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JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH - OPENING NIGHT MAY 31, 2025



Theatre in the Park OUTDOOR 7710 Renner Road, Shawnee, KS 66219 A proud program of Johnson County Park & Recreation District Tim Bair, Producing Artistic Director | Guy Gardner, Associate Artistic Director



Words and Music by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul

Book by Timothy Allen McDonald

Based on the book James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl

starring

Theresa Chambers • Lindsay Day • Mary-Kate Griffin • Liv Hollan Tristan Jacobson • Cody Kreutzer • Jasmine Mercedee' Lowe • Maxwell McIntire Wyatt Moon • Raleigh Peterson • Luke Pyron • Katelynn Quick • Gavin Ruder Paul Ruf • Ben Sissel • Austin Skibbie • Kayleen Spear A.J. Valle • Emily Vargo

Scenic	Designer
Lindsay	Webster

Costume Designer **Shannon Regnier**

Lighting Designer Josh Taylor

Sound D	Designer
Brady	Rose

Hair & Makeup Designer

Props Designer

Puppet Design & Creation

John Hollan

Lacey Pacheco

Ryan Bell

Production Stage Manager

Assistant Stage Managers

Marlee Bell

Mary Riegg Caity Nelson Hair & Makeup Supervisor Chan Ulledahl

Associate Artistic Director **Guy Gardner**

Production Manager Sarah Saugier

Technical Director **David Powell**

Music Director Marsha Canaday

Choreographer **Alex Gumminger**

Associate Director **Zane Champie**

Directed by **Tim Bair**

Orchestrations by August Eriksmoen. | Incidental music by David Weinstein. Originally Produced at Seattle Children's Theatre under the direction of Linda Hartzell.



CAST

in order of appearance

Ladahlord	Maxwell McIntyre
James	Luke Pyron
Spiker	
Sponge	Liv Hollan
Spider	Mary-Kate Griffin
Grasshopper	Austin Skibbie
Centipede	Cody Kreutzer
Ladybug	Jasmine Lowe
Earthworm	A.J. Valle

Ensemble

Theresa Chambers Lindsay Day Tristan Jacobson Wyatt Moon Raleigh Peterson Katelynn Quick Gavin Ruder Paul Ruf Benjamin Sissel Kayleen Spear

The ensemble plays a mélange of: Crowd Members, Reporters, Vagrants, Garden Guild Members, Bobby-Cops, Hollywood Agents, Seagulls, Sharks, Singing Fish, and New Yorkers.

Orchestra

Conductor & Keyboard - Marsha Canaday

Bass: Frank Annecchini | Cello: Laura Hoesly | Drums: Tommylee Blackburn Guitar: Kevin Haney, Mark Fenton | Horn I: Xavier Muñoz Ceballos Percussion: Clayton Anderson | Reed I: Kaytee Dietrich | Reed II: Joe Gall | Reed III: James Barton Trombone I: Lee Finch | Trombone II: Chris Blair

Trumpet I: Scott Stevens | Trumpet II: Dan Graham | Viola: Emily Winterburg Violin I: Kim Ico | Violin II: Takashi Watanabe

SCENES

Location: Somewhere near London, England, in the Atlantic ocean, in the skies, and NYC!

Musical Numbers

ACT I

Overture	Orchestra	
Right Before Your Eyes	Ladahlord, All	
On Your Way Home	James	
Property of Spiker & Sponge	Spiker, Sponge & Ensemble	
Shake It Up	Ladahlord, James, Insects & Ensemble	
Money On That Tree	Spiker, Sponge & Ensemble	
Middle Of A Moment	James	
Floating Along	Grasshopper, James and Insects	
ACT 2		
Entr'acte	Orchestra	
Have You Even Begun to Wonder	Spider, Centipede, James & Insects	
A Getaway For Spiker and Sponge	Spiker, Sponge & Ensemble	
Everywhere That You Are	Ladybug, Grasshopper, Spider, Earthworm	
I Got You	Spiker, Sponge & Ensemble	
Plump and Juicy	Earthworm, James & Insects	
Welcome Home	Everybodyl	

There will be one 15 minute intermission.

Who's Who in the Cast

Theresa Chambers (Ensemble) is excited to be back at TIP this summer! She obtained her Bachelors in Theatre Studies from NWU, and has enjoyed pursuing a career in performance, directing, and teaching. Theresa would like to thank her family for their unwavering support and love!

