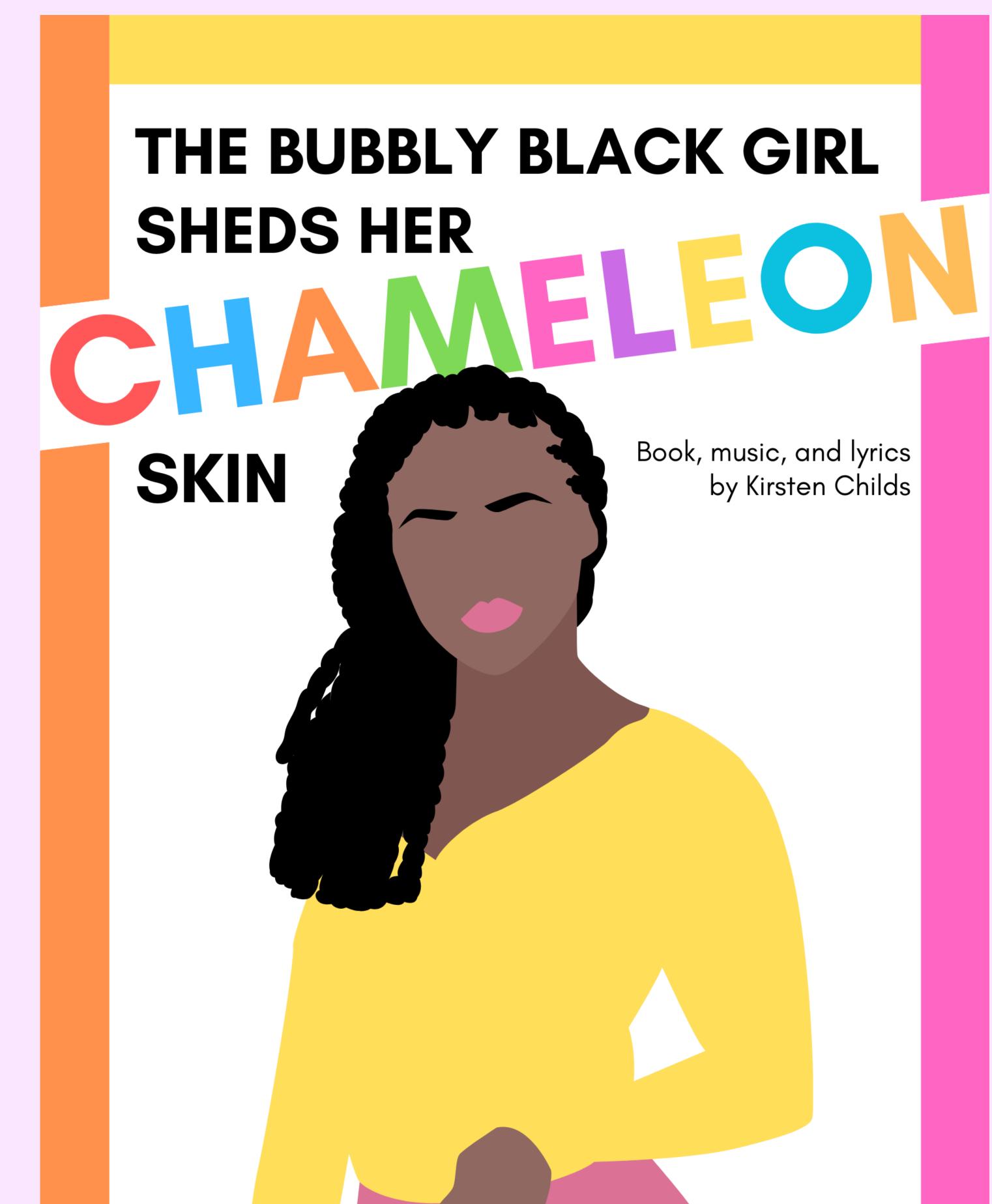
PLAYBIL

LOEB EX THEATER
HARVARD BLACK CAST
CAMBRIDGE, MA



Harvard Black CAST Loeb Ex Theater

PRESENTS

THE BUBBLY BLACK GIRL SHEDS HER CHAMELEON SKIN

By
Kirsten Childs

Directed by Kristian Hardy

with (in alphabetical order)

