

CAST



DELORIS VAN CARTIER
Charlette Chaney

Charlette Chaney is back home in Tucson ready to take on this exciting role! After traveling Southeast Asia and the Middle East, singing and performing various genres, she is ready to bring that energy home to you! Singing at a young age and being featured on the Gospel classic, "You've Been So Faithful" with the notable Eddie James, Charlette is bringing those skills to the theater stage! She wants to thank her family, "Them Darn Chaney's," and her bestie's family, Vanessa and The Nunez's, for their unwavering support!



MOTHER SUPERIOR
Lucy Kellett

Lucy (She/Her) is new to AET and is ecstatic to be a part of this production of Sister Act! In the past, she has played roles such as Luisa in *The Fantasticks*, Sissy in *Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean*, Jimmy Dean and Anna in *Harold Pinter's Old Times*. She is currently an active member of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra Chorus. She'd like to give special thanks to AET for selecting her to participate in the production and to her family (Phoebe and Joe) for supporting her throughout it.



SISTER MARY ROBERT
Christina Evans*

Christina is so excited to be a part of this show! Previous credits include *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hodel), *Side Show* (Snake Lady), *Xanadu* (Erato/Hera), *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (Shy), *The Addams Family* (Alice), *Shrek the Music* (Gingy), etc. Outside of performing, Christina is a student at the University of Arizona and works as a taekwondo instructor. She wants to thank her family and friends for all their support!





Tess Lowrie
Sister Mary Patrick

Tess is thrilled to be making her return to Arts Express Theatre. She has previously portrayed a member of the Truman Squad as well as Campbell Understudy in Arts Express' production of "Bring it On," and had the opportunity to portray Ramona Quimby in "Ramona Quimby" with Sabino High School. Tess has been performing since she was three months old, and has enjoyed continuing her acting career into adulthood. After spending two years living and working at the Walt Disney World resort in Orlando, Florida and performing alongside figures such as Brendan Fraser and Josh Gad, Tess has made her return to Tucson to continue pursuing a Bachelor's degree in elementary education, and she hopes to implement performance and creativity in her future classroom.



Amy Williams*
Sister Mary Lazarus (U/S Mother Superior)

Amy Williams is excited to perform again this season for Arts Express. She sang in the chorus of the Arizona Opera Company for 23 seasons and then switched from opera to musical theater. With Arts Express Theatre, she has performed many roles she loved including her first, Mrs. Fezziwig in A Christmas Carol, Martha Watson in White Christmas, Ida Strauss in Titanic, Deb in Elf, Dowager Empress in Anastasia, Miss Andrews in Mary Poppins, Roz Keith in 9 to 5 and Yente in Fiddler on the Roof. She works at the Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine as the Manager of Admissions. She lives in Tucson with her husband, Tai and her cats Noodle and Emma Mae. Say her cat's name again and you might figure out a sport that she enjoys watching with her husband.



Ronnie LaCaria
Monsignor O'Hara

This is Ronnie's first production at AET and he's very excited to be with us! Ronnie was born in Tucson but raised in Southern California. He attended college at OCC and UCI, majoring in Theater Arts and TV/Radio communications. His last musical theater production was a number of years ago and he's anxious to trod the boards again, after many years of film work. His last performance was as Pilate in JC Superstar in Los Angeles. Returning to Tucson to look after his mom, Ronnie decided to stay and started working at Old Tucson Studios as a stunt performer/actor. After his mom passed, Ronnie went back to L.A. and worked some more but returned in 2010. He still works with Old Tucson and continues to play guitar at various venues as well as recording and video production work.



Jacob Litt
Curtis

Jacob is thankful for another opportunity to be part of the AET community in Sister Act. You may have seen him last season as The Boss in Side Show and Cogsworth in Beauty and the Beast. Jacob is originally from Connecticut, where some favorite past roles include Amos in Chicago and Nicely Nicely in Guys and Dolls. Jacob is an OMA Music Teacher in TUSD, and loves getting his elementary students ecstatic about the arts. When he's not teaching or performing, Jacob loves playing board games and video games, and snuggling with his pet bunny Bruno. Jacob would like to thank his partner Adriana for everything she does, and his family in Connecticut for always supporting him from afar.



