



26 PEBBLES

BY ERIC ULLOA

The Indian
River Theatre
Department
Presents

LOCKDOWN

BY DOUGLAS CRAVEN

Nov.

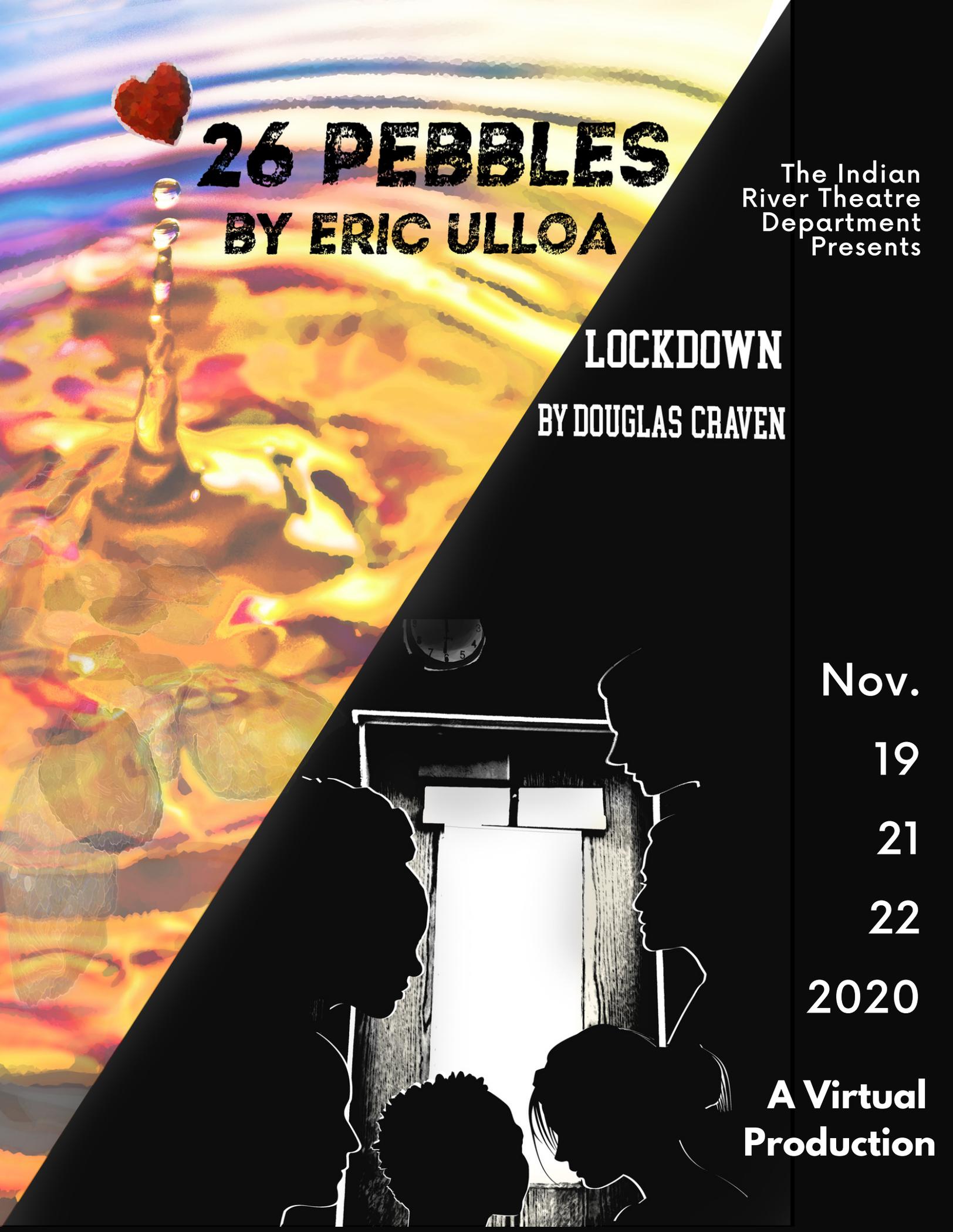
19

21

22

2020

A Virtual
Production



ORDER OF PERFORMANCE

LOCKDOWN approx. 30 minutes

TEN MINUTE INTERMISSION

26 PEBBLES approx. 1 hour 30 minutes

26 Pebbles by Eric Ulloa tells the true story of the response and recovery of a community after a tragic school shooting. On December 14, 2012, Adam Lanza walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School and killed twenty-six innocent souls before taking his own life. These twenty-six innocent deaths, like pebbles thrown into a pond, created ripples and vibrations that were felt far beyond the initial rings. This is the story of those vibrations.