Yirenny Cordero
Andrew Guy
Allison Hunter
Mikaela Belle Martin

Gabrielle Medina
Ogechi Obi
Walter Ohams
Kate Ravenscroft

Anie Udosen Madison Webb Jordan Woods Jessie Xiang

Asst. Director Keren Elmore

Stage Manager

Asst. Stage Manager

Sarah Adam

Mara Sims

Technical Director
Onovughakpor
Otitigbe

Lighting Designer

Kayla Bey

Music Directors

John Lindsay

Sophia Lerebours

Producers

Leah Yeshitila

Alicetonia Nwamah

Scenic Designer
Naomi Kenyatta

Costume Designers

Emi Cummings

Chloe Koulefianou

Leila Jackson

Videographer

John Bugeraha

Choreographers
Fechi Inyama
Adrienne Chan

Asst. Producer

Aissata Bah

Sound Designer

Gabriel Brock

Props Designer

Alison Forchoh

Hair & Makeup

Bettie Closs

Songs

Welcome to My L.A Full Company
Chitty Chatty Viveca, Chitty Chatty Pals
Smile, Smile Daddy, Viveca
I Am In Dance Class Gregory
The Skate Viveca and Female Ensemble
Sticks and Stones Black Women's Chorus
Walk on the Water Viveca, Ghosts
Pass The Flame Black Women's Chorus
War Is Not Goo Children
Brave New World Children
Give It Up/Belle of the Full Company
Bright Blue Sky Gregory, Viveca
Legacy Gregory, Viveca, Police Officers
Who's That Bubbly Black Girl Female Ensemble
Secretarial Pool Female Ensemble
PrettyViveca
Director Bob Pirector Bob, Dance Captain, Viveca, Female Ensemble
Granny's Advice Lucas, Ensemble
Listen! Viveca, Full Company
Bubbly FinaleViveca

ENSEMBLE

Cast

Viveca	5 5 5 5
Granny Madison Webb '25	5
Larry/Keith/Lucas Walter Ohams '23	j.
Jazz Teacher/Dance Captain/Secretary	•
Prince/Cosmic/Policeman/Director Bob	•
Crew	
Director Kristian Hardv '24	
Director Kristian Hardy '24 Assistant Director Keren Elmore '25	
Co-Music Director John Lindsay '24	
Co-Music Director John Lindsdy 24 Co-Music Director Sophia Lerebours '26	
Co-Music Director Sophia Lerebours 20 Co-Choreographer Fechi Inyama '24	
Co-Choreographer Adrienne Chan '25	
Stage Manager Mara Sims '25	
Assistant Stage Manager Sarah Adam '26	
Producer Leah Yeshitila '26	
Producer Alicetonia Nwamah '24	
Assistant Producer Aissata Bah '24	
Technical Director Onovughakpor Otitigbe '25	
Scenic Designer Naomi Kenyatta '24	
Sound Designer Gabriel Brock '26	
Lighting Designer Kayla Bey '25	
Costume Designer Emi Cummings '24	
Assistant Costume Designer	
Assistant Costume Designer Leila Jackson '26	
Hair & Makeup Designer Bettie Closs '25	
Props Designer Alison Forchoh '24	
Publicity Designer Kristian Hardy '24	
Videographer John Bugeraha '26	
Band	
Flute Elyse Martin-Smith '25	;
Piano Rachel Guo	
Bass Oliver Wattles '25	
Percussion Chris Beller & Luana Brazzan	

RETHINKING "THEATER ETIQUETTE"

Harvard Black Community & Student Theater is not only about providing space for Black creatives but also reclaiming and preserving Black cultural traditions.

Theater is **art**. Theater is **healing**.

Theater is **community**.

And community rarely ever requires silence.

"Call and response" is at the heart of
Black performance.
One party calls out and the other responds.

In this theater, we call out to you and invite you to laugh, cry, and even exclaim an "I know that's right!" when you feel most moved.