JR Gillie*
Eddie

JR has hit the ground running into the world of theater after an amazing first season at Arts Express! You may have seen JR as Jake in SIDE SHOW, Johnny Casino/Teen Angel in GREASE, or as a part of many of the shows of the **2024/2025** season. JR does not have any formal theater studies, but he has over a decade of experience in the performing arts. From Rocking with the troops while on deployment in Qatar, to All-Region Tenor Saxophone + Choir in his school days, even flying across the ring as a Professional Wrestler in the Carolinas. As always, JR dedicates his performances to his Grandma Bala.



Erik Rosenbaum
TJ

Erik is a **21**-year-old actor from Anthem, Arizona. He is very excited and honored to be making his Arts Express Theatre debut. Some of Erik's past roles include Bright Star (Daddy Cane), SpongeBob: The Musical (SpongeBob), and Be More Chill (Rich). Erik has been doing musical theatre since he was **10** years old. He is majoring in Live and Screened Performance with a minor in Communications at the University of Arizona. He thanks the cast and crew for being so welcoming and supportive. He also thanks his family and friends for their endless love and support.



Andrew Ayon*
Joey

Andrew Ayon (they/them) is delighted to return to Arts Express for the **2025-2026** season. A Tucson native, Andrew has performed professionally with a number of local companies including Arts Express (Side Show, Rock of Ages), and Arizona Rose Theatre (Lend Me a Tenor). Andrew's training includes opera performance at the Fred Fox School of Music, as well as experience in ballet and tap. Additionally, they currently dance with the Lajkonik Polish Folk Ensemble. Outside performing, Andrew is completing a Master's of Education in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. They are especially thankful for their spouse, Alison, for their steadfast support.



Kevin Orduño
Pablo

Honored to be back at AET, Kevin Orduño is an award-winning, multicultural, multilingual, multidisciplinary, and multi-hyphenate performer and creative professional with a passion for the power of story to impact and transform. He remains grateful to God, his family, his friends, and his loved ones for their love and support! Old Tucson Entertainment: Melting Frost (Atticus Clause - world premiere). Penguin Random House: Mexikid (Sal/Adam - SOVAS VAA Award for Best Voiceover). HCT: Cinderella (Prince Topher). SFCT: Trial of John Brown (Reverend James Gliddon). AET: Side Show (Buddy Foster). SAPAC: Forever Plaid, Plaid Tidings (Sparky - Regional Tour). (kevinorduno.com)



Tara Petersen*
Sister Mary Martin-of-Tours/U/S Tina/U/S Michelle

Tara is excited to play Sister Mary Martin of Tours in Sister Act! You may have seen her in AET's previous season in Beauty and the Beast (Babette), Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Apache Dancer), and Rock of Ages (Regina). Some of her favorite previous credits include White Christmas (Judy Haynes), Anastasia (Countess Lily), Young Frankenstein (Inga u/s performed), West Side Story (Velma), Carousel (Louise Bigelow), and A Chorus Line (Judy Turner). A Northern Arizona University College of Education graduate, Tara is a 5th grade teacher at Acacia Elementary School. She would like to thank her family for their never ending love and support.



Alicia Green
Sister Mary Theresa (U/S Sister Mary Lazarus)

Alicia Green is thrilled to be back onstage at AET after recently portraying Melpomene in Xanadu. Recent roles include Sister in Damn Yankees! at AET, Penelope Pennywise in Urinetown: The Musical at Theatre South Playhouse and Mabel in The Pajama Game at The Shedd Institute. Alicia has performed at regional theaters throughout the country including Syracuse Stage, The Powerhouse Theater at Vassar, and the Richmond Theatre for Children. Favorite roles include Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors, Jackie-O in The House of Yes and Lys in the world premiere musical, Ars Amandi. Special thanks to her family and much love to her many adopted *sisters.*



Marcela Santa Cruz
Michelle/Nun/U/S Sister Mary Patrick

Marcela is thrilled to bring this hilariously fun production of Sister Act to life! Get ready to be converted... to a theatre lover! You may have recently seen her portray fierce & sassy Pat in Kinky Boots (AET). Previous credits include Jekyll & Hyde (AET), Ragtime (AET), Catch Me If You Can (AET), The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas (AET), Lucky Stiff (Santa Cruz Shoestring Players), The Hunchback of Notre Dame (MTAA) & Yuletide (Old Tucson). Endless gratitude to her partner Salwa, her incredible family, and friends for their constant love & support—it truly means the world. Nun of this would be possible without them!



