

CYS PRESENTS

MACBETH



Cast of Characters

(in alphabetical order by last name)

<i>Macbeth</i>	Siah Berlatsky
<i>Ross</i>	Gianna Calcagno
<i>Banquo / Seyton</i>	Madelyn Cantzler
<i>Sergeant / Lady Macduff / Lord</i>	Emma Close
<i>Lennox</i>	Rabihah Gaither
<i>Donalbain / Little Macduff / Gentlewoman / Attendant</i>	Arwen Ghaffar
<i>Second Witch / Messenger / Servant</i>	Samantha Grant
<i>Lady Macbeth</i>	Jakob Innes
<i>Angus / First Murderer / Young Siward</i>	Lucinda Lodder Lindstrom
<i>Third Witch / Porter / Second Murderer</i>	Joshua Priester
<i>First Witch / Messenger</i>	Ella Schultz
<i>Macduff</i>	Esther Segal-Weinberger
<i>Duncan / Old Man / Third Murderer</i>	Oliver Smith
<i>Malcolm</i>	Anna Totzke
<i>Fleance / Doctor</i>	Emma Williams

Featuring:

Original Music by **Ella Schultz & Anna Totzke**

Original Pre-show Song “**Hide Me**” Written & Performed by **Ella Schultz**

Original Film Content by **Isabella Dudas & Sydney Gralike**

Original Artwork & Story Map by **Finola Cahill**

The following pages feature an original graphic-novel style story map, designed and illustrated by our wonderful CYS Ensemble artist, Finola Cahill. It features some of the most important moments from the story. It also looks SO COOL, so please enjoy it!

Witches share prophecies with Macbeth and Banquo: Macbeth will be Thane, Macbeth will be king, and Banquo's sons will be kings.



The first prophecy comes true and King Duncan makes Macbeth Thane of Cawdor.



Duncan's children, Malcolm and Donalbain, flee Scotland.



Encouraged by his wife, Macbeth kills the king.



Now king, Macbeth sends murderers to kill Banquo.



At a banquet, Macbeth is haunted by visions of Banquo's ghost in front of his guests.



Macbeth visits the Witches again. They tell him that no one a woman has given birth to



can harm him and he won't be defeated until Birnam Wood moves.

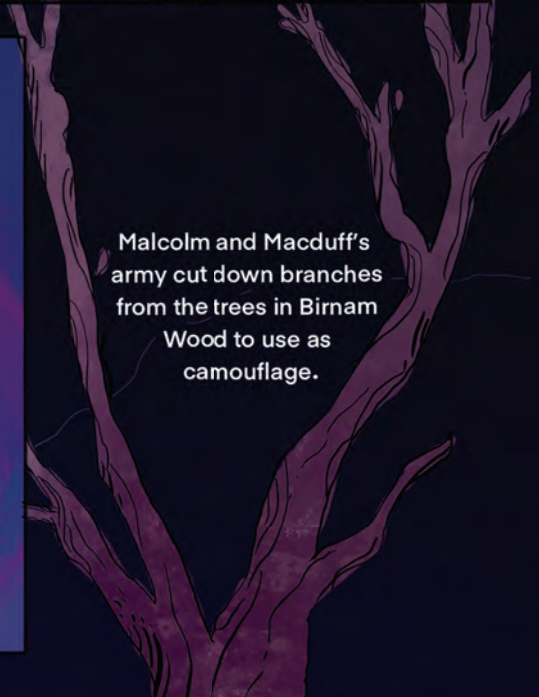
In England, Macduff convinces Malcolm to fight against Macbeth.



Ridden with guilt, Lady Macbeth loses her mind and takes her own life.



Malcolm and Macduff's army cut down branches from the trees in Birnam Wood to use as camouflage.



Macduff reveals that he was born by a caesarean birth and kills Macbeth, fulfilling the final prophecy.



