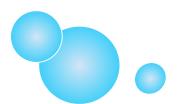
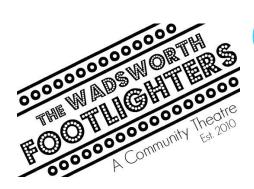


July 13th, 14th, & 15th, 2023 @ 7:30pm July 16th, 2023 @ 2:30pm At O.J. Work Auditorium



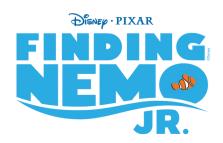
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## www.WadsworthFootlighters.com



Book, Music, and Lyrics by: Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez
Book Adapted by: Lindsay Anderson
Music and Orchestrations Adapted and Arranged by: Myrna Conn
Based on the 2003 Disney / Pixar film Finding Nemo written by:
Andrew Stanton, Bob Peterson, David Reynolds and Directed by Andrew Stanton

Disney | Pixar Finding Nemo Junior is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, New York, NY (212) 541 - 4684 | mtishows.com



### Cast:

Nemo	Michael Vounkin
Marlin	
Dory	
*	•
Coral	
Pearl	
Sheldon	
Tad	
Professor Ray	•
Bruce	•
Chum	•
Anchor	•
Bubbles	-
Bloat	Lukas Ziska
Gurgle	Beckett Gardner
Peach	Emersyn Kearney
Gill	Kennedy Hewit
Nigel	Abby Tennant
Crush	Corbin Demiter
Squirt	Brennan Lewis
Seagull Ensemble	Juniper Cunningham
	Harper Harrison
Shark Ensemble	
	•
	•
	•
Turtle Ensemble	<u>-</u>
Turic Ensemble	-
	•
	•
Vacationer	
vacationer	

**Finley Bluey (Shark Ensemble):** Finley is 6 and is in first grade at Isham Elementary. This is Finley's first show with the Footlighters, but she did help with Willy Wonka Jr. last year. She has watched her sister, Chloe, in shows since she was a baby, and now it's her turn to shine! She can't wait to show off her singing, dancing and acting skills as a shark, moon fish and other sea creatures in Finding Nemo Jr.

Celeste Clausing (Professor Ray): Celeste is a 13 year old and in 8th grade at Claggett Middle School. This is Celeste's 2nd musical and she can't wait for more to come! In her free time she does artwork, participates in a Broadway dance class, plays video games and is learning to be better at playing the flute. She has played flute in concert band, jazz band, performed in OEMA solo competitions, and hopes to be in the marching band in high school. Being a part of Finding Nemo has been a great experience this summer. She has enjoyed being a part of the cast as Professor Ray and made some great friends!

**Juniper Cunningham (Seagull Ensemble):** Juniper Cunningham returns to the stage for her third production, Finding Nemo Jr., as part of the Ensemble. Previous performances include Ninja Pig in the 33 Little Pigs and Ensemble in Willy Wonka Jr. Juniper loves to spend time outdoors, read books, create art, and eat food.

Corbin Demiter (Crush): (Corbin Demiter/Crush) is thrilled to return to the Footlighters after performing in their last show Willy Wonka Junior as Mr Salt. Corbin has also performed in his middle schools production of Comic Book Artist as Star Guy. Corbin is excited for his move up to high school and plans on continuing to perform in high school drama and show choir. He would like to thank his friends and family for always supporting him and his work.

**Jet Druley (Turtle Ensemble):** Jet is a girl who is proud to be a part of this year's show. She loves dogs and has many reptiles. She enjoys hanging out with family and friends and has a big family. Jet loves her name and loves that she is a part of this year's show. She is happy that she gets to work with such talented people. She can already tell this show will not be her last.

**Beckett Gardner (Gurgle):** Beckett Gardner is very excited to be a part of Finding Nemo Jr., staring as "Gurgle." This is his second production with the Wadsworth Footlighters. He also had an ensemble role in Willy Wonka Jr. (Summer 2022). Beckett is 13 years old, attends Wadsworth Middle School, and enjoys singing, dancing, shopping, and hanging out with friends. He is very thankful for all the support of his family and friends and would like to thank everyone who has put countless hours into making this production a success.