Jynx Zavala
Tina/Nun

Jynx Zavala is returning for another show at Arts Express! You might have seen her In Joseph as U/S Narrator/Ensemble, Bring It On as Skylar and Best Little Whorehouse In Texas as Ensemble. She also recently made her ATC debut November 2024 in Scrooge! Starring Shuler Hensley. Some other roles you might have seen her in is, Velma Kelly in Chicago , Noel Gruber in Ride The Cyclone and Queen of Hearts in Alice By Heart. She would like to thank her boyfriend and amazing parents for all their support. You can find her on instagram @ugotjynxed!



Tristan Alexander Fishman-Gibson
Ernie/ Drag Queen/ Ensemble/ Male Swing

Tristan is thrilled to be joining Arts Express for his very first season. Past credits/roles include Sweeney Todd in Sweeney Todd (Boise State University), Anatoly in Chess (Music Theatre of Idaho), Edna Turnblad in Hairspray (Music Theatre of Idaho), and Sebastian in R+H's Cinderella (Clinton Area Showboat Theatre). Tristan is originally from Nampa, Idaho and has lived in the Tucson area for 3 years now. Tristan holds a Masters of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre from San Diego State University Class of 2020, and is the Theatre/Stagecraft Teacher at Flowing Wells High School. "I am grateful to my mom who gave me my first lead role of Wacky the Ventriloquist Dummy in Annie, I haven't left the theatre since." Mr. Fishman-Gibson was also recently married to his best friend Anthony Fishman-Gibson.



Katie Barnett
Nun

Katie Barnett (Nun) is overjoyed to be making her debut at AET! Previous favorite roles include: Sis in Leaving Iowa, Mustardseed in Midsummer Dreamin', Stage Manager in Our Town, and Sally VanVillier in Any Number Can Die (ArizONI award nomination for Best Supporting Actress). Katie originally hails from Iowa, is a former speech-language pathologist, and is a recent graduate from law school at the University of Arizona. Many, many, many thanks to MC Pumpkins for his support in getting back into the habit of acting!



Carissa Corona
Nun

Carissa is thrilled to be a part of her first AET production, taking on the role of a spirited Nun! A proud winner of Oro Valley's Got Talent (2019), Tucson's Got Talent (2019), La Fuente's Mariachi Idol (2012), and finalist in the Tucson International Mariachi Conference's El Mariachi Canta Vocal Competition (2025), Carissa brings a rich background in vocal performance to the stage. By day, Carissa works as a Legal Assistant and she also serves as the Community Outreach Director for Kids Unlimited, where she shares her passion for the arts with youth in the community. Offstage, she's a proud mom of four and is supported by her loving fiancé. Carissa is grateful for the opportunity to share the joy of theatre with such a talented cast and crew and hopes you enjoy the show!



Natalie Dunnavant*
Nun

Natalie is thrilled to be a part of Sister Act! You may have seen her in Arts Express' last season as Chava in Fiddler on the Roof, or as a Silly Girl in Beauty and the Beast. Other credits include Amalia Balash in She Loves Me, and Ms. Fleming in Heathers the Musical. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of Arizona. She would like to thank Lissett & Doug Chambers, Amélie Poulain, Elizabeth Wells, and Lego batman.



Mika Gordon
Nun

Mika Gordon (he/they) is thrilled to be making his Arts Express debut with such a fun show! Mika is a performer and visual artist who has been acting for 13 years now, making a home for himself in community theatre spaces like Live Theatre Workshop, Pima Community College and many more. Some of his favourite past roles include Dracula in Dracula, Macbeth in Macbeth, George in The Wedding Singer, and Paul in The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals. Mika would like to thank his dog for always supporting his passion... plus the rest of his family too! Their love and support has helped him through all the fears that ever stood in his way.