Lockdown by Douglas Craven takes audiences into a modern day high school classroom during a lockdown drill scenario all too familiar to students and educators across North America. In a dark classroom, eight students sit in an "official lockdown," not knowing if it's just a drill or an actual emergency. When a hysterical younger student bolts from the room and the teacher follows, the remaining students are left alone to decide if it's safer to stay or run.

Rights for *Lockdown* are courtesy of Playscripts, Inc. *26 Pebbles* presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc www.concordtheatricals.com.

The Indian River Theatre Department is an award-winning High School theatrical program and student group who support many community endeavors while simultaneously engaging the surrounding region through theatrical arts and education opportunities. The program holds memberships with the Theatre Association of NY State and the Thespian Honor Society. This is the first full-length endeavor into virtual theatrical performance for the department. Under the direction of Kristie Fuller, students from the department will perform at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, as part of the American High School Theatre Festival, which has been postponed to 2021. They are still fundraising to finance their two-week adventure to Scotland and England. Donations are welcome and more information is available from Kristie L. Fuller at kristiefuller@ircsd.org.

26 PEBBLES CAST

Gwyn Henry	Actor 1
Emmett Young	Actor 2
T.J. LaCroix	Actor 3
Katie Hallett	Actor 4
Adrianna Weldon	Actor 5
Emma Taylor	Actor 6

LOCKDOWN CAST

Araya Cox	Sarah
Rachel Gydesen	Chelsea
Victoria Huffman	Eden
Jayla Johnson	Liz
Harley Neaves	Tyler
Alyssa Normington	9th Grader
Sarah Reis	Paula
Nilie Richardson	Ms. Morris
Tristia Thompson	Mrs. Karsh
Zach Winters	Mark

Please note that this performance utilizes strobe lighting effects, as well as sound effects of gun shots, alarm systems and explosions. It also contains representations of aggression, violence, death and abuse, as well as discussions and depictions of school shootings. The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director, *26 Pebbles*: Kristie Fuller

Director, *Lockdown*, Digital Operator and Programmer: Amanda Morrison

Stage Manager and Light Operator: Kristen Masek

Asst. Stage Manager: Owen Sherwood

Lighting, Sound and Prop Design: Rachael Robison

Asst. Sound Design: Emmett Young

Scenic Music and Sound Effects: Rachael Robison

Seamstress: Pattie Young

Marketing and Advertorial Design: Amanda Morrison

Vocal Direction: Shavon Lloyd

Prop Crew Lead and Asst. Prop Artisan: Londyn Murdock

Backstage & Props Crew: Kalib LaClair, Jahliyah Edwards, Alyssa Normington, Londyn Murdock, Zachary Winter, Araya Cox, Cameron Coe, Mason Monroe, Hazel Hernandez, Tristia Thompson, Jackson Henning, Zoe Soukey



Kristen Masek (Stage Manager) is a Senior this year. She has been crew for previous productions including Assistant Stage Manager for *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Deck Chief for *Mamma Mia!*, deck hand for *The Little Mermaid*, and played as an actress in *Who Will Carry the Word*. She has also been an understudy in previous shows.



Owen Sherwood (Asst. Stage Manager) is a Junior. Previously he worked for build and set crew for *Legally Blonde*, build and fly rail operator for *Peter and the Starcatcher*, and build and spotlight operator for *Mamma Mia!* Besides shows he has helped with several concerts and now looks forward to future productions.



Londyn Murdock (Asst. Props Manager) is a sophomore. She has previously been crew for *Peter and the Starcatcher*, and sort of *Legally Blonde*. She is a huge band geek. She is currently in the Indian River marching band, field band, jazz band, pep band, and wind ensemble. She is a percussionist so she basically loves hitting things with anything and everything.

Director's Note

On December 14, 2012, I was home from school with my 12 year daughter who was sick. After being up most of the night, we both were sound asleep at 9:30am. I woke up at 10:00 and turned on the TV and the footage of this tragedy started to unfold. Now, I have been teaching since before Columbine and have on many occasions sat in my living room and cried with each school shooting that has been reported. In wanting to be part of the solution, I even volunteered myself and my theatre students to participate in active school shooting reenactments and other advocacy and educational programs at our school. But when I saw what was happening at Sandy Hook my heart broke in a deeper way.

