The Firestorm

By Meridith Friedman

Directed by

Rachel Lambert°

Scenic & Lighting Design
Angela Weber Miller°, USA

Original Music & Sound Design
Christopher Kriz°, USA

Costume Design
Stephanie Nguyen

Props Design
Cassy Schillo°

Asst. Director
Diana Coates°

Asst. Lighting Design
Ricky Harbecke°

Stage Manager
Colleen Layton, AEA

Asst. Stage Manager
Wallace Craig

First Folio Theatre is in residence at Mayslake Hall on the grounds of the Mayslake Peabody Estate, Oak Brook. The Estate is owned and operated by the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. This program is provided by First Folio Theatre, a not-for-profit organization.

The 2018–19 Season is Sponsored by Alan & Susan Becker

This program made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council (a state agency).

Additional Support Provided by the Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; The Saints; Hinsdale Bank & Trust.

Capacity-building support has been provided by the Arts & Business Council of Chicago.

Opening—March 30, 2019
**CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)**

Gaby ...........................................................................................................................................Melanie Loren
Patrick ........................................................................................................................................Steve O’Connell*
Leslie ........................................................................................................................................Carly McQuay
Jamal .........................................................................................................................................Samuel Campbell III

*Denotes a member of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.

°Denotes Artistic Associate

**UNDERSTUDIES**

Patrick—Chris Daley; Jamal—Robert Hunter Bry;
Gaby—Noelle Klyce; Leslie—Carly McQuay

There will be no intermission.

The use of cameras, videotape recorders, or audio recorders during this performance is strictly prohibited by copyright laws.

First Folio Theatre is a member of the League of Chicago Theaters and Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre. First Folio Theatre is a professional theatre employing members of the Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

**FIRST FOLIO PRODUCTION HISTORY**

*First Folio has received 6 Joseph Jefferson Awards, 39 Joseph Jefferson Nominations, and 2 After Dark Awards*

1997—The Tempest
1998—A Midsummer Night’s Dream
1999—The Taming of the Shrew
2000—Romeo and Juliet; Much Ado About Nothing
2001—Macbeth; As You Like It
2002—Antigone; Twelfth Night*
2003—The Comedy of Errors
2004—Hamlet; A Midsummer Night’s Dream ‡; Staged Reading Series (Indoor space premiere)
2005—The Importance of Being Earnest ‡; The Taming of the Shrew; A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court
2006—Private Lives ‡; The Tempest; The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe ‡
2007—Angel Street*; Richard III ‡; The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe
2008—Jeeves Intervenes ‡; Driving Miss Daisy ‡; Much Ado About Nothing (2 Jeff Nominations, 2 After Dark Awards); The Passion of Dracula
Give the Gift of a Lifetime!

Share your passion for First Folio Theatre with future generations and make us as strong and long-lasting as Mayslake Hall by designating a planned gift to the theater. Whether it is a bequest, trust, annuity or arrangement through your IRA, planned gifts of all sizes support First Folio’s long-term fiscal stability and reduce your taxable estate for federal tax purposes.

By partnering with First Folio, your generous gift will benefit the theater while First Folio’s advisers facilitate your contribution and handle all the administrative details. By working together, we can offer a variety of giving tools to help you achieve your charitable goals.

First Folio is able to receive a wide variety of assets including:

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To learn more about the Giving Opportunities, please contact Executive Director David Rice at (630) 986-8067 or Drice@firstfolio.org.

The Firestorm
FIRST FOLIO PRODUCTION HISTORY CONT.

2009—Design for Living; A Moon for the Misbegotten (Jeff Award); Macbeth; The Castle of Otranto
2010—Jeeves in Bloom ‡; Will Rogers: An American Original; Twelfth Night ‡; The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe
2011—Blithe Spirit ‡; The Woman in Black; Romeo and Juliet ‡; Tea at Five*
2012—Unnecessary Farce*; The Turn of the Screw (2 Jeff Awards); The Merchant of Venice; Shylock and His Daughter; The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe
2013—Jeeves Takes a Bow; Underneath the Lintel ‡; Cymbeline: A Folk Musical (2 Jeff Awards); The Rainmaker ‡
2014—Rough Crossing ‡; Salvage ‡; The Merry Wives of Windsor; The Gravedigger ‡
2015—Laughter on the 23rd Floor*; Love, Loss, and What I Wore*; The Winter’s Tale*; The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe‡
2016—Jeeves at Sea*; Fooling Buddha; A Midsummer Night’s Dream*; Dr. Seward’s Dracula
2017—Captain Blood‡; Silent Sky‡; As You Like It*; The Man-Beast
2018—Women in Jeopardy!; Mary’s Wedding (Jeff Award); Shrew’d!*; The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe
2019—All Childish Things*

