and Steve Parkin, Warrandyte High School

Michael Gerrish - Starmist Studio www.starmiststudio.com.au

Peter Holland – Things We Need Distribution

Hudson Bond Real Estate, Doncaster www.hudsonbond.com.au

Starbus Film Services, truck and trailer hire

Cheryl Threadgold - The Melbourne Observer

Kevin Yates - 96.5 InnerFM

Brian Amos and Ken Donnelly - 98.1 EasternFM

Denise Kuchmar - Plenty Valley FM

TDImages

Classic Press

Simon Nickels (lighting bump in)

Steve Wilkie, Mark Clark and Trevor D'Ambrosio for their set work

Our costumers Jacque Walsh and Tania Blanksby and cast

Marie-Louise Wright and The Eltham Orchestras

Accompanists Gerard Banner, Tim Wilson and Jodie Lockyer

The Diamond Valley Uniting Church for our rehearsal venue

All our volunteers assisting with Front-of-House and parking

Crew, technicians, photographers, and videographers

For their assistance with, and work on, this production.



International Needs Australia is a Christian organisation journeying to create a just world where girls and boys, men and women are treated equally with respect, dignity and opportunity to reach their full potential.

We work in 8 countries helping and serving the world's poorest people – since poverty touches all people regardless of race, religion, age or gender. These then are our target groups – those living on the edges of society who suffer the most.

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Vice President... Steve Wilkie

Secretary... Naomi Robertson

Treasurer... Ian Lowe

**Committee Members: Sophia Bubner, Merinda
Gallagher, Angela Hennel, Katey Jones,
Charli Lewis, Ive Liew**

www.dvsingers.org

Diamond Valley Singers acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this country, pays tribute to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Nillumbik, and gives respect to Elders past, present, and emerging, and their integral part in our region's history.