The weight of all of the school shootings in our country weighed heavily on my mind. I looked at my daughter sleeping peacefully beside me and couldn't stop replaying what took place at Sandy Hook in the mind. What if that happened in my daughter's school? Then, I thought about the teachers and principal that lost their lives protecting their students. My mind quickly went to my classroom! How would I protect MY students? Where could I hide them? What could I beat the gun out of a shooter's hand with???? When I arrived at school the following Monday, I immediately cleaned out a large wall length supply closet so I could fit 20 students in it. I also put long wooden dowels in the closet as a weapon. I hung papers on the back of my two doors so I could cover the small window slit quickly. I felt numb when I was done...I so badly wanted to reach out to the community...but what could I say.

My students did send some hand prints to the school (an idea by someone else in the US). Since then, I have continued to educate myself on all aspects of school shootings through workshops and getting involved with the organization, Sandy Hook Promise. Some of our cast members attended a summit with the youth portion of Sandy Hook Promise. As a Promise Leader, I continue to learn more about the factors that affect school shooters. When I was introduced to this play, my first thought was that this story needs to be told. And I, as a director, wanted to tell it.

Director's Note cont.

I began intensive research, including a trip to Newtown and Sandy Hook. I spoke several times with the playwright and he spoke to the students. I talked with two of the people who were characters in play and they were so gracious to talk to me. This show has been a huge blessing. I think as we move forward as a nation, the themes in this show NEED to be addressed. Students need to talk. Students NEED to feel like they belong. And I believe we, as teachers, have a responsibility to make sure that happens in our classrooms. I want to thank Eric Ulloa for writing this piece, Yolie and Chris for your hearts! I pray for healing, not only in Newtown and Sandy Hook, but in our nation. I leave you with a couple of my favorite lines from the play.

“Humans are not meant to be in isolation, ya know, we’re meant to be connected. And when someone’s not connected...bad things start to happen.”
(Georgia)

“Twenty-six pebbles. That’s exactly what happened. Each one of those drops in a pond, and you know, it just emanates out. The ripples, the vibrations...It’s life. This stuff spreads.” (Yolie)

“Newtown doesn’t want to be remembered as the town with this tragedy. We want to be remembered as the bridge to a new and kinder world. It’s not about the suburbs or the urban areas. It’s not about the rural areas. It’s about the red blood that flows out of all of our veins. It’s about the clear tears that flow out of our eyes. We are all the same.” (Yolie)

“Every day there are shadows, but every day there is light too.” (Jenn)

“Where do we go from here? What can we do from here? As an educator, What can we learn from this?” (Joe)

Special Thanks to:

- Our amazing students who worked tirelessly in a new format to tell these stories.
- Eric Ulloa for spending time with our students. His time was a true blessing for our cast!
- Yolie and Chris for sharing their stories and photos.
- Judith Coffey from Sandy Hook Promise for the education, Fact sheet and the shirts.
- Patty Young for our specialty costumes, pizza and friendship.
- Paul Nelson from TANYS for our Educational Adjudication
- Shavon Lloyd for teaching “Oh, Come Thou Fount.”
- Amanda Morrison and Rachael Robison for their countless hours learning new technology.
- Stage crew for jumping into the unknown and rocking it!
- Brian Ashley, Johnny Keegan, Patrick Malowski, Holly Gaskin, Brian Curl, Susie Yerdon, Elizabeth Graham, Taylour Scanlin, Jeremiah Papineau, Sammy Marriam, Jon Cole and Tim Sweeney for providing your professional voices so willingly for our cacophony of sound.
- Paul Hughes, Shawn Graham, and Chris Forte who helped to make this digital performance a success behind the scenes.
- IR Administration for supporting this endeavor
- Craig Thornton, Chris Brock and Tim Sweeney for all of your support and promotion of our performances.



Rachael Robison (Tech Director) Rachael is currently the Theater Production Technician at Indian River Central School District. Prior to working for the school district, Rachael freelanced up and down the East Coast as a professional sound designer and sound engineer. Rachael's past professional work includes audio engineering in many of the off-broadway theaters in New York City, working three seasons of New York City Fashion Week, touring with the Glimmerglass Opera Festival and most recently she held the position of Sound Apprentice at The Naples Theater in Naples, FL. Locally, Rachael has also been a part of a few productions with The Little Theatre of Watertown. She has received several awards for her music compositions and sound designs through the Theater Association of New York. Rachael enjoys working on pieces that challenge the audience and leaves them with a possibly life-changing message to think about.