Artistic Director's Note

It was clear, even in our earliest discussions of *Macbeth*, that there were about a bazillion parallels between the world of this famously “cursed” play and the extraordinary times we are living through right now. This realization opened the door to a spiraling list of existential questions from our young artists, such as:

What is fate? How much do we determine our own fate, and how much do we rely on others to guide us? How susceptible are we to the power of suggestion? Is it human nature to believe what we want to hear? Is truth always subjective? How can we tell the difference between truth and fiction? What is the thing that allows human beings to trust one another; and what happens to a society when people stop trusting each other or don't know whom to trust?

Luckily, the creative process relies more on asking the right questions than it does on finding the answers; although the question of “Why this play now?” seemed to literally answer itself.

We hope that our reimagining of Shakespeare's “Scottish Play” invites audiences to ponder some questions of their own, to embrace curiosity over surety, and like the talented young artists of this ensemble, to recognize all that we still have to learn from one another about our shared human experience. Shakespeare was right: “What's done cannot be undone.” There really is no going back for any of us; but fortunately, there is always tomorrow.

CYS's *Macbeth*: A Stage Play & A Film!

Producing live theatre always comes with a host of expected and unexpected challenges. Producing live theatre in the age of COVID requires a combined arsenal of creativity, flexibility, and old-fashioned good luck. Beyond keeping our ensemble members as safe as possible, our primary goal was to make sure they'd have a chance to share their work with an audience.

This season we were fortunate to offer our young artists the unique opportunity to create a cinematic version of *Macbeth*, while simultaneously preparing for live performances on the stage. The film was shot by **Kyle Hamman** of KBH Media, assisted by CYS Ensemble members, **Isabel Dudas** and **Sydney Gralike** – both first-year film students at DePaul. Our film version of *Macbeth* promises to offer audiences a distinctly different experience from the staged production you are all about to see, so stay tuned for our upcoming movie premiere!

Macbeth

Cast & Contributing Artists



Siah Berlatsky *she/her (Macbeth)* is an actor and author in Chicago. Currently finishing her senior year at Chicago High School for the Arts, you can see her play, *Malapert Love*, premiering at the Artistic Home this summer. She's excited to be playing her first title role for CYS, where she's performed before in *Othello*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Richard III*.



Finola Cahill *she/her (Visual Artist/ Designer)* is a junior at New Trier High School. Finola designed, drew, and composed the poster, the apparitions, and story map for the production. In addition to pursuing art and drawing work, she has studied the clarinet for seven years and is a member in multiple local music ensembles. In her spare time, Finola enjoys creative writing, playing board games, and attending theatre productions.



Gigi Calcagno *she/her (Ross)* is thrilled to perform in her first show with Chicago Youth Shakespeare! She recently graduated from Northside College Prep, and is currently a freshman studying acting at the University of Southern California. Some of her favorite performance credits include Marianne Dashwood (*Sense and Sensibility*), Desdemona (*Othello*), Rapunzel (*Into the Woods*), Hero (*Much Ado About Nothing*), and Ophelia (*Hamlet*).



Madelyn Cantzler *she/her (Banquo/ Seyton)* is 18 years old and is excited to be a part of her first Shakespeare show. Previously she has spent most Musicals and has trained at The Chicago High School for the arts (ChiArts).



Emma Close *she/her (Sergeant/Lady Macduff/Lord)* is currently a sophomore pursuing a BFA in Acting with a minor in Dance from Columbia College Chicago. Over the last year and a half at school, she has performed in several showcases and student films, and this past summer co-directed/choreographed *The Spongebob Musical* in her hometown. With over a decade of experience in theatre, she has a deep love for Shakespeare and has previously had the chance to play Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*. This is her first season with CYS and she is beyond excited to be a part of this show!



Rabiah Gaither *she/her (Lennox)* is an energetic, talented 19 year old who has been performing since the age of 3. She specializes in all types of dance (hip-hop, contemporary, ballet, modern and character). She likes to sing, act and tumble. Her credits include performing for The Carnival Cruise Line, Palace Theater (Myrtle Beach), Cosa Loma (Ontario Canada), Walt Disney World (Orlando Florida), United Nations (New York), and Universal Studios (Orlando Florida). She currently attends Harold Washington College and is majoring in business and management.