Lindsay Day (Ensemble) is excited to be back outside at Theatre in the Park! She loves musicals, romantasy novels, and her cats, Pumpkin and Pippin. When not performing in musicals, she enjoys traveling around the world with her loving husband Bob.

Mary-Kate Griffin (Spider) is a KC based actor, singer and dancer, all while pursuing dual Bachelor of Arts degrees in Music and Psychology at the University of Missouri - Kansas City. She is thrilled to be making her TIP debut with JATGP!

Liv Hollan (Sponge) is thrilled to return to the TIP stage! Last seen as Belle/Rapunzel (Disenchanted), she is excited to bring another character to life. Get ready to shake it up on this wild ride, cause we got you! Cheers! Tristan Jacobson (Ensemble) is very excited to be back at Theatre in the Park performing James and The Giant Peach! Thank you to the cast and crew for making the return to the park stage such a peachy experience! <3

Cody Kreutzer (Centipede) is so excited to be back at Theatre in the Park this Summer! Favorite Credits: IQ (Hairspray, The White Theatre), Mr. Mayor (Seussical, TIP), Marcellus Washburn (The Music Man, The White Theatre). "Much love to my family and friends for their support!"

Jasmine Mercedee' Lowe (Ladybug) enjoys performing when she isn't teaching high school science, singing at church, or cooking with family. She appeared, most recently as Yellow in Shout! The Mod Musical at Theatre in the Park Indoor. Jasmine is excited to be cast in her third show at TIP! Ladybug out!

Maxwell McIntire (Ladahlord) is thrilled to be returning to Theatre in the Park for his third season! His previous shows at the park include Anything Goes, Footloose, and Freaky Friday. He's excited for the opportunity to bring this iconic children's story to the stage!

Wyatt Moon (Ensemble) This is Wyatt's first show at Theatre in the Park. He can't wait to be a part of such an awesome organization.





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Wyatt has done theatre his whole life but never on a stage this big! We love TIP!!!

Raleigh Peterson (Ensemble) is stoked to make her onstage debut at Theatre in the Park. She was recently in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* at The White Theatre. Raleigh is grateful for the opportunity to continue performing. Have a peachy time!

Luke Pyron (James) is honored to be performing in James and the Giant Peach at TIP this summer. Luke enjoys dancing, singing, and making memories with friends. This is Luke's 4th production at Theatre in the Park. Luke wants to thank God for listening to his prayers, the Kansas City theatre community, and his family and friends for the endless support.

Katelynn Quick (Ensemble) feels quite peachy to be back at Theatre in the Park. Last seen in *Hairspray* and *Disenchanted*, she loves finding community and a creative outlet through theatre! Gratitude to the

JATGP team, her incredible family and friends, Delano Mendoza, and Dance Fit Flow! Have courage and be kind.

Gavin Ruder (Ensemble) is excited to be returning to the park Stage! Previous shows at the Theatre in the Park include, *Mamma Mia, Zombie Prom, Freaky Friday, Footloose*, and *Hello Dolly!* He would like to thank his friends and family for the support.

Paul Ruf (Ensemble) is an accounting student at KU with a minor in dance. Previous TIP credits include Hello, Dolly! and Meet Me in St. Louis. Recent credits include Ordinary Days at KU and On Your Feet! at Starlight. Enjoy the show!

Ben Sissel (Ensemble) is buzzing with excitement to make his Theatre in the Park debut! Past roles include the existentially confused Guildenstern (R&G Are Dead, TCR) and awkwardly charming Lucas Beineke (Addams Family, RCCP). Big thanks to the TIP team for this juicy adventure!



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Austin Skibbie (Grasshopper) (He/Him) is a local actor, director and theatre creative who is thrilled to be returning for another TIP summer. Austin most recently performed at Worlds of Fun in Haunted Homecoming. Thanks to Aly, Darrington, August, the West Family, his family, and amazing friends. Follow him on Instagram @AustinJSkibbie

Kayleen Spear (Ensemble) is thrilled to be in the cast of James and the Giant Peach. She has a BFA in Theatre from Drury University and currently works as a direct support professional for Job One. You may have last seen her in all three productions of Seussical with Theatre in the Park. She would like to thank her partner Sage for their endless amount of love and support.

A.J. Valle (Earthworm) is pumped to be back on the outdoor stage of TIP! Last seen as the Cat in the Hat in TIP's indoor *Seussical*. She would like to thank her amazing wife and all her friends and family and Tim, Zane, Alex and Guy for believing in her!

