

LITTLE WOMEN COMPANY BIOS

FAITH COLLINS-BEETY grew up doing theatre on the Monterey Peninsula. She attended MPC majoring in Theatre Arts and went on to study acting at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts –West. Faith received her B.A. Degree in Acting and did post graduate work in Acting, Directing and Make-Up Design at Humboldt State University. She went on to do theatre productions in Seattle and Houston. She was last seen on stage locally in MPC's production of OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD. She is thrilled to make her return to the stage in the role of "Marmee." (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

NATALIE CRUZ is serving her second stint stage managing a show and her first time being a part of a Monterey Peninsula College production. Natalie has previously been in shows at the Western Stage (including the *2x4 Bash*) and has been a part of three productions of the *Vagina Monologues* at Cal State University of the Monterey Bay, two of which were with *Little Women* cast member, Amanda Schemmel. The last show that Natalie was in was, *Voices of a People's History* alongside with *Little Women* cast member Chelsea Kennedy. Natalie is currently enrolled as a student at Monterey Peninsula College where she is majoring in acting and directing and hoping to get four Associates in Arts degrees and graduate from Monterey Peninsula College in the fall of 2012 and transfer to a university to further her studies. Natalie would like to thank all her friends and family who have supported her through it all and who have tolerated her telling them, "Sorry I have rehearsal". Hope you all enjoy the show and have a "plummy" time!

COLE FAROTTE is a new face in the acting community. You may not recognize him without the ten pounds of makeup but he was indeed the terrifying polar bear in last fall's production of SNOW QUEEN, which was Cole's first show. Cole's singing background involves very loud singing in the shower to his audience of various bars of soap. Cole is currently working toward a career in acting by taking classes and participating in other shows. Cole was most recently seen in THE MUSICAL OF MUSICALS (THE MUSICAL)!. (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

SAM FIFE has been no stranger to the stage since he was a boy. Nor has he been a stranger to MPC's Storybook Theater, having appeared in *PRINCESS AND THE PEA*, *THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW*, and *THE SNOW QUEEN*. He also had the opportunity to work with Pac Rep on their outdoor production of *Romeo and Juliet* last year. This year has started off with a bang for him as he just completed a run of *THE PILLOWMAN* at The Stardust Playhouse where he played the lead role of Katurian. He has taken several classes directed towards the theater department and is very passionate about his work on stage, hoping to make it a professional part of his future. He is all too happy to continue his productive season with this great cast and to work with Laura again for a third time. He thanks his amazing friends and family for all their continual love and support and is honored to pay respect to his ancestor, Louisa May Alcott, with his involvement in this production of her beloved classic. (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

PHIL HOPFNER is thrilled to be in his first MPC production. He most recently appeared in Magic Circle Theater's production of *SUPERIOR DONUTS* (Russian Muscle). Although relatively new to theater in the Monterey Peninsula, Phil has been in Community Theater with various groups for nearly 25 years. Phil has performed in a wide variety of shows such as: *PLAY IT AGAIN SAM*, *WEST SIDE STORY*, *NOISES OFF*, *MIRACLE ON 34th STREET*, *MY THREE ANGELS*, *FAULTY TOWERS* and many others. When not acting, Phil can be found tending to the care and feeding of computers and networks at the Naval Postgraduate School. (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

PAT HORSLEY has performed in the theatre since she was 13. Gilbert & Sullivan were her earliest musicals. Opera training at the San Francisco Conservatory, along with San Francisco State University, allowed her to teach so she could afford to act!!! Favorite roles include: *MAN OF LA MANCHA* (Aldonza), *SOUTH PACIFIC* (Nellie), *CANDIDE* (The old woman) --- She created and performed her own one woman show, *THE BEST IS YET TO COME*, which premiered at The Western Stage, directed by Tom Humphery. She is a member of the Legacy Players at The Western Stage, and performs regularly with

the Listening Post. She thanks MPC's talented staff, fellow actors, and the audience for sharing 'The Little Women' experience. (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