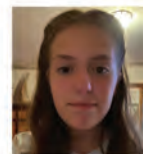
Izzie Dudas *she/her (Filmmaker/ Costume Designer)* is extremely excited to be collaborating with Chicago Youth Shakespeare for the first time in *Macbeth*. She is a BFA film production student at DePaul University with a focus on cinematography. In her free time, she enjoys creative photography, fiction writing, and DIY projects.



Arwen Ghaffar *they/them (Donalbain/Little Macduff/Gentlewoman/Attendant)* is a high school sophomore at CWS, and is so excited to be performing in their first production with Chicago Youth Shakespeare. Arwen has participated in community theater and trains as a dancer at Hubbard Dance Studio and Extensions Dance. For two years, they have been a part of Chicago Children's Theater's youth programs, including as a founding member of their Showtime Ensemble. They also happily assistant direct and choreograph projects for Chicago Children's Theater's Showtime and Elementary Ensembles. They would like to thank their parents for encouraging them to join CYS and for taking them to and from rehearsals. They would also like to congratulate their fellow cast and crew for all of their hard work this season.



Sydney Gralike *she/her (Filmmaker/Editor)* and is a young student filmmaker studying at Depaul University in Chicago! She's made a few short films and done some freelance work for others at the beginning of her film career. She has loved the opportunity to work with Chicago Youth Shakespeare and grow her film experience through working with theater. This has been an incredibly unique experience, and she hopes everyone enjoys the show! You can follow her on Instagram at @sydneygfilm to keep up with her and her work! Congratulations to everyone who has helped out with this show. She's so proud of the work you've all done!!



Samantha Grant *she/her (Second Witch)* first production with CYS! She hasn't done much Shakespeare yet, but she is really enjoying it. Some past include Helena (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and Benvolio (*Romeo and Juliet*). Sami G is also a Freshman in the Theatre Conservatory at ChiArts. She is super excited to be doing some witchy magic, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



Jakob Innes *any pronouns (Lady Macbeth)* is overjoyed to be making his CYSE debut. When not onstage, Jakob enjoys sewing, baking, and hanging out with friends. Previous credits include Miss Trunchbull in *Matilda the Musical*, Colonel Mustard in *Clue*, and Prospero in *The Tempest*. He would like to thank the Southshore Line and his parents for transporting him to and from Valparaiso Indiana to Chicago countless times!



Lucinda Lodder Lindstrom *she/her (Angus/First Murderer/Young Siward/Fight Captain)* joins her first production with Chicago Youth Shakespeare. Before she joined the CYS Ensemble she was a member of the E.D.G.E. theatre company, also based in Chicago. Through them she performed in dozens of plays and received 7 years of training in stage combat and fight choreography. Outside of theatre, she's a rock climber and on the Shedd Aquarium's teen conservation team. She's had such an amazing time working with this incredible ensemble, and hopes you all enjoy the show!



Joshua Priester *he/him (Third Witch/Porter)* is a theater student at ChiArts in his junior year, and this is his CYS debut! He's always been a big appreciator of Shakespeare, and is very excited for this opportunity to finally participate in a production. He only started acting when he enrolled at ChiArts, but it quickly grew on him. Select credits include *The Bald Soprano* and a scene from *Julius Caesar* for a school showcase. He'd like to thank his friends and family for supporting him, and hopes you enjoy the kind of weird stuff they've done with this classic play.



Ella Schultz *she/her (First Witch/Messenger/Composer)* started performing in musicals and shows when she was around 10 and has loved it ever since. Over quarantine, there were no shows she felt she could be apart from so, out of boredom, picked up a hobby for guitar and songwriting and started writing and performing her own songs. She feels very lucky and has loved contributing and being a part of *Macbeth*. It's an experience she will never forget!