**Brooklyn Gillihan (Turtle Ensemble):** Brooklyn Gillihan 8, was born to dance. Her feet are always moving. Brooklyn has been dancing at Medina Center for Dance Art for the last 5 years. Some of her favorite dance styles are Tap, Hip Hop and Acro. This is Brooklyn's first musical performance.

**Ireland Gillihan (Turtle Ensemble):** Ireland Gillihan 10, has been performing since she could walk. Some would say her life is like a musical. She is always singing. Ireland has been dancing at Medina Center for Dance Art for the last 5 years, with this last year also performing in their Broadway group.

Harper Harrison (Seagull Ensemble): Harper Harrison is excited to be in her first production with Wadsworth Footlighters. She is 8 years old and will be in 2nd grade at Sacred Heart School in the fall. She enjoys, gymnastics, cheerleading, swimming, horseback riding, drawing and being with her friends. She wants to thank all the staff of the Footlighters, her family and friends for supporting her in this new adventure.

**Kennedy Hewit (Gill):** Kennedy Hewit, playing the role of Gill, is a 7th grader at Wadsworth Middle School. This is Kennedy's second Wadsworth Footlighters production. When not on stage, Kennedy enjoys lacrosse, basketball, golf, cross-country and hanging out with friends.

Laycee Highee (Coral): Laycee is an upcoming junior at Wadsworth High School. She is also known for her appearances in Puffs and her middle school debut in Alice in Wonderland. She is passionate about drawing, singing and the ukulele. She is thrilled to continue her theater experience and share her talents with each of you.

**Emersyn Kearney (Peach):** Emersyn is so excited to play the role of Peach! This is her first show and so thankful to be cast as Peach. In her freetime she likes to sing, dance, and play piano. Emersyn attends Garfield Elementary School in Medina and will be in Fifth Grade next year. She would like to say a thank you to her Mom, Dad, Braxton, Grayson, and the rest of her amazing family for pushing her to be her best! Emersyn hopes to have an amazing show!

**Adyn Klusti (Shark Ensemble):** This is Adyn's first show with the Footlighters. She has also performed on the O.J. stage with a dancing company. She is going into 7th grade and is excited to perform in Finding Nemo Junior. She wants to thank her dad and grandma for all the love and support they have given her. She also wants to thank the production staff and hopes you all enjoy the show.

**Hayden Lane (Shark Ensemble):** Hayden is 11 years old and will be in the 6th grade. This is his first performance and he is beyond excited! His oldest brother has been in theater for years and he has watched many shows from the audience. Hayden also is a Boy Scout and loves swimming.

**Brennan Lewis (Squirt):** Brennan Lewis is a 7th grader at St. Ambrose. Her love of music and writing has led to the stage where she's excited to be part of "Finding Nemo Jr." as 'Squirt'. Brennan has recently performed with SAS as 'Annie' in "Annie Jr.", 'Zazu' for 82nd Street Theater's performance of "Lion King Jr.", the Footlighter's 2022 showing of "Willy Wonka Jr.", and part of the Elf ensemble in Medina County Show Biz's "Miracle on 34th Street".

Paige Lewis (Turtle Ensemble): Paige Lewis is seven years old and an incoming second grader at St. Ambrose School. Previous appearances include Young Anna in Frozen Jr. (Brecksville Theater) and Seussical! (Brunswick High School Theatre). She's active in St. Ambrose's Angels choir and takes voice lessons at KS Vocal Studio. When she's not singing or performing, she enjoys Girl Scouts, cheerleading, swimming, baseball, and spending time with her friends.

**Toby Liddy (Turtle Ensemble):** Toby Liddy is very excited to be joining this production of Finding Nemo Jr. He will play a variety of roles including a reef kid, a turtle, and a moon fish. This is his first theater experience. Toby attends Isham Elementary and will be entering 3rd grade this fall. Toby also enjoys playing the piano, soccer, and baseball. Toby thanks his family and his director, Cory, for this amazing experience!