Emma Mischel
Nun (U/S Sister Mary Robert/U/S Mary Martin of Tours/Female Swing)*

Tucson native Emma Mischel has been participating in the fine arts her whole life. She was in choir and band throughout most of her education and started doing theater in middle school. One of her proudest achievements was being selected as the first-chair soprano in the Arizona All-State Jazz Choir her senior year of high school. Sister Act is Emma's tenth show with Arts Express! She is beyond thrilled to be a part of such a nun-sensical show alongside this incredible cast and production team! Some of her favorite Arts Express credits include Side Show, Rock of Ages, Young Frankenstein, and Bandstand. Outside of Arts Express, Emma enjoys hiking, dancing, some light reading, crocheting, singing in the Helios Ensemble, and volunteering with her therapy dog, Violet. She would like to extend a huge thank you to her family, friends and anyone else who has supported her in any way! God bless!



Katie Popiel*
Nun

Katie is thrilled to be part of Sister Act, having been seen on the Arts Express Theatre stage in the **2024-2025** season in *Damn Yankees* (Doris), *Grease* (Jan), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Dance Captain/Ensemble), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Dance Captain/Ensemble) and *Kinky Boots* (Milan Stage Manager/Dance Captain/Ensemble). Her passions include choreographing clog dancing and musical theater routines, directing two clogging exhibition troupes, gardening, costuming, fostering kittens, and spending time with her husband, parents, and four rescue cats and one rescue dog. She is also the Box Office Manager and Volunteer Coordinator for AET. Contact her at katie@arts-express.org if you'd like to volunteer!



Minh Randolph-Solorzano
Nun

Minh brings over thirty years of experience as a versatile vocalist, performing across genres including classical, opera, jazz, sacred, rock, and pop. Passionate about music creation, she enjoys writing and recording original songs and collaborating with fellow artists. After a long hiatus from musical theatre, she returned to the stage in the spring of **2023** with a performance in *Ragtime*. She is thrilled to return to the stage once again and looks forward to performing in *Sister Act* with Arts Express. Minh holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance and Choral Conducting, a Post-Bachelor's in Elementary Education, and a Master's in Educational Leadership. She currently serves as both a church choir director and an elementary school principal, where she integrates her love of music and education to inspire and lead her community.



Samee Vanaskey
Nun

Samee is thrilled to be joining Arts Express once again for another amazing production! Samee is from Glendale, Arizona residing here in Tucson to attend the University of Arizona. Samee is about to graduate in May with a degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology, but her heart will forever lie in the arts. Samee has participated in productions all around the Phoenix area, but you may have recently seen her in AET's *Fiddler on the Roof*, *9 to 5*, *Damn Yankees*, and many more. Samee is so happy to have found a home away from home here in Tucson. She would like to thank the amazing cast, crew and production staff; she couldn't have done any of this without them. She would also like to thank her friends and family for their constant amount of support. Now sit back, relax and enjoy the show!



Jennifer Wortman
Nun

Jennifer is thrilled to be back performing with AE as a nun. Her last stage performance was Katie Nana/Chimney Sweep/Caroler in Mary Poppins. When not on stage, Jennifer teaches K-8 OMA/Music at Miles ELC and is the Chancel Choir director at Tanque Verde Lutheran Church. She is very thankful to her extended family, friends and students as well as her husband Greg and boys Grady and Alton.



Nico Alvarado*
Cab Driver/Ensemble

Nico is excited to be back at arts express in the **2025-2026** season. His past roles at Arts Express include Damn Yankees, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Asher), Beauty and the Beast and Side Show (Roustabout). He has also been in roles at PCCS Addams Family (Lucas) and Wedding Singer (Sammy). He is a music major wrapping up studies at PCC and loves to perform with all his heart. He'd like to thank his parents, family, Belina, Miah Stephen Norton, and his Dachshund Noli.



Noah Embry
Fantasy Dancer/Pool Player/Ensemble

This marks Noah Embry's eighth production with Arts Express Theatre, having recently been seen as Sonny Malone in Xanadu. Noah currently serves as the resident music director at Old Tucson Studios and teaches voice at Ensemble Music and Dance Academy. His past Arts Express credits include Something Rotten!, Rent, The Full Monty, and Bandstand. He thanks his acting coach, Aaron Cammack, his vocal coach, Chach Snook, and the entire cast and crew for their support and inspiration.