Esther Segal-Weinberger *she/her (Macduff/Fight Captain)* is thrilled to be returning to work with the CYS Ensemble since their production of *Richard III* in early February of 2020. She has performed with CYS for years, appearing in *The Tempest* (Stephano), *Twelfth Night* (Olivia), and *King Lear* (Knight/Third Servant). Esther has also performed with the CYS Alumni Players company in *Cymbeline* (Imogen), *Hamlet* (Claudius), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hermia/Snug). In Spring 2021, Esther made her directorial debut for a virtual production of *Twelfth Night* with E.D.G.E. Theatre's Constellation Project. She is currently on her gap year before attending the University of Chicago in Autumn 2021 to study education/psychology, comparative literature, and mathematics. Esther is also an intern on the CYS creative team this season.



Oliver Smith *he/him (Duncan/Old Man/Third Murderer)* is proud to be in this year's CYS production of *Macbeth*! Oliver has performed in theatre productions in his hometown of Stillman Valley, IL of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Matilda the Musical*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and more. Oliver is currently pursuing his BA at Columbia College Chicago in Acting and a minor in Stage Combat. Aside from Acting Oliver is a reader, gym goer and adrenaline junkie. He would like to thank his family and girlfriend for all their support and he hopes you enjoy the show!



Anna Totzke *they/them (Malcolm)* is excited to be performing in their first CYS production! Along with performing in the show, they have written music and developed sound effects for the show. Anna is currently getting their BMUS in Composition at Columbia College Chicago (and might add a minor in Acting after this wonderful show!). Anna would like to thank Chadae Nichol and Robert Hartwell for their exceptional training, along with Mom and Ellie for all the support given throughout this process.



Emma Williams *she/her (Fleance/Doctor)* is a both a newcomer to Chicago and theatre! Originally from a small town called Prescott, Arizona, her and her mom decided to make the move after her high school graduation in 2021. Deciding to take gap year before university, she wanted to try a handful of new activities: Performance Arts being number one on her list. After some research, she found CYS and shortly after prepared for her first audition. She was offered a spot in the ensemble as if she wasn't already excited enough to have this amazing opportunity, when she witnessed the talent, professionalism, and creativity of everyone else involved, she was completely in awe. She feels so incredibly lucky to be surrounded by this amazing, supportive group of peers and mentors, and she couldn't ask for a better experience while rearing for her first performance. Emma is also working as an intern on the creative team.

Creative Team

Haia R'nana Bhiri *she/her (Teaching Artist, ASL Coordinator)* is a second-year PhD student in performance studies at UC San Diego. She has been involved in theatre on and off stage for the past 16 years, including a life-altering stint as a CYS student her senior year of high school. Recent projects include *Trojan Women* (Dramaturg) and *Uncle Vanya* (Dramaturg) at UCSD; *Eurydice* (Director), *Fefu and Her Friends* (Emma/ASL consultant), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck/ASL consultant), *Circle Mirror Transformation* (Theresa), a production of *Peer Gynt* (Solveig/Aase) devoted to accessibility, *John Proctor is the Villain* (Shelby), and *The Emassay* (Playwright/Eve/Choreographer) at Brandeis University; *Everybody* (Assistant Director/Teaching Artist) with the Northwestern High School Institute; *The Tempest* (Teaching Artist) with CYS; and interactive *Hamlet* (Director), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck/Director), and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Kate — upcoming), as well as *Cymbeline* (Director) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Don Pedro) with the CYS Alumni Players, for whom she also works as Director of Development and Intimacy Coordinator.

Hannah Blau *she/her (Teaching Artist)* is a Chicago-based teaching artist. In addition to teaching with CYS, Hannah teaches with Music House, Chicago Danz theater Ensemble and The Viola Project. She is a co-founder of Chicago Youth Shakespeare Alumni Players, a satellite organization committed to CYS alumni outreach. Hannah has also worked with Rivendell Theatre, The Artistic Home, and Citadel Theatre. She is a graduate of the University of Manchester with a BA Hon in Drama, where she produced original research on theatre education's role in the social and emotional development of high-school-aged young adults.