**Sam Lindon (Sheldon):** Sam Lindon is a rising sixth grader at Claggett Middle School in Medina. He starred as the Scarecrow/Hunk in 2022 and Drake in 2021 in the Ohio Youth Ensemble Stage's productions of Wizard of Oz Jr. and Annie Jr., respectively. He takes piano and voice lessons and enjoys playing tennis, swimming, and throwing critical rolls in Dungeons & Dragons. He is excited to perform under the sea with the Wadsworth Footlighters!

**Abby Longenecker (Seagull Ensemble):** Abby is in 8th grade at Wadsworth. This is her first play and she loves it. Abby can't wait to do more and land bigger roles. She also is a youth cheer coach and a Juliette girl scout. Her passions include drawing and art! She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Hayden Lovell (Anchor):** Hayden Lovell will be a 7th grader at Wadsworth Middle School. This is her first show with Wadsworth Footlighters, although Hayden previously performed in the WHS production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Hayden enjoys singing, dancing, playing softball and spending time with family and friends. She is excited to be playing Anchor in Finding Nemo Jr. and has had so much fun practicing with such amazing kids! Hayden hopes you enjoy the show!

**Josephine McIlvaine (Bubbles):** Josephine McIlvaine, Bubbles, is very excited to return to the Footlighters stage, having performed in Willy Wonka, Jr., Three Wee Kings, and Angels, Lambs, Ladybugs, and Fireflies. She has also performed in Northeast Ohio Dance's, The Nutcracker. She is 10 years old and lives in Wadsworth. Josephine enjoys acting, piano, ballet, tap, and voice, as well as reading and running.

**Porter McIlvaine (Seagull Ensemble):** Porter McIlvaine, Ensemble, is making his theatrical debut. He has been watching Footlighters productions for some time, especially known as the "audience grasshopper." He is 7 years old and lives in Wadsworth. He is skilled at piano. Porter also enjoys baseball and playing Zelda.

**Larissa Miu (Music Tech):** Larissa Miu is eager to be a part of the Tech Crew. She enjoys leading, problem-solving, and executing a plan. Serving others, brings her joy! She is a sixth grader in Medina and enjoys sewing, playing in nature, and coming home covered from head-to-toe in mud!

**Veronica Miu (Seagull Ensemble):** Veronica Miu is thrilled to be in her first performance. Whether she just opened her eyes from a good night's sleep — to getting ready for bed, Veronica is ALWAYS smiling, singing, and dancing! She is a third grader in Medina schools, and also enjoys crafting, baking, and Math.

**Gracelynn Owensby (Chum):** Gracelynn is in the 8th grade at Wadsworth Middle school. This is her fourth production with the Wadsworth Footlighters. She is also in show choir and performs in productions at Wadsworth Middle School. Gracelynn is very passionate about singing, performing and all of the arts! In her spare time, she likes to teach herself guitar and piano. Gracelynn hopes you enjoy the performance and thanks you for coming.

**Madison Owensby (Shark Ensemble):** Madison is in sixth grade at Central Intermediate School. This is her second production with the Wadsworth Footlighters. Madison is also in choir and has been a Girl Scout for six years. Although Madison is new to performing, she loves it! She hopes you enjoy the performance and thanks you for coming.

**Piper Schoonover (Dory):** Piper is excited to play the role of Dory, in this year's production of Finding Nemo Jr. Last year, she made her "Footlighters debut" as a Candy Kid/Oompa Loompa in Willy Wonka Jr. When she's not on stage, Piper enjoys drawing, writing and snuggling with her dog, Poppy. Piper will be entering the 7th grade at WMS, this fall. She would like to thank the directors, cast, and all Nemo supporters for another fun season!

**Chloe Spencer (Bruce):** Chloe Spencer is a 12 year old actress from Wadsworth, Ohio. Chloe has graced the stage for six previous productions, and takes on her seventh role as Bruce the shark. When Chloe isn't brushing up on her lines, she enjoys playing softball, performing in choir and playing trombone. However, she is most often found drawing or reading with her favorite furry companions, her dogs, Ace and Bea. She can't wait for you to see her attempt to follow the motto "Fish are friends! Not food!"

