

City High Middle Theater Presents:



Big Fish

BIG FISH School Edition

November 10 & 11 at 7:30 p.m.

November 12 at 2 p.m.

Book by JOHN AUGUST

Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA

Based on the novel by Daniel Wallace

and the Columbia Motion Picture written by John August



BIG FISH

Synopsis

Based on the celebrated novel by Daniel Wallace and the acclaimed film directed by Tim Burton, BIG FISH tells the story of Edward Bloom, a traveling salesman who lives life to its fullest...and then some! Edward's incredible, larger-than-life stories thrill everyone around him—most of all, his devoted wife Sandra. But their son Will, about to have a child of his own, is determined to find the truth behind his father's epic tales. Overflowing with heart and humor, BIG FISH is an extraordinary musical that reminds us why we love going to the theatre—for an experience that's richer, funnier and bigger than life itself.

Director's Note:

On the recommendation of my cousin, I looked up the musical Big Fish. Though I had never seen it, I was familiar with the movie. I was soon enchanted by the story that unfolded before me, full of delightful musical numbers, magical stories, and vibrant characters. I was hooked, if you will. After Into the Woods, I was looking for a musical that featured its ensemble and had a full pit orchestra, as we have dedicated pit musicians. I have not been disappointed. Big Fish has been a tremendous show to direct and produce. Full of challenges including how to portray so many different settings on the stage to how to costume 25 characters with countless costumes, the reward is watching the magic happen before my eyes. It is a wonder to watch as elements strewn about the garage and back stage come together with the creativity of our students to create magical sets. Or stay late to workshop a scene that is giving us trouble, only to discover it was right there, we just had to try something different. Though this kind of art can be full of trials and frustrations, what we discover while working together is that the joy is in the process – the discoveries, the new friendships, the extravagant generosity that surprises us just when we think we won't have what we need. The truth is, after a production, we have our own stories to tell. I told the cast and crew recently that my deepest desire is not to have a fabulous production. It's to have created a space where anyone can join in, be seen for who they are, feel welcomed, and create stories together that they will be able to tell someday. And as a result, the production is fabulous, I think you'll find. And I can honestly say that "I am a tycoon."

Thanks for coming to revel in the magic of the theater and celebrate the art of storytelling with us!

Jamie Bott

bottj@cityptsa.com



Big Fish PIT MUSICIANS



*Jorge Morales**



Jesse Bott



*James Hollister**



*John Dombroski**



*Merlot Petrella**



*Zoe DeWeerd**



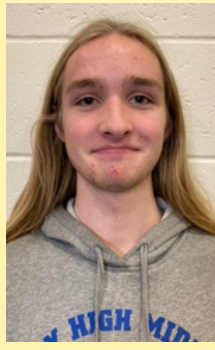
Sam Woller



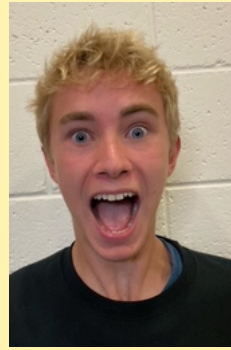
Nava Tabata



Lincoln Schnaare



*Caleb Oldenberg**



*Drew Portinga**



Ben Haan



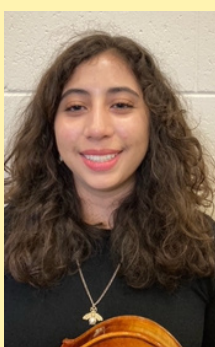
Jack Klein



Landon Fogerty



Andrew Wu



Abby Vasquez



*Miller Broughton**



*Keira Mei Harrell**



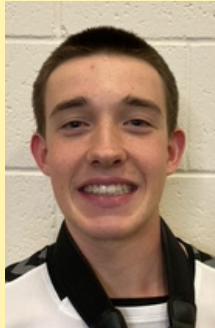
*Josiah Willink**



*Maya Wilson**



Phoebe Oldenberg



*Caleb Kaiser**



Tyree Tatum





A BIG FISH THANK YOU!