*Jeff Recommended ‡Jeff Nominated

More information can be found at www.firstfolio.org

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Sunday, Jan. 27, 2019 • 3 pm
Classical Delights
Saturday, March 2, 2019 • 7 pm
Mahler Immersion!
Saturday, May 4, 2019 • 7 pm

Mayslake Chamber Series

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Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018 • 3 pm
Trumpet Glory: German Baroque
Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019 • 2:30pm
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Thursday, April 11, 2019 • 7:30pm

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CAST

SAMUEL CAMPBELL III (Jamal) is making his First Folio debut in The Firestorm. He has also been seen in Megastasis and as Dece in Force Continuum with Eclipse Theater Company; A Blue Island In A Red Sea with Collaboration Theater Company; as Brandon in Roomies 2 with Fearless Fiction Productions; and as Sean in ETD with Erasing the Distance theater company.

KAYLA KENNEDY (Leslie) is thrilled to be making her First Folio debut. Other Chicago credits include Memphis The Musical (Porchlight Music Theatre); Mamma Mia (Marriott Theatre); The Little Mermaid, Mamma Mia (Paramount Theatre); The Tin Woman, A Wonderful Life, Nice Work If You Can Get It, All Shook Up, Spamalot, Big Fish The Musical, Women On The Verge… (Theatre at the Center). She has also been seen on NBC’s Chicago Fire. Proud graduate of Ball State University. Represented by Gray Talent Group. Love to Michael and the family.

MELANIE LOREN (Gaby) is pleased to make her First Folio debut. Other theater credits include Little Shop of Horrors (Drury Lane Theatre) and leading roles in Pegasus Theatre Chicago's Shakin’ The Mess Outta Misery as Daughter (Black Theater Alliance Award, Jeff Award ensemble nomination), Open Door Repertory’s Clara as Clara and eta Creative Arts’ Out Loud as Eva (Black Theater Alliance Award nomination). Melanie toured with Canamac Productions’ The Defamation Experience (Atty. Allen) and has several film credits, including Undercover Brother 2, Heaven on Seven, and Call Center. She appeared in the television series Chicago Med, APB, and The Chi, as well. Melanie is grateful to God and to all involved with The Firestorm for this opportunity to share the stage and can be found on social media @iammellodrama.

STEVE O’CONNELL (Patrick) is happy to be working with First Folio for the first time. Other credits include The Wizard of Oz, Mamma Mia! (Paramount Theatre); This (Windy City Playhouse); An Issue Of Blood, (Victory Gardens); Dead Accounts (Jeff Award Nomination-Step Up Productions); Henry V, Shakespeare's Greatest Hits! (Chicago Shakespeare); Amadeus (Jeff Award Nomination, BoHo Theatre); Coriolanus (Jeff Award Nomination, The Hypocrites); Pygmalion (Stage Left, BoHo Theatre); as well as productions with About Face, Chicago Dramatists, Signal Ensemble and TimeLine, among others. Steve is also a company member with Erasing The Distance, a documentary theatre company that uses the power of performance to disarm stigma surrounding issues of mental health. Film: The Killing of Kenneth Chamberlain. Television: Empire (FOX); Chicago Med, Chicago PD, Chicago Fire (NBC); Betrayal (ABC); The Mob Doctor (FOX); Last Man Standing (Lifetime); and Low Winter Sun (AMC).

CHRIS DALEY (u/s Patrick) is working with First Folio for the first time. Recently, Chris appeared as Rubin Flood in The Dark at the Top of the Stairs (Eclipse Theatre). Other credits include Blind Date (Goodman); Airline Highway (Steppenwolf); Mozart in Amadeus (Oak Park Festival); The Glass Menagerie (Redtwist); American Hero (First Floor); as well as work with Northlight, About Face,
CAST cont.