Please keep in mind that while we are all **free** to engage with one another, the actors will need the space to share the **story** we all came to hear.

Our one ask, is that we all enter this space as our

fullest selves without restriction.

Open to experiencing this moment in time as a collective and refusing the notion that life should be lived alone.

Let go, exhale, and enjoy the show.

Thank you to Black women theater-makers like Domonique Morriseau and Erika Dickerson-Despenza for inspiring me to reject white supremacist standards and set new precedents for how audiences should engage with my work.

- Kristian Hardy, Director

A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

I feel so blessed and delighted to be directing "The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin" by Kirsten Childs in the Loeb Ex theater this spring. Last year, I made my directorial debut and that experience was life-changing. I realized directing is something I want to do for the rest of my life and we all know how important an artist's sophomore season is, so I knew my return to Harvard theater would be with a production that would not only push myself and my team into continued growth but also, provide room for an immense amount of joy.

"Bubbly" is special for numerous amount of reasons. The music is fire. The characters are multi-layered. And it is one of the VERY few musicals written and composed by a Black woman for other Black women. While all of those facts were motivation for me to choose this show, the primary thing that first brought me to "Bubbly" and has kept it in my heart for almost three years is that it shows a Black girl reclaiming her power and choosing to live unapologetically as herself.

Growing up as a young Black girl has not been a walk in the park and my time at Harvard has forced me to rediscover who I am all over again. Society and institutions built upon white supremacy force Black women and girls into boxes that reduce our expansive humanity. "Smile." "Don't be too loud." "Be more sassy." This musical encourages Black women + girls and people of all marginalized identities to throw away the shallow boundaries society attempts to confine us within and boldly chase after our own destinies.

Empowering other people fulfills me in a way few things do, and "The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin" gave me an opportunity to pour into other creatives and audience members. In my own coming-of-age story, I have finally reached a place where I can confidently take up space and I intend for this production to encourage others to join me on a journey of

laughing at ourselves,
loving who we are at every stage,
and shedding our chameleon skin.

all my love, kristian hardy

director

A NOTE FROM OUR CHOREOGRAPHERS

"Dance makes me free – free to be me! [...] That's when I'm utterly fearless and matchless and peerless!" proclaims Viveca Stanton in a self-soothing daydream. The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin is a show that asserts, put plainly, how embodiment can be an engine to personal freedom– a freedom to understand oneself in relation to and external from existing societal structures that inscribe meaning and expectations to one's physicality. As choreographers and dance–activists, there is no thesis more compelling.

Our diverging but complementary dance backgrounds form the aesthetic bases of Bubbly's choreography: Fechi draws from contemporary, competitive dance, and West African dance training, and Adrienne brings her Fosse jazz, modern, and ballet training. Given our extensive experiences in various dance styles, we can personally attest to how languages of embodiment– the ways we carry ourselves, move, and take up space– fundamentally impact our sense of personhood and identity. Amid Western aesthetic ideals that often pervade the theater world, we challenge ourselves and collaborators to carve out space for our sense of rhythm and dance. We hope that you are able to witness this pursuit through Bubbly's movement vocabulary.

What a joy it has been to work with the talent, wit, and enthusiasm of the cast and crew of The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin! From the groovy, hyperactive "Welcome to My LA" to the contemplative, grounded "Sticks and Stones," the actors never shied away from experimenting and playing with movement throughout the rehearsal process. We are so grateful to have experienced this world with everyone involved with this production, and thank you for coming to enjoy this labor of love.

sincerely,
adrienne chan and fechi inyama
co-choreographers

Viveca

Ogechi Obi '26

Ogechi Obi is a first-year from Bangor, Maine living in Greenough.



Gregory

Andrew Guy '26

Andrew has been singing, dancing, playing instruments, and pretending to win big at the oscar's since he was a toddler - some things never change, even as a government concentrator.



Mommy/Yolanda Gabrielle Medina '26

Gabby describes herself as a storyteller, a romanticist, and a true Drama Queen. That's probably why she's here!



Chitty Chatty Pal 1/Secretary/Ballet
Teacher/Sophia