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of Music**
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Big Fish CREW



*Fiona Aeschlimann**



Eli Harwood-Soli



Nora Milanozski



Azriel Pharms



*Maura Hunt**



Brody Carpenter



Xavier Chidzikwe



Ash Gozard



Cece Hunt



Ineke Petroelje



Niko Huffaker



Abbie Kaiser



*Theo Stack**



Kate Wissner



*Alison Clark**



Emmy Redwine



*Makenna Beckett**



*Hadley Pyper**



Asa Edwards



Kyra Hoard



Alyssa Jonker



*Anna Blanchard**



*Grace Blanchard**



*Parker Joldersma**



Big Fish CREW



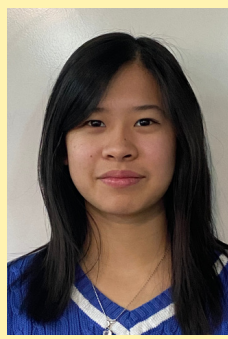
Jude DeWitt



Sophia Hill



Rosie Yeo



Sophia Chiang

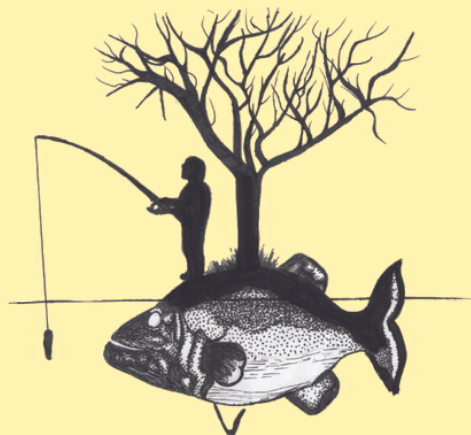


Henry Taylor



City High Middle
Theater Program

Sian VandeGevel



Big Fish



SHOUT - OUTS

Messages to the cast and crew from their friends and family

"Nadia, we love you and your goofy spirit! Can't wait to see you dance! Love, mom and dad

*"Getting to watch your progress in the theater program has been so fun!! We are super proud of you."
Love, Mom and Dad*

*"Kat, We are so proud of you for following your love of music and performing!"
Lots of love.....Papa and Mama*

Pit Crew: thanks for the amazing accompaniment, it really stitches the story together, the details are what make moments so much more--

Good luck, Eliza! WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU! Eva & Brooklyn

*"Way to go Eliza, Ingrid, Jesse, and Jamie Bott! What a wonderful investment of your many talents to join the rest of your talented theater community to provide such a fabulous evening of entertainment! We love you and are proud of you!"
Love, Nana and Papa*

"Claudia, we are so proud of you! Break a leg!" Love, Mom, Dad, Brianna, and Dominic

"You are a superstar! Keep shining bright! Love, aunt amy"

Naira and Ingrid, your tapping is fabulous icing on RWT!

"Good luck Eliot and Emmy!! Can't wait to see the show!"

The big play is on its way; and Gwen would say, "I'll make the day." And if we may, we'd not say nay. We'd bet our pay on success today. To our ray of sunshine, much love and best wishes—HEY AND HOORAY! Grandpa & Granny

"Claudia, it's been so much fun watching you on stage over the years! We love you so much!" Love, Grammy & Grandpa

*"Getting to watch your progress in the theater program has been so fun!! We are super proud of you."
Love, Mom and Dad*

Gwen, We are so proud of you. Keep up the great work. Love, Liam, Kate and Lil

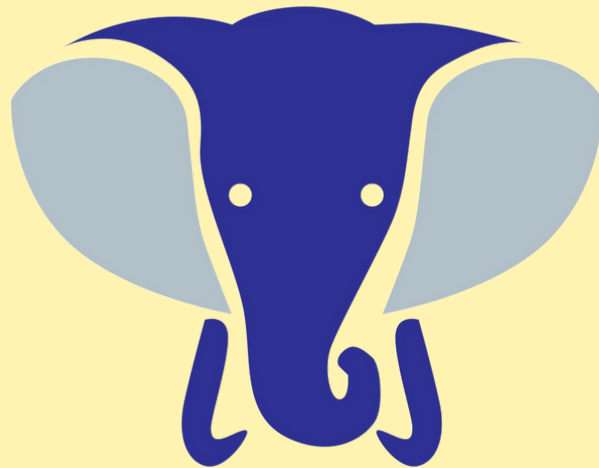
Ali, the show couldn't go on without you, Ali! Thanks for all you do!

Ensemble: you are killing it, thanks so much for all that you bring to our performance!



A BIG FISH THANK YOU!

Elephant AV plays an essential role in the lighting of our shows and the mentorship of our light and sound crews



Elephant AV

trusted sound, lights and visuals
for your events.



SHOUT - OUTS

Messages to the cast and crew from their friends and family

Gwen, there are some fish that cannot be caught. It's not that they are faster or stronger than other fish, they're just touched by something extra. You've got that something extra, and we're just lucky enough to see you shining from the shore! Aunt D and Uncle Tiki

Hadley, Makenna, Kyra and Ali - Congratulations on all your hard work backstage! This show couldn't happen without all of you! You may be hiding in the shadows, but we love you and appreciate all your efforts!