**Pierce Stewart (Tad):** Pierce is 11 years old and lives in Wadsworth, Ohio. He aspires to be an actor and loves being in theater. He has been in multiple plays such as Midsummer Night's Dream and Babes in Toyland with Orrville Community Theater, Wizard of Oz with Wadsworth High school (he was the munchkin mayor), and 33 Little Pigs, Willy Wonka and now Finding Nemo with Wadsworth Footlighters. His hobbies are playing with legos, riding his bike and hanging out with his friends.

Hailey Svenson (Shark Ensemble): Hailey Svenson is proud to join the ensemble for her first production with the Wadsworth Footlighters. She takes a musical theater dance class with Once Upon a Dream Dance and Cheer and has completed acting and musical theatre workshops at Weathervane Playhouse. She also enjoys horseback riding and playing piano and is excited to start fourth grade in the fall. Hailey is thankful for the opportunity to pursue her passion on the stage!

**Abby Tennant (Nigel):** Abby is 15 and currently a sophomore in high school. This is her 7th show with the Wadsworth Footlighters.

**Alaina Tennant (Marlin):** Alaina is grateful to join this amazing cast in Finding Nemo Jr. She's began doing shows with the Footlighters at the age of 8 and will be turning 18 in a few weeks - which means this is her last kids production. She is currently a rising senior at Firestone CLC where she studies theatre. Alaina would like to thank everyone at the Wadsworth Footlighters for creating such a loving community for her to grow up in.

**Courtney Urbanek (Shark Ensemble):** Courtney is excited to be in her first Footlighters and theatrical production. She is a dedicated dancer at Martell School of Dance and currently in a summer dance intensive with North Pointe Ballet. She is a piano student under the direction of Shelly Mountjoy and a vocal student with KS Vocal Studio. She loves the performing arts and is grateful for this opportunity to join the cast of Finding Nemo Jr.

**Michael Younkin (Nemo):** Michael is 13 years old. Previous shows: Sister Act (Ensemble), Sweeney Todd (Tobias Ragg), Newsies (Newsie/Scab), Kinky Boots (Young Charlie), Sound of Music (Friedrich), Les Misérables (Gavroche), A Chistmas Carol (Many Roles), Mary Poppins Jr (Michael Banks), The Music Man Jr. (Winthrop) and more. Theaters: Great Lakes Theater, Weathervane Playhouse, Near West Theatre, Walsh Jesuit High School, and the Wadsworth Footlighters. Michael would like to thank the cast, crew, family and friends for their support.

**Lukas Ziska (Bloat):** Lukas is thrilled to be back on stage with The Wadsworth Footlighters for his 10th performance. Some of his favorite roles include Maurice, in Beauty and the Beast and Mike Teavee, in Willy Wonka Jr. When Lukas is not on stage, you will find him exploring his passion at Playhouse Square and other local theaters watching as many shows as he can. Lukas will be an 8th grader at Claggett Middle School in Medina this fall.

**Quinn Ziska (Pearl):** Quinn is ready to light up the stage with The Wadsworth Footlighters as Pearl, the flapjack octopus. She has also performed in Willy Wonka Jr and Thwacked. Quinn will be a 5th grader at Heritage Elementary in Medina where she participates in Glee Club and K-Kids. Quinn's current favorite shows are Moulin Rouge and Six The Musical.

#### Who's Who Production Staff:

Vickie Jackson (Choreographer): Vickie Jackson is the President of the board of Medina County Show Biz Company. She was so excited to be asked to help choreograph this show with Cory. She has been extremely impressed with the work ethics and kindness that the Finding Nemo cast has shown her. She can't wait until you all see how amazing the entire cast is in this production. Vickie loves the cast, crew and entire Wadsworth Footlighters organization! Enjoy the show and just keep swimming!