Emily Vargo (Spiker) is so grateful to be at one of her favorite places in the world! This is

the 14th (?) show that she has been involved in at Theatre in the Park. She was most recently on the other side of the table as director of *Bye Bye Birdie* last summer season. Thank you to Guy, Tim, and Zane for the opportunity and fun. "Enjoy the show!"

Who's Who in the Orchestra

Clayton Anderson (Percussion) is a

drummer and percussionist in the Kansas City Area. After graduating high school in spring of 2024, he has played in 6 different community theater shows including *Sister Act* at TIP last season!

Frank Annecchini (Bass) is excited to join this production of "James" for Theatre in the Park. He has played bass guitar and guitar for musical productions throughout the metro area for over 25 years. He sends love and thanks to his family.

James Barton (Reed 3) Studying Jazz at KCKCC. James has previously performed at places including The Ship, Gem Theater, and the Blue Room.



Tommylee Blackburn (Drums) is a Music Education student at UCM and has playing drums for most of their life. Tommylee is very excited to get to play with all of these great musicians! Outside of music Tommylee is also a father to a wonderful (almost) two year old.

Chris Blair (Trombone 2) a Chicagoland native, is twice graduated from Southern Methodist University, a member of the Kansas City Wind Symphony, the Moon City Big Band, and a participant in various other playing opportunities as they present themselves.

Kaytee Dietrich (Reed 1) Playing in musicals is Kaytee's passion. She has played in almost 215 shows, with around 58 of them at Theatre in the Park. Kaytee received a Bachelor's of Music in Flute Performance from KU. She also loves to read and play video games.

Lee Finch (Trombone 1) Old trombone player/actor. Done lots of shows in the metro area. Loving my family and their support.

Joe Gall (Reed 2) is an MU School of Music graduate, musical instrument repairman, and a fan of all things Jazz. Joe is happy to return to Theatre in the Park and would like to thank his family for their love and support.

Dan Graham (Trumpet 2) is playing his eleventh show at Theatre in the Park, of which seven have been children's musicals. He remembers how much his children enjoyed when he read James and the Giant Peach to them. So being a part of this show is special for him!

Kevin Haney (Guitar) has played guitar professionally for over 20 years. Kevin resides in Olathe with his wife and four kids. This will be Kevin's 7th show with TIP.

Laura Hoesly (Cello) is very excited and grateful for the opportunity to work with Theatre in the Park! Recent pits include Hairspray and The Music Man at The J. Laura is an student of Michael Mermagen at the UMKC Conservatory.

Kim Ico (Violin 1) is thrilled to return to TIP! Kim is an engineer at Burns & McDonnell and has a yarn-hoarding problem (Crochet all day!). All my love to my partner, Shelby and our fur babies: Kevin, Gordy, and Baboo.

Scott Stevens (Trumpet 1) A local business owner that retired from the Army NG as a musician. Scott love outlets like Theatre in the Park to continue to play. It's fun to be a part of and work with so many talented people.

Takashi Watanabe (Violin 2) Takashi "Tosh" Watanabe started violin at age 6. His mother made him practice - thank goodness! He has played in the community since 2002 - including *JGP*, his fourth production at Theatre in the Park. Hug your mother and enjoy the show.

Emily Winterburg (Viola) This being her 5th show with Theatr ein the Park, Emily is glad to be returning to the pit. Outside of TIP, she performs with the Topeka Symphony Orchestra and other local ensembles.

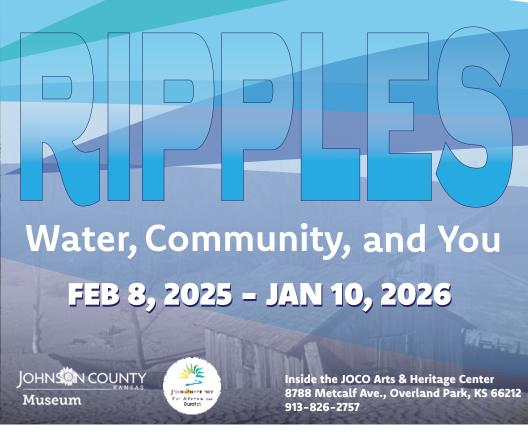
Who's Who on the Production Team

Tim Bair (Director) grew up in Kansas City, Kansas, and began his theatrical journey in the delightfully obscure holiday musical *Santa's Elf Saves Christmas*, playing the enthusiastic (and possibly one-time-only) role of Paddy the Pixie.