Class of 2024 (all 33 of you) - congratulations on a job well done! You will be missed next year! Enjoy your final musical at City!

Nizair, you are truly an amazing person and actor. Break a leg out there and keep shining.

Asa, your dedication to set design and construction is unparalleled! We love to see you excel at something you take such pride in doing and we admire your commitment to the show and to your cast and crew mates. Well done! Love, Dad & Mom

Gwen! We are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished during your time with the drama club! It's a joy to see you shine on stage and in life. Love you, little G!

We are so proud of you, Cohen! Keep up the good work and have fun! Love you! Grandpa and Momu

GEEG! You are so so so cool and I am so proud of you! I hope that this production is everything you could have hoped for and more. I love you bushels and can't wait to see you soon!!- Daisy, your big sister 🥰❤️🥰

Henry, Your mom and dad are so proud of you. All the backstage stuff holds the shows together. Thanks for joining the official crew this year! -Mom and Dad

Have a great show Kiera, Merlot and Makenna! Make some wonderful memories together!

Makenna - We're so excited to see your final production and so proud of all your hard work! Enjoy these moments! Mom and Dad

Abigail, you have worked so hard for this. Tech week has been stressful and you pulled through even when people weren't cooperating. I'm proud of you.

Cohen, congratulations on your first big role, you're doing so well. You've executed this so well and deserve this.

Congratulations Harper! You look so beautiful in your mermaid costume. You're slaying your last year at City. Go off girlie, and kill it in college.



A BIG FISH THANK YOU!



RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LENDER



SHOUT - OUTS

Messages to the cast and crew from their friends and family

Congratulations Sparsh. I still remember the summer before you were in 8th grade and you were Zeke in HSM. You slayed then, you slayed in SOM, slay the slay as Harold Hill, slayed the house boots down as Cinderella's prince, and you're slaying now as a lil circus puppy. Lick as much cheese as you want and slay even more in college. We'll miss you a lot.

Richard, you are such an amazing actor and an even better person. Good luck in college and become the best engineer the world has ever seen. Love you Ricky.

Niko. You're awesomely Niko. Keep being Niko forever, never stop, always slay. Always be awesome at gossip & costumes

Eliza, you worked your tail off to prepare for this show, from the audition all the way to production week. You have always given everything you've got, and this production is no different! Ingrid, we are so proud of how committed you are to dance and that you're willing to use your gifts in the theater as well. It is a delight to watch you tap your heart out. Jesse, your musical skills continue to amaze us. We hope pit is a great experience for you! What a privilege to have all of you in one production. We are so proud of all of you and are your BIGGEST fans! Love Mom, Dad, and Matty

Laetitia- you're so funny and hardworking. Your jester costume is HILARIOUS!!! Please do theater next year.

Sparsh- Keep eating straight cheese. In fact, eat more straight cheese. Eat all the cheese Sparsh. Do it. I triple dog dare you.

Mrs.Kirkbride, You deserve a million awards for your hard work. You amaze me every year. Never stop helping! :)

Cece, you are a girlboss. (insert loving paragraph here <3) -Cohen

Kate, you are the best at mic tape, if you keep learning you will be the queen of backstage

Aurora, I would not have been able to make it through that first audition without you. You are very encouraging and amazing! You were an amazing doctor 🍷👏

Lena, my queen, I adore you! I am so glad you are forever my theater BFF, life is so much brighter with you. You are the BIGGEST slay, forever and always. All my love, Gwendolyn

Eliot- you are so good at your roles its like you were made for them

Ben- You make a lovely barber

Cohen- I can feel the passion in your acting you are doing a great job



A BIG FISH THANK YOU!

An illustration in the top left corner shows a fish jumping out of the water, with several stars floating above it. The background of the top section is a gradient from light blue to a darker blue.

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CPAs & Business Advisors

MODERN
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The logo for Modern Hardware features a stylized blue house icon with a large 'M' inside, followed by the word 'MODERN' in large, bold, black capital letters, and 'HARDWARE' in smaller, black capital letters below it.