ROBERT HUNTER BRY (u/s Jamal) is thrilled to be working with First Folio Theatre! Previous credits include Orsino in Twelfth Night (Midsommer Flight); Candida (ShawChicago); Julius Caesar, Love’s Labours Lost (Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre); and Hamlet, Twelfth Night, and Peter and the Starcatcher (Illinois Shakespeare Festival). Robert is a graduate of Illinois State University with a bachelor’s degree in Acting.

NOELLE KLYCE (u/s Gaby) holds an Acting BFA (‘18) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She recently played the titular role in The Giver (Improv Playhouse); Elsa in Rising Temperatures (Akvavit Theatre); Alice Dearth in Dear Brutus (Eclectic Full Contact Theatre); Camilla in The Winter’s Tale and Gadshill/Westmoreland in Henry VI, Part One (winner of the “Best Play (professional)” award of the 2018 BroadwayWorld Arkansas Awards) at Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre. At UIUC, she played Adlean in Barbecue, Judge Irwin in All the King’s Men, Nurse in Romeo and Juliet, and Mom in Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea, among other roles. She’s also worked with ETA Creative Arts Foundation, Bernard Productions, in the green show for Chicago Shakespeare Theatre in the Parks, and in Season 3 of NBC’s Chicago PD. This upcoming summer, Noelle will play Ursula in Much Ado About Nothing at Oak Park Festival Theatre. Philippians 4:8

CARLY MCQUAY (u/s Leslie) is proud to join her first production with First Folio in The Firestorm. Her other Chicago credits include A Long Trip (St. Sebastian Players); Shakespeare's Revisionist Histories (Shakespeare Allstars); and Iron Irene (Iron Women Productions). Outside of Chicago, Carly appeared in Henry V, Nevermore, God of Carnage, and The Mousetrap (Second Studio) as well as various productions at Southern Utah University where she received her BFA.
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**PRODUCTION STAFF**

**MERIDITH FRIEDMAN** (*Playwright*) is the recipient of a Dramatist Guild Writers Alliance Grant and a former Dramatist Guild fellow. She is also a National New Play Network affiliated artist and has participated in numerous NNPN programs and initiatives including the Playwright-in-Residence program, Rolling World Premieres, MFA Playwright’s workshop, Collaboration Fund, Commissions Program, and the National Showcase of New Plays. Meridith resides in Los Angeles and writes for television. An episode she co-wrote of NBC’s *Chicago Med* received a 2018 Sentinel Award from Hollywood Health & Society. Her work has received productions at Curious Theatre Company, Kitchen Dog Theater, Orlando Shakespeare Theater, LOCAL Theatre Company, Actor’s Theater of Charlotte, Stage Left Theatre, Chicago’s Theatre on the Lake, The Samuel French OOB Short Play Festival and The American Southwest Theatre Company at NMSU. Her work has also been developed and workshoped at The Kennedy Center, Chicago Dramatists, The Johnny Mercer Writers Colony at Goodspeed Musicals, Florida Repertory Theatre, The Ashland New Play Festival, Florida Studio Theatre, The NNPN National New Play Showcase, New Repertory Theatre, The Lark, Actor’s Express, The Greenhouse Theatre Center, The Abbey Theatre in Orlando and Capital Rep. Meridith was a Visiting Assistant Professor of Drama at Kenyon College from 2011-2012, and taught screenwriting at Northwestern University while completing her graduate work there. She has also taught playwriting to talented high school and middle school dramatists at Interlochen Center for the Arts, Curious Theatre Company, and Westridge School for Girls. Her insights into playwriting are featured in the newly released textbook *The Essentials of Theater*.

**RACHEL LAMBERT** (*Director*) is a Chicago based director and designer. She is excited to be working with First Folio again, having previously directed *Love, Loss and What I Wore* and designed numerous shows for them over the years. Other directing credits include *Natural Affection* and *Beyond Therapy* for Eclipse Theatre Company and multiple productions at Purdue University where she received her MFA in design and directing. She is grateful to Melanie and David for entrusting her with this wonderful play.