Ryan Borgdorff *he/him (Teaching Artist/Director of Audience Services)* started with CYS as a student in 2015 as Brutus in *Julius Caesar*, and it inspired him to pursue education and theatre beyond high school. While he studied theatre, education and political science at Northwestern University, he continued to work with CYS as an intern and teaching artist, and now that he has graduated, he is delighted to return to CYS as a Teaching Artist and Director of Audience Services! During the height of the COVID pandemic, Ryan also co-founded the CYS Alumni Players with Hannah Blau, a company which connects with former CYS students to put on charity fundraiser performances to give back to CYS.

Levi Donnell *he/him (Undergraduate Intern, Assistant Stage Manager)* is driven by curiosity and the thousand random questions he had such as "can we turn the sky pink? Are we driven by morality or selfishness? Do jellyfish dream? Is Earth just a TV show?" He wonders how art can be used to answer these ideas and dilemma, whether it be something profound like aliens or what motivates human actions good and bad in the modern day.

Kyle Hamman / KBH Media *he/him (Digital Production Coordinator)* Kyle Hamman is the owner/operator of KBH Media, a boutique multimedia production company that specializes in visual storytelling. Hamman has been involved in Chicago theatre as an actor, designer, director and producer for over twenty years and has been a member of the Strawdog Ensemble since 2000. He has appeared in more than twenty Strawdog productions and facilitated numerous others behind the scenes. Hamman has worked with numerous theatres in Chicago, including A Red Orchid Theatre, Mary-Arrchie, Northlight, Teatro Vista, WildClaw Theatre, Writers Theatre, and The Factory. He is also co-creator and director of the series *Corri and Sara Are Famous*.

Kevin Johnson *he/him (Teaching Artist, Fight Choreographer)*, is a Chicago-Based actor, director, and teacher, with a special passion and focus on Shakespeare and other Early Modern dramatists. He joined Chicago Youth Shakespeare as a student in 2016, and continued to act in shows before interning in the summer of 2019. He then returned as a contributing artist in the fall of that year, and has been serving as fight choreographer since 2018. He worked as a teaching artist and director with EDGE Youth Theater from 2016-2021, and performed frequently with The Unrehearsed Shakespeare Company from 2016-2020, playing such roles as Edgar, Brutus, and Coriolanus. His award-winning original verse-play, *The*

Tragedy of Johnny & Lisa, a Shakespearean adaptation of *The Room*, has seen several staged readings and one production in recent years.

Jeremy Ohringer *he/him (Principal Guest Artist)* is a Chicago-based director and teaching artist. He holds an MFA in Theatre Directing from Boston University, where his projects included *Horizon Line* (Inspired by Homer's Odyssey), *Angels In America: Perestroika*, and Brecht's *Mother Courage and Her Children*. Chicago directing credits include: *Milkwhite* (The Kinematics), *Sad Songs For Bad People* (Co-Director, Rough House Theater), *Salve Regina: A Coming of Gay Story* (Center on Halsted/Ringwald Theater), *Who Rowed Across Oceans* (Lost Compass/Edinburgh Fringe Festival) and a new adaptation of Frank Wedekind's *Spring Awakening* with Fearless Theater. As a Teaching Artist, he has been with CYS from the very beginning, and served as the first "director" and co-developer of the CYSE program, starting with *Macbeth* in 2014. Jeremy also works as a teaching artist with Steppenwolf, Writers Theatre, and Open Books, among others.

Manon Spadaro *she/her (Founding Artistic Director)* Before founding Chicago Youth Shakespeare in 2013, Manon Spadaro was a theatre arts instructor and director for over 20 years. She served on faculty at Lake Forest Country Day School, Francis W. Parker School, Northwestern University's Center for Talent Development, and Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School, among others. Manon studied acting at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts at Circle in the Square, and earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in theatre from Northwestern University. She has directed somewhere upwards of 50 productions, including dozens of Shakespeare plays with young artists ages 13-24 years old.