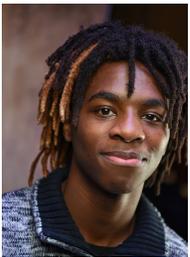
26 Pebbles Cast



Gwyn Henry (Actor 1/26 Pebbles) is (finally) a senior at Indian River Highschool, and has been active in the theater department since her sophomore year. She played Snee in last years production of *Peter and the Starcatcher*. She was D.A Joyce Riley in *Legally Blonde*, and she has been known to help in the theater during her free time. She is also a member of the International Thespian Honor Society.



Emmett Young (Actor 2/26 Pebbles) is a junior at Indian River High School and is playing Actor 2 in this show as well as Assistant Sound Designer. He played Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde*, Mrs. Bumbrake in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, and other roles in numerous productions. He would like to thank his crew kids, his director, and his mama.



TaeJean LaCroix (Actor 3/26 Pebbles) Senior year has arrived for TJ. In his earlier years, TJ was a student athlete. He made the challenging decision to pursue musical theatre during his 11th grade year. He wishes to continue this pursuit throughout his life. TJ feels as if he comes to life on stage, and struggles to see himself anywhere else. He has performed in Jazz Rock for 3 years now, and has been in one school play where he portrayed Fighting Prawn (*Peter and the Starcatcher*). TJ is ready for the future, and can't wait to make the people around him proud.



Katie Hallett (Actor 4/26 Pebbles) is a junior this year. She has been seen in numerous Indian River productions including *Shrek*, *Hairspray*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Who Will Carry the Word*, and *Mamma Mia!* in the ensemble. Last year she was seen as Captain Scott in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, as well as Margot in *Legally Blonde*. Katie would like to thank her theatre family as well as her family at home for always being so supportive of all of her artistic endeavors.



Adrianna (Actor 4/26 Pebbles) is a Senior and has been involved in theatre for over ten years. This is Adrianna's first performance in a play. She did take part in stage crew when Indian River produced *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *Who Will Carry the Word*. She has been in multiple musicals at Indian River such as *Fiddler on the Roof* (her 6th grade year) all the way through this past year in *Legally Blonde*. She would like to thank Mrs.Fuller for the support and love she has shown Adrianna, and she would also like to thank her best friend Sarah for keeping her sane.



Emma Taylor Actor 6/26 Pebbles) is (finally) a senior performing in her twelfth theatrical production. Some of her favorite roles from the past include Denise from *Who Will Carry the Word?* (2018), Rootie from *Asleep on the Wind* (2019), and many others. Emma hopes to pursue acting upon graduation, but she is open to whatever the future may hold, as long as it has theatre in it. While it's been a hard year for the theatre community and this isn't quite the senior year she expected, she's extremely grateful for the opportunity to tell this story, even virtually. She would like to take a moment to thank Kristie Fuller for being such a kindred spirit these past four years, and finally, she hopes that this show will impact you just as much as the people in it have impacted her.



Kristie Fuller (Director/26 Pebbles) Kristie is an award-winning Theatre teacher from Indian River High School. Several of her productions have received Awards of Excellence in Directing from the Theatre Association of New York State. For over 25 years, Kristie has been the New York State Theatre Education Association (NYSTEA) Curriculum Chair working with Theatre standards revision, curriculum development, assessment and certification. She is currently the Chair of the Arts Content Advisory Panel and the Theatre Chair for the IAAP Committee at the NYS Education Department. She has been part of EdTA's Model Curriculum Project and Theatre Teacher Evaluation Workbook committee. Her Theatre program was recognized as the Educational Theatre Association's Outstanding School in 2007. In 2012 she was awarded the National Reba R. Robertson Award for Outstanding Theatre Teacher and won the 2017 NYSTEA Rod Marriott Lifetime Achievement Award. She was thrilled to have been a part of the American High School Theatre Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2013 and looks forward to returning again in 2021



Amanda Morrison (Director/Lockdown) Amanda has been seen participating backstage, on production teams, and with set construction for many shows for Little Theatre of Watertown and Watertown Lyric Theater. "Doubt," her directorial debut for LTW, received several TANYS Awards and ultimately took home Best Long Performance at the 2017 TANYS Festival. She is glad to work in an environment where she push students to grow in theatre and performance arts. Currently serving as President on the LTW Board of Directors, she continues to wear many hats for the organization and its productions. Prior to joining the Performing Arts staff at Indian River High School, she was lead photographer at the Watertown Daily Times, serving the community as a photojournalist for 8 years. She has won multiple state awards and honors for her photojournalism work, being internationally recognized for her talents, and has been selected as an attendee for several workshops including the prestigious Kalish Workshop for photo editing and layout.