SHOUT - OUTS

Messages to the cast and crew from their friends and family

Eliza, I will forever cherish all of the on stage comedic relief moments we have shared. I have LOVED every minute. What a perfect way to go out, as we started, together. ALL MY LOVE, Gwen

BP, the work you have done for this show is SO evident. All of the late nights brainstorming, writing posts, and making creative solutions to problems no one else could solve. You are the most amazing person I know! You bring magic to every show you are a part of, you have an eye like no other. Thank you for all you do for all of us. YOU ARE SO AMAZING. You are the best mom EVER. XOXOXOXO, Gwen

Makenna, Ali, Kyra, stage crew BFFs, You guys are superstars. Thanks for never failing to make me laugh. Love, Gwen

*Lena, your voice is absolutely amazing! YOU SLAY GIRL!! <3
-Cohen*

Little Hen, Shout out!!!! Xoxo Gossip Girl

Gwen, from pick-a-little-ladies, to stepsisters, and now wives, these last three years have been amazing! I have loved being in shows with you! I love you so much! -Eliza

*Lena, oh my word. Words cannot describe you. Your talent is indescribable. You are amazing!
-Eliza*

*Matilyn, I love you. You are the best and I'm so glad we get to do this show together!
-Eliza*

Dearest Ingrid. You are the best sister anyone in the whole world could ask for. You are amazing and I'm so glad I get to do my final show with you. You are so talented. Break a leg! -Eliza

Gwen!! I love you so much, you actually kill this role! You never fail to make us laugh and have a good time, this has been such a wonderful time! Break a leg, you're going to absolutely smash it!- Lena

Eliza!! OMG, you literally are so amazing and absolutely kill it every time! You never fail to impress me with your voice acting, it's insane! You are so Amazing! Break all the legs!- Lena

Claudia!! Hey Queen, actually doing the best! Your doctor never fails! I'm so glad I've gotten to do this with you! Break a leg!! - Lena

Kyra Mae Anne Noelle, Ali, Makenna!! What can I say, there are too many words I love you all so much!-Lena

Sophia- YOU DO AMAZING THIS WHOLE SHOW YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE THE STAR!!!!!!!!!!

I couldn't be more proud of you all ! So grateful to work alongside such talented people <3 MrsK



A BIG FISH THANK YOU!



*City PTSA supports our
program in many ways,
and we are hugely grateful
to them!*





SHOUT - OUTS

Messages to the cast and crew from their friends and family

Asa, your ability to envision solutions and use materials to tell a story is amazing!

Mrs Bott, you are truly the hero of our story. Thank you so much for all that you give to this program!

Mrs Crane, your energy for creating and your solutions with your props team are tremendous! Flying fish literally the best!

Mrs D--your voice counting and encouraging and singing really is the foundation of the way that pit and cast merge. You are a queen--thanks so much for all that you do!

Tommy, Alyssa, Grace, Nora, Emmy: we would be in the dark without you! Thank you for your commitment

Kyra, Ali, Makenna and Hadley: you are simply the best! #dreamteam

Mrs. Beckett, your dedication to our students well being is just the best, we SO SO SO appreciated that you worked so hard on the food this week. And thank you to all of the parents who contributed to our meals!@

I could not be more proud of the set design/construction/finishing team, thank you all for working so hard!

A BIG FISH THANK YOU!

 CHRISTOPHERSON
ORTHODONTICS



Sparrows Coffee

A BIG FISH THANK YOU!

*Thank you to our student leads!
Their larger vision and commitment
makes our shows run smoothly
and look truly amazing!*



*Naiara Tamminga,
Choreographer*



*Asa Edwards,
Set Design Lead*



*Stage Manager SR, Makenna Beckett (top left),
Student Director, Kyra Hoard (top right),
Hadley Pyper Stage Manager SL (lower left),
Alison Clark, Student Director (lower right)*



*Tommy Jonker,
Light and Sound Lead*

A BIG FISH THANK YOU!



We are immensely grateful to our community partners:

Kingma's Market

Rozsters Coffee

Maia Byrnes

Susan Lichtenberg

Kevin Lehnert

Elizabeth Topliffe

Marian Visger

Jaymen VanDam/Orefice

Matt McKay



BREEN
FAMILY DENTISTRY



HULST JEPSEN
PHYSICAL THERAPY

A BIG FISH THANK YOU!



We are immensely grateful to our scholarship & program contributors:

*Kassandra Fox
Elizabeth Topliffe
Kathleen VandeGevel
Angela Schmidt
Elizabeth Bloem
Megan Kruis
Arun Rajgopal
Abby Vasquez
Andrea Hagenow
Jill & Scott Bolinder*



Thank you, Hannah!



deboer
VOICE STUDIO

A BIG FISH THANK YOU!



*We are so fortunate to receive many donations of time,
services, support, and elements that make our program shine,
thank you to who brought food, setup and cleanup meals, sold tickets
and flowers, ushered and did any number of jobs
to help this come together!*



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