Sylvie Staiger *she/her (Undergraduate Intern, Stage Manager)* is a recent graduate from Columbia College Chicago. She earned a BA in Theatre Directing, along with a Business of Performing Arts Management minor. This is her first production to be working as an intern for CYS. She is beyond proud of the cast, teaching artists, and interns for working hard to make this production happen. She gives huge thanks to Manon for inviting her to join CYS. Working for CYS has been a wonderful learning experience for Sylvie. She hopes to continue her theatre career in New York City this summer.

Luke Steadman *he/him (Undergraduate Intern)* is an intern with us this season after graduating from the program. He played Iago in CYS's *Othello* and Ferdinand in *The Tempest*. He also took part in the staged reading of *King Lear* as Edgar.

Elissa Wolf *she/her (Teaching Artist, Learning Resources Coordinator)* This is Elissa's first year working with CYS. After college, she decided to pursue a master's which led her to the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-Upon-Avon where she got an MA in Shakespeare and Creativity. She completed her dissertation, under the supervision of Tiffany Stern. In August she gave a presentation based on her dissertation at the Wooden O Symposium at the Utah Shakespeare Festival. Additionally, she's performed in many of Shakespeare's plays, including Shakespeare on the Sound's recent production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Performing and teaching Shakespeare has always been a passion. Previously she's worked with high schoolers, directing *Twelfth Night* at Burlington Central High School. She's always enjoyed working with high school-age students and is excited to have had a hand in working with CYS on this production of *Macbeth*!

Joshua Zambrano he/him (*Teaching Artist, Program Design, CYS Director of Community Engagement*) is an alumnus of the CYS program and went on to graduate from Colorado College with a Bachelor of Arts in Organismal Biology and Ecology (OBE). While his degree may be in science, his heart with youth. After graduating, he worked as a tutor/mentor and site coordinator for Driven & Empowered Youth, Inc, a program aimed at providing free tutoring resources and summer programs to students in under-resourced CPS high schools on Chicago's northwest side. Josh is a working actor and current ensemble member of Visión Latino Theater Company, a company whose mission is geared towards enacting positive change in the theater community of Chicago and telling the stories of those who are less likely to be heard. Josh is also an alumnus and instructor in the Theatre department at ChiArts, teaching acting techniques to first-year students.

ASL interpreters for our Sunday show:
Havalah Teaman, Veramarie H. Baldoza

Our Board of Directors

Amy Kleinman (Board Chair)

Jacqueline Camacho-Ruiz	Jazmine Reynolds
Lawrence Grimm	Bonnie Seebold
Marie Jacobsen	Manon Spadaro
Joseph Larkin	Maureen Weber
William Loesch	Joshua Zambrano
Samuela Nountchuet	Norma Zambrano

Special Thanks

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High Speed Testing Center (HSTC) whose services were made available to CYS through our membership in The League of Chicago Theaters.

Writers Theatre for inviting us back to perform in their beautiful space.

Extra special thanks to board member, **Joe Larkin**, for helping to set up and redesign the lighting for our performances at Writers Theatre.

Thank you, Joe!

ABOUT CYS

CYS is a nonprofit organization dedicated to putting Shakespeare's timeless works into the hands of 21st-century teenagers. CYS provides innovative performances and educational outreach programs that connect young adults across Chicagoland with Shakespeare and with each other. We are committed to providing a safe space for young artists of all backgrounds, and to fostering a diverse community of creative and compassionate global citizens.

The CYS Ensemble is our flagship program and the city of Chicago's only professional youth Shakespeare company. CYS productions seek to reimagine Shakespeare's stories through a contemporary and undeniably youthful lens. To learn more about CYS programs and events, please visit: chicagoyouthshakespeare.org

Chicago Youth Shakespeare (CYS) is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization. Donations to CYS are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

You can donate [HERE](#).

CYS is proud to be a part of