Lockdown Cast



Araya Cox (Sarah/ Lockdown) is a Senior this year and has been involved with shows both inside and outside of school. Araya is a part of Indian River Drama Club, Stage Crew, and plays volleyball for the Indian River team. Araya would like to thank her family for all the support that they give her and a special thanks to her #1 fan, her mom for going to every performance and game.



Rachel Gydesen (Chelsea/Lockdown) is a junior this year. She has been in one past show, *Peter and the Starcatcher* as an ensemble member. She has enjoyed working with all of the cast and crew members throughout this weird time.



Victoria Huffman (Eden/ Lockdown) is a sophomore this year. She is in Jazz Rock, Chorus. She is a member of Drama Club and multiple other school clubs. Victoria also plays piano and bass guitar.



Jayla Johnson (Liz/Lockdown) is a junior this year. This is her 4th show with Indian River; she has performed in many shows such as *Seussical* (#1 Wickersham brother), *Fame* (Iris Kelly) and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Oompa Loompa), *Mamma Mia!* (Lead Dancer), *Peter and the StarCatcher* (Puppeteer). She is a part of the Dance Theater of Harlem and wishes to one day to open her own dance studio. She would like to thank her mom and brother for being her family support system and everyone else who has been there for her.



Harley Neaves (Tyler/ Lockdown) is a sophomore this year. He has been in *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Lord Aster), *Legally Blonde* (Nikos Argitakos), *The Little Mermaid* (Ensemble), *Mamma Mia!* (Ensemble). He is very excited to be working with everyone this year. He would like to thank his mother for being so supportive, and all of his friends who've helped him through the year.



Alyssa Normington (9th Grade Student/ Lockdown) is a junior at Indian River High School. She's been involved with theater since freshman year, being both part of stage crew and the cast. This is her second time being in the cast, having been in the ensemble for *Legally Blonde* last year. She'd like to thank her family and friends who helped convince her to audition.



Sarah Reis (Paula/Lockdown) is a Senior at Indian River. She has been a part of the theater program and drama club since her Freshman year, she has thoroughly enjoyed being involved with these two groups. This is Sarah's first year participating in the fall play, but she has taken part in the spring musicals since her Freshman year when Indian River produced *The Little Mermaid*. Her favorite show she has acted in is *Mamma Mia!* She would like to thank Mrs.Fuller and the music wing staff for giving her a place to belong to throughout her high school years.



Nilie Richardson (Ms. Morris/ Lockdown) is currently a senior. This her second show at Indian River, the first being *Legally Blonde: The Musical*. She is excited to take part in this special virtual production and hopes everyone enjoys the show!



Tristia Thompson (Mrs. Karsh/ Lockdown) is a junior. She would like to thank everyone involved in this show for all the hard work that they have put in. She has been in many previous shows such as *Mamma Mia!* (ensemble) and *Peter and The Starcatcher* (Teacher the mermaid). Performing has been an important part of her life and always will be, and she is glad that there are so many opportunities here to perform.



Zachary Winter (Mark/Lockdown) is a junior. This is the fifth show he has been a part of. He would like to give thanks to his fellow cast who helped him with getting ready and prepared, Ms. Robison, Ms. Fuller, and Ms. Morrison. Thank you for watching this virtual performance & Stay safe.

Please consider supporting Sandy Hook Promise.

A PORTION OF OUR PROCEEDS
WILL BE GOING TO SANDY HOOK PROMISE.

The mission of Sandy Hook Promise is to end school shootings and create a culture change that prevents violence and other harmful acts that hurt children. Through our proven, evidence-informed Know the Signs programs and sensible, bipartisan school and gun safety legislation, we teach young people and adults to recognize, intervene, and get help for individuals who may be socially isolated and/or at risk of hurting themselves or others.



Sandy Hook
P R O M I S E