He went on to perform on the Theatre in the Park stage, where his passion for performance evolved into a love of production when he served as the choreographer for classic musicals such as *Oklahoma!* (still a favorite), *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, and *West Side Story*, marking the start of a lifelong career behind the scenes.

Tim's professional path soon led him around the globe, where he performed as a featured dancer and vocalist on a world cruise, eventually landing in New York City. There, he joined the European tours of 42nd Street and My One and Only (starring Disney legend Jodi Benson), and spent ten years performing with The Foot and Fiddle Dance Company, and performed regionally in shows including Fiddler on the Roof, Funny Girl, The Will Roger's Follies, and On The Town.

He also served as Artistic Director of the historic Millbrook Playhouse in Mill Hall, Pennsylvania — one of the country's oldest and original straw hat theatres.



Seeking warmer weather and new opportunities, Tim moved west to Phoenix, Arizona, directing and choreographing for regional theatres across the country. He later became Artistic Director of the American Musical Theatre of San Jose before returning to his hometown in 2010.

Today, Tim serves as the Producing Artistic Director of The Theatre in the Park, one of the largest outdoor community theatres in the United States, where he continues to nurture and celebrate the spirit of live performance in Kansas City.

Through his remarkable journey, Tim has come to believe that every note sung and every step taken in the performing arts has the power to ignite the human spirit. When we support these arts, we not only preserve the magic of the stage, but we uplift the artists, dreamers, and communities that create it. The performing arts have the power to awaken the human spirit, unite us across

boundaries, and inspire us to reach for what we never thought possible. So, embrace the arts in every way you can—they make life richer, fuller, and more beautiful.

Love to Alan and Sophie... my two favorite people in the world.

Marlee Bell (Stage Manager) is absolutely thrilled to be the Stage Manager for James and the Giant Peach! Previous Theatre in the Park credits include: Spamalot and Beauty & the Beast (2017), Descendants (2022), Anastasia, Sister Act, and Disenchanted (2024), and Steel Magnolias (2025). Marlee could not be more grateful or excited for this opportunity. Much love and thanks to Isaac, Savannah, family, and friends!

Marsha Canaday (Music Director/

Conductor/Accompanist) has been on a hiatus from outdoor Theatre in the Park for two years and was invited to be a part of this very special show. Thanks. Tim! Previously, she was involved for 20 years. She thinks

you will be amazed by the talented actors and musicians. She is grateful for all the staff support and as always, thanks her husband, Tom. Soli Deo Gloria

Zane Champie (Associate Director) is thrilled to be returning to TIP this summer! Previous credits include *Hairspray*, (Link, The White Theatre at The J), *The Little Mermaid* (Prince Eric, The White Theatre at The J), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Conrad Birdie, Theatre in the Park), and *Seussical* (Director, Theatre in the Park Indoor). He would like to thank his friends and

family for their continued support!

Alex Gumminger (Choreographer) is thankful to be a part of TIP's 2025 Season, making his solo choreographic debut at the park! Alex is a proud staff member of Nallia School of Dance, finishing out 45 years of dance excellence. He is a member of Dance Masters of America, and is opening his own studio — Limelight Academy of Performing Arts. Special thanks to his late grandmother, Marj Gumminger, and Kathi Nallia for supporting him at every step of his career.

John Hollan (Hair & Makeup Designer)
While formal training has placed him on stages as an actor, singer, or conductor,
John's guilty pleasure for more than a decade happens backstage, styling productions for live theatre. A self-taught designer, he finds particular joy in wig design/construction. He's designed shows in KC venues including TIP,
New Theatre & Restaurant, the White Theatre,
H&R Block City Stage/Union Station, Just Off Broadway, and Unicorn Theatre. He's been joyfully married to Melinda since 1990.

www.stagefaceandhair.com

Grant Martin (Wardrobe Supervisor) is thrilled to be back outdoors at Theatre in the Park! He has costumed several shows throughout the area his most recents were Bell Road Barn players production of Spitfire Grill or, TIP's productions of Bye Bye Birdie, Seussical, and Disenchanted. Grant has also recently stage managed productions of Steel Magnolias (TIP), Assassins (OCTA), and Shout! The Mod Musical (TIP). Grant would like to thank his friends, family, cast, crew, and production team for everything. Insta: @muscialgrant88

Caity Nelson (Asst. Stage Manager) is an alumnus of MidAmerica Nazarene University. Past productions include: Ocean O'Connell Rosenberg in *Ride the Cyclone*, Micah in *Magic Blueberry Pancakes*, and Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She is also a member of Locally Grown Improv Co.