Angelina Seemann (Musical Director): Angelina is a singer, actress, and vocal instructor residing in Akron. She received her B.A. in Music with a concentration in Vocal Performance from Malone University. Outside of teaching, Angelina can be found performing and musically directing in theaters across Northeast Ohio. Some of her favorite roles include The Countess (Le Nozze di Figaro), Alice Beineke (The Addams Family), Vi Moore (Footloose), and The Witch (Into the Woods). Her performances in Into the Woods and Footloose have earned her two consecutive nominations for the Broadway World Cleveland Awards. Thank you to Cory & the Footlighters for another wonderful production!

Cory Ott (Director): Cory has directed a number of productions including Willy Wonka Junior, Mary Poppins Junior, Peter Pan Junior, and Almost, Maine for The Wadsworth Footlighters. He has also directed for Theatre 8:15, Wadsworth City Schools, and The Luminescent Moon Theatre Company. This fall, he is excited to direct his first production with Buckeye Community Theatre, Legally Blonde Junior. Cory was a Cast Member for the Walt Disney Company, and hopes to return someday soon. He would like to thank the people who have helped him get where he is today, you know who you are! "All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." Walt Disney. Cory hopes you enjoy Finding Nemo Junior and thanks you for supporting the arts. Just Keep Swimming!

**Kasey Ziska (Producer):** Kasey has been working on shows with the Wadsworth Footlighters for a number of years including Willy Wonka Junior, Mary Poppins Junior, and Music Man Junior. In her free time she enjoys going to Playhouse Square with her two kids, Quinn and Lukas, as well as spending time with her husband, Ben. She is a avid Hamilton fan and has seen the show over ten times. She is always on the lookout for things that could be turned into costumes and can't wait for the next production.

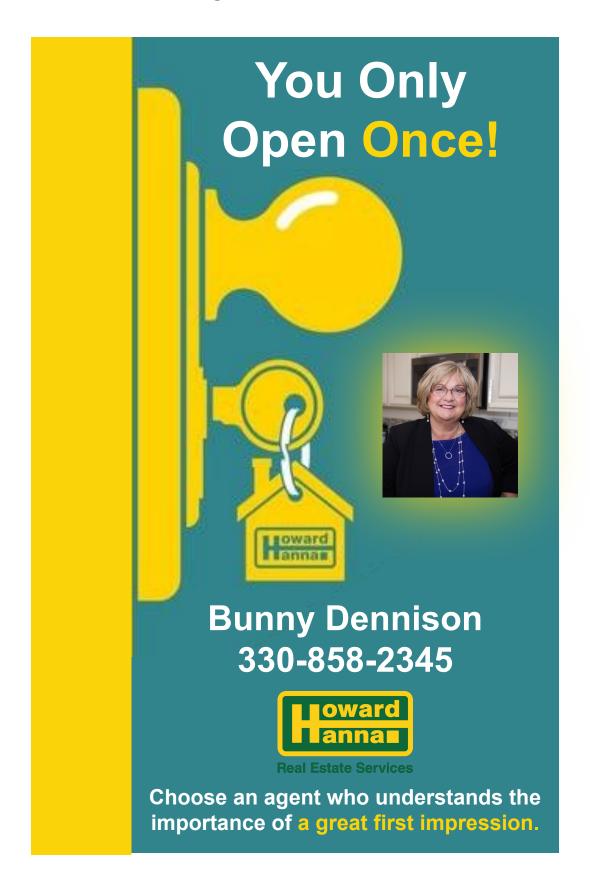


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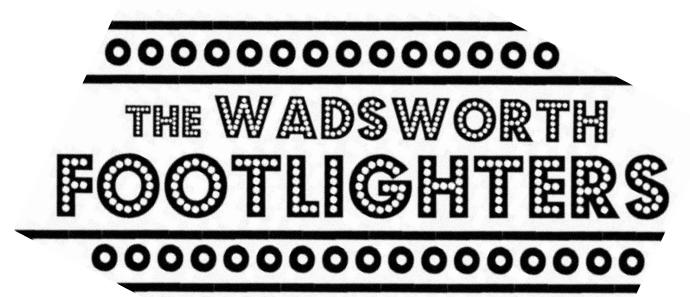


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