CHELSEA A. KENNEDY is a full-time student currently enrolled in the advanced acting course at Monterey Peninsula College. She plans on transferring to California State University Monterey Bay in fall 2012 with a concentration in history. Chelsea is tremendously excited to be a part of *Little Women* with MPC's Storybook Theatre. She recently performed in her first live theatre performance at The Western Stage, in *Voices of a People's History*, and is eager to pursue her newfound love for the performing arts. (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

PHILIP PEARCE is delighted to be again working with MPC, where he has previously acted in SHADOWLANDS, DANCING AT LUGHNASA, MR. WHATNOT, BROADWAY BOUND. Other Monterey Peninsula appearances include WIND IN THE WILLOWS, OLIVER, THE SOUND OF MUSIC, and THE BAKERS WIFE at The Western Stage, and WIT and LETTICE AND LOVEAGE at Magic Circle. (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

ALYSSA PIERCE is in her first year with MPC's theatre company. She has worked with the Storybook Theatre once before in *THE ANT AND THE GRASSHOPPER* as the Spider. Although she is new to MPC, she is not new to theatre and has been involved in it since the age of twelve, having portrayed such characters as Igor in *YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN* and Mrs. Lovett in *SWEENEY TODD*, among others. She is delighted to be a part of *LITTLE WOMEN*. (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

AMANDA SCHEMME is in her third year at CSU Monterey Bay and is fairly sure she will be there until she dies. She is extremely excited to continue her theater obsession at MPC after moving here from Modesto, CA. Some of her favorite roles include URINETOWN (Hope), Rogers and Hammerstein's CINDERELLA (Cinderella) and all of her various experiences with THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES at CSUMB. After acting out "Little Women" with her sister and childhood friends when she was six, she is thrilled to be in a real production of this iconic show and hopes that her six year old self would be proud. Thanks to Mom, Dad, Natalie, and my grandmas for suffering through every one of my shows for all these years! (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)

LYN WHITING* Member Actors Equity Association, wrote her first play, a Dennis The Menace spin off, in 2nd grade, scored the lead in the 3rd grade play, and produced a summer variety show that raked in \$2.10 for the local hospital building fund. Her mother saved the newspaper story. She purchased her 1st typewriter in 4th grade, determined to be a writer. Piano lessons started in 3rd grade and by 5th grade, Lyn, a born sight-reader, became an accompanist. Junior and senior high school choruses, musicals, voice lessons, oh my, with the exception of playing the Wicked Witch of the West in 7th grade, rediscovering she loved the stage, especially cackling laughter and forceful, spitting tirades.

With a BA from Augustana College with a major in Elementary Ed and a minor in Theater, Lyn discovered full-time theater with 3 consecutive years of summer stock with the Pitchfork Players where she acted, danced, sang, costumed, cooked, cleaned, ran the box office and hauled 50 lb. bags of popcorn in her new Pinto station wagon. Oh, yeah, and played the piano.

Fast forward to California decades later. She arrived and told No One she played the piano and actually got some onstage parts. Fortunately, the theater began to write piano playing/ singing / dancing/ acting roles for women and Lyn found a curious niche as Vi Petty in THE BUDDY HOLLY STORY, creating the opportunity for long distance runs and membership in Actors Equity Association. Lyn has a special fondness for new writers and their work, especially Lee Brady and her playwriting students.

Favorite roles include Emma in JOHNNY GUITAR (Pacific Repertory Theatre), Hortensia in ZORBA (Forest Theater Guild), Maggie in DANCING AT LUGHNASA (Monterey Peninsula College), Bebe in A CHORUS LINE (MPC). Just as important are the many great directors who cast her over the years.

Lyn is a musical director for Ariel Theatrical, inc., the Carmel Valley Women's Chorus and Epiphany Lutheran Church. Lyn sings in Wild Hearts with her partner, Richard Boynton, and has her own business, The Lyn Collection that features her photographs, sewing, and knitting.

ALAN ZEPPA is a veteran community theater character ham, a longtime 2nd (or 3rd) banana on a dozen (more or less) stages in the wilds of northern Minnesota – and, more recently, on the Monterey Peninsula – the kind of solid supporting player who never ends up with the leading lady at the end of the play. No... Wait... You mean I *do* get the girl in this show? Sweeeet! (LITTLE WOMEN – MAY 2012)