Lacey Pacheco (Props Designer/

Coordinator) was a Production Stage Manager in the KC area, until shifting gears to props design post-pandemic. She has designed props for Kansas City Actors Theater [KCAT], The Coterie Theatre, TIP Indoor and Outdoor, The White Theater at The J, and The Arts Asylum. By day, she is an Events and Custom Fabrication Lead at A to Z Theatrical, helping to launch large and small scale productions and events for local and national projects.

Shannon Regnier (Costume Designer/

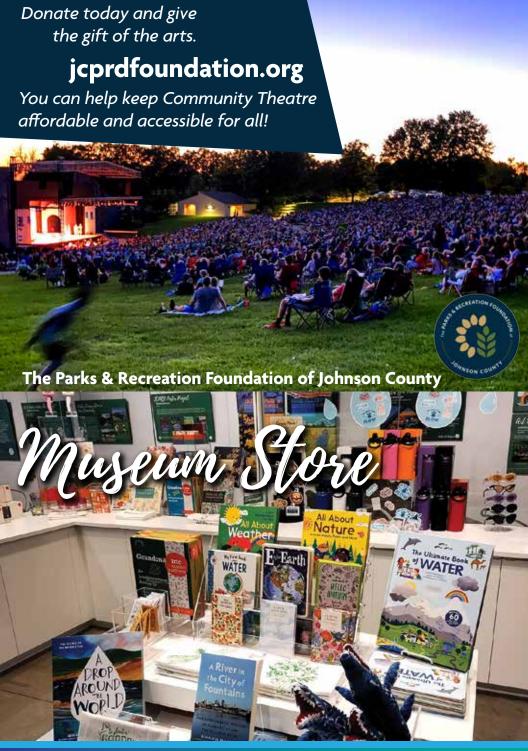
Coordinator) is thrilled to be back. She is a local KC designer who teaches costume design at Avila University. Theatre in the Park previous credit is *Crazy for You*. Local credits include MTH (*Carousel, Gypsy, Cabaret*), Spinning Tree (*Billy Elliot, Nance*), American Heartland Theater, and Music Theater of Wichita (9 to 5, Chorus Line, Wizard of Oz). Thanks to her kids Hayleigh, Sydney and Brayden, and her Husband Dennis who put up with my shenanigans so I can create all these wonderful characters.

Mary Riegg (Asst. Stage Manager) is thrilled to be joining such an incredible cast and crew to bring this beautiful story to life! In addition to Theatre in the Park, Mer works at various other theaters in the area and loves every second of it. As always- Mer is grateful to her hirning woods family for all of their endless love and support.

Brady Rose (Sound Designer) has been the resident Sound Designer for Theatre in the Park since 2021, designing all indoor shows and designing and mixing all outdoor shows. Some highlights of his TIP career include Footloose, The SpongeBob Musical, Newsies, and many others. While not working for TIP, Brady is an Audio Engineer and Production Manager for HMXLive, a unit of Harvest Productions.

Josh Taylor (Lighting Designer) moved

to Kansas City last summer to join UMKC Conservatory as Lighting Design Faculty. His TIP debut was *Steel Magnolias* in February. Career highlights include lighting jazz concerts at the Kennedy Center, programming Halloween at the White House, and serving





as Production Electrician for the MLB Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony at Glimmerglass Opera each summer.

Lindsay Webster (Scenic Designer) is thrilled to be back at TIP this summer! Previously at the Park she scenic designed Descendants, Freaky Friday, and Bye Bye Birdie. She holds an MFA in Scenography from the University of Kansas. Now based out of Cleveland, OH, Lindsay is the Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Performing Arts. You can check out her design portfolio at: www.lindsaywebsterdesign.com



SPECIAL THANKS

A to Z Theatrical



JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH - OPENING NIGHT MAY 31, 2025



Theatre in the Park OUTDOOR 7710 Renner Road, Shawnee, KS 66219

A proud program of Johnson County Park & Recreation District
Tim Bair, Producing Artistic Director | Guy Gardner, Associate Artistic Director

Who's Who at TIP & JCPRD

who's who at TIP & JCPRD		
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