**DAVID RICE** (*Executive Artistic Director*) is Co-Founder (with his late wife Alison C. Vesely) of First Folio Theatre, where he has produced over 70 productions which have earned 39 Jeff Nominations and 6 Jeff Awards. He is also a playwright specializing in adaptations, whose works include *Shrew’d!, Captain Blood, Cymbeline: A Musical Folk Tale* (Jeff Awards – Original Adaptation and Original Music), *The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe: A Love Story* (Jeff Nomination – Original Adaptation), *The Castle of Otranto*, and Dean Monti’s *Why Dogs Don’t Talk*. Onstage at First Folio he has been seen as Sandor Turai in *Rough Crossing*, H.C. Curry in *The Rainmaker*, and Knuckles McCann in *Jeeves Takes a Bow*, amongst others. David has worked at numerous Chicago theaters in the last four decades, including the Paramount, Marriott’s Lincolnshire, Briar Street, and Candlelight. Trivia lovers may be interested to know that David was a four-time winner on *Jeopardy*! David is a proud member of both the Dramatists Guild and Actors Equity Association.

**MELANIE KELLER** has directed *All Childish Things, Mary’s Wedding, Silent Sky* and *The Amish Project* at First Folio. As an actor, Melanie has appeared in more than a dozen productions at First Folio, including *The Turn of the Screw, Salvage* and *Blithe Spirit*. As a member of Signal Ensemble, she directed *The Drowning Girls*. Acting
credits with Signal include *East of Berlin* and *The Russian Play* (Jeff Award for Best Actress), *The Weir* (Jeff Nomination for Best Supporting Actress), and *Much Ado About Nothing*. Additional acting credits include productions at Peninsula Players, Oak Park Festival, The Goodman, Northlight, Chicago Shakespeare, Shakespeare Project of Chicago, Artists’ Ensemble, Strawdog, seasons at the Stratford Festival of Canada, Lakeside Shakespeare and the Michigan Shakespeare Festival. She appeared on “Chicago Fire” and in the short film *UberEx*. Other directing credits include projects with Irish Theatre of Chicago, Fraud and Phony, WildClaw and Chicago Dramatists. Upcoming: acting in *Sex with Strangers* at the Waterfront Playhouse in Key West, Florida, appearing in an upcoming episode of “Chicago Med” and directing *Much Ado About Nothing* for the Oak Park Festival this summer.

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**DIANA COATES (Asst. Director)** is beyond thrilled to be working with First Folio Theatre on The Firestorm. A new artistic associate, she played Paulina in First Folio’s production of *The Winter’s Tale*. She most recently collaborated with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra on Prokoviev’s *Cinderella* and the Michigan Shakespeare Festival in *Measure for Measure, The Tempest*, and *The Rover*. Diana has had the opportunity to tell stories with a number of great companies in Chicago including Lifeline, Eclipse, Griffin, Victory Gardens, and Northlight. Television Credits include *Chicago Fire* and most recently *Chicago Med*. She is a proud member of SAG/AFTRA. “Forever and always, thanks mom!”

**CHRISTOPHER KRIZ (Original Music and Sound Design)** is an award winning composer and sound designer based in Chicago, and is an Artistic Associate at First Folio. Winner of 4 Joseph Jefferson Awards with a total of 18 nominations, Kriz’s recent First Folio designs include *Mary’s Wedding* (Jeff Award), *Silent Sky*, *The Madness of Edgar Allen Poe*, as well as composing the score for the new musical *Shrew’d*. Chicago: Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf, Chicago Shakespeare, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Remy Bumppo, Victory Gardens, Timeline, The Gift Theatre, American Blues, and dozens of others. Regional: Seattle Repertory Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, and many summer seasons at Peninsula Players. Kriz is a proud member of United Scenic Artists 829. To hear more of his work, please visit christopherkriz.com

**RICKY HARBECKE (Asst. Lighting Designer)** is honored to be working as assistant Lighting Designer with Angie on *The Firestorm*. In the past he has worked on lighting designs for *Searching for Peabody’s Tomb* (DuPage County Forest Preserve Department in Association with First Folio Theatre 2011 & 2013), First Folio’s Dark Night shows *Chapatti* (2019), *Churchill* (2018), & *Amish Project* (2016), and Westmont Park District’s PVPN productions of *One Flew Over The Cuckoo’s Nest* (2016), *Barefoot In the Park* (2016), *Inherit the Wind* (2016), *Laramie...
Project (2015), On Golden Pond (2013), Back To The 80’s (2012) & The Guys (2011). He has also done event lighting designs for Grace Lutheran Church of LaGrange, First Congregational Church of Western Springs, Cossitt Elementary School, & Events/Rentals at LTHS’s Reber Center (2007-2008). Other work has included Overhire Electrician for Governor State University Off Broadway Traveling Shows, and Electrician American Blues Theater. He is proud to be an Artistic Associate and working on his 10th season at First Folio and is looking forward to working with FF on the rest of the current season. He was honored to work this past fall with all the fabulous volunteers that helped FF reorganize their prop storage and looks forward to working with them again in the future.

ANGELA WEBER MILLER (Scenic & Lighting Designer) has earned seven Jeff Nominations for her designs of First Folio productions: Mary's Wedding, Captain Blood, The Gravedigger, Salvage, Rough Crossing, Jeeves in Bloom, and A Moon for the Misbegotten. Other shows she has designed here include All Childish Things, Shrew’d!, Women in Jeopardy!, The Man-Beast, As You Like It, Silent Sky, Dr. Seward's Dracula, Midsummer Night’s Dream, Fooling Buddha, Jeeves at Sea, multiple visits with Edgar Allan Poe, The Winter’s Tale, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, The Merry Wives of Windsor, The Rainmaker, Cymbeline, Jeeves Takes a Bow, The Merchant of Venice, Tea at Five, Romeo and Juliet, The Woman in Black, Blithe Spirit, Twelfth Night, The Castle of Otranto, and Macbeth. She recently designed The Heavens are Hung in Black at Shattered Globe Theatre. Other work includes The Bar Show for the Chicago Bar Association; Spamalot, On Golden Pond, A Christmas Memory, Ring of Fire (later remounted at the Mercury Theatre), Godspell, What a Glorious Feeling, Making God Laugh, Jolson and Co., Over the River and Through the Woods and Gigi at Theatre at the Center; My Manana Come at Teatro Vista; Cabaret, Rose Marie, and Yeoman of the Guard at Light Opera Works; Seascape at Remy Bumpmo (Jeff Award); A Class Act at Porchlight Music Theatre; and Route 66 at Paramount. She has designed at a number of other Chicago area theatres and worked for several years at Chicago Scenic Studios as a designer of “corporate” theatre. Angie is a proud member of United Scenic Artists. www.angiewebermiller.com

STEPHANIE NGUYEN (Costume Designer) is proud to join First Folio for the first time in her career for The Firestorm. She designed the Wilmette Center for the Arts’ 2018 production of Footloose. Outside of Chicago, Stephanie has designed costumes for Vietgone (East West Players); Infinity (Storefront Theatre of Indianapolis); The Sins of Sor Juana, Cabaret, Crimes of the Heart, and The Liar at Purdue University.

CASSY SCHILLO (Props Designer) is thrilled to be rejoining First Folio once more! She is a designer, actor combatant and director in the Midwest. Since graduating with a theatrical BFA from UW Whitewater, she has studied at Tisch in New York, taken classes at the Winter Wonderland Workshop as well as with the two crazy blondes in Chicago. Cassy has worked in various theaters including Light Opera Works, Red Tape, Chicago Fusion theater, (re)discovre theatre, Stage Left, BoHo, Roosevelt University, Northwestern Opera, Marriott at Lincolnshire, Theatre at the Center, Remy Bummpo, Windy City Playhouse, First Folio, Drury Lane, Porchlight, Piccolo, Mammals, Sideshow Theater, Milwaukee Chamber & Florentine Opera. She is a proud artistic associate of BoHo as well as First Folio and was recently nominated for Jeff Awards for her properties designs on FF’s Salvage and DL’s Deathtrap.
The Firestorm

PRODUCTION STAFF CONT.

**COLLEEN LAYTON** *(Stage Manager)* is excited to return to First Folio, where she previously stage managed *All Childish Things*, *Mary’s Wedding* and served as dramaturg on *Silent Sky*. Other Chicago area credits include *Miracle on 34th Street* (Theatre at the Center), *You Can’t Take It With You* and *The Amish Project* (Oak Park Festival), and *Spamilton* (Forbidden Broadway). Outside of Chicago, Colleen stage managed *She Persisted* (Drama League). Colleen is a proud member of Actor’s Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.

**WALLACE CRAIG** *(Asst. Stage Manager)* is a recent graduate from The University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where she earned a BFA in Stage Management. Wallace is excited to join First Folio Theatre for a third time! Previous productions include *A Dickens Carol* (Oak Park Festival Theatre), *All Childish Things* and *The Madness of Edgar Allen Poe* (First Folio Theatre), African Company Presents *Richard III* (Oak Park Festival Theatre), *The Magic Flute* (Cincinnati Opera), *Peter Pan, Love & Information* (CCM), and *Mary Poppins JR* (CCM Prep).

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATES UPDATE

**LYDIA BERGER GRAY** was last seen at First Folio as Jo in *Women in Jeopardy!* She just finished performing with her husband, Christian Gray, at ShawChicago in *Arms and the Man* this February and can be seen here this summer in *Henry V*.

**HEATHER CHRISLER** was just onstage in *Twilight Bowl* at The Goodman. Her adaptation of *Little Women* will be part of First Folio’s 2019–2020 Season.

**DIANA COATES**—See Staff Biography

**AMY CREUZIGER** is currently designing and directing shows for Rochelle Township High School.

**KATE DANZIGER** is keeping busy as First Folio’s Managing Director and mom to a very active toddler. She and her husband are also excited to be expecting baby #2 this summer.

**JOE FOUST** can seen in his solo performance at American Blues of *The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey*. This summer he will be acting and directing at Peninsula Players.

**MICHAEL F. GOLDBERG** most recently designed movement and cheap theatrics for First Folio’s latest production of *The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe*.

**CHRISTIAN GRAY** recently played Poe in *The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe* and Serious Saranoff in *Arms and the Man* at ShawChicago. He will next play George Bernard Shaw in the one man show *By George* at ShawChicago, and will be back at First Folio next season for one more outing as the hapless Bertie Wooster!

**RICKY HARBECKE**—See Staff Biography

**ELSA HILTNER** is busy with her family and with designing projects for her other home company, Collaboraction, including their recent *Peacebook*.

**SHELLEY STRASSER HOLLAND** is working her day job but has still found time to stay busy in the theatre. She recently designed scenery for *Almost, Maine* and teaches stagecraft for Governors State University.
ARTISTIC ASSOCIATES UPDATE cont.

WENDY A. HUBER just finished Co-Prop Designing Anna Karenina with the Joffrey Ballet, and is looking forward to Queen of the Mist with Firebrand Theatre this spring.

CHRISTOPHER JENSEN was Tech Director for this last summer’s production of Shrew’d! He is busy raising his kids with his wife Cindy and running the technical theater program at West Chicago H.S.

MICHAEL KEEFE has been playing keyboards for shows such as Beautiful, at the Cadillac Palace Theatre amongst other gigs for Broadway in Chicago.

MELANIE KELLER—See Staff Biography

CHRISTOPHER KRIZ—See Staff Biography

RACHEL LAMBERT—See Staff Biography

KEVIN MCKILLIP just spent the summer cavorting on the stage of the Illinois Shakespeare Festival in Bloomington.

MICHAEL MCNAMARA continues work to revise his co-authored book Designing With Light for an anticipated release in Fall, 2019.

ANGELA WEBER MILLER—See Staff Biography

HAYLEY L. RICE recently became Artistic Director at Babes With Blades Theatre Company, and she is thrilled about their upcoming production of Othello. You can find out more information at BabesWithBlades.org. She’ll next be with her First Folio Family in the summer of 2019, when she directs Henry V. You can find out more about Hayley and all her upcoming projects at HayleyRice.com

RENÉ RUELAS has just finished his fourth major motion picture and looks forward to renting another one soon.

NICK SANDYS recently directed Strauss’ Elektra at Lyric Opera. He appeared this fall as The Creature and Victor in alternating performances of Remy Bumppo’s sold-out run of Frankenstein at Theater Wit. He also choreographed swords and sledgehammers for Lyric Opera’s remount of Il Trovatore and recorded two more audiobooks, Olivia Hawker’s The Ragged Edge Of Night and Sir Ian Kershaw’s Hitler, The Germans, and The Final Solution.

CASSY SCHILLO—See Staff Biography

SKYLER SCHREMPP is currently working on Uncle Vanya with One Year Chekhov as well as finishing her MFA with the Vermont College of Fine Art. She looks forward to directing The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe at Oak Park Festival Theatre this fall!

SARAH WEST most recently Stage Managed First Folio’s latest production of The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe.

JOSEPH ZETTELMAIER is excitedly watching his play The Gravedigger make its Florida debut, where it will then be turned into an independent film! His newest play New Releases will be premiering at Williamston Theatre as well, while he finishes up the semester at Eastern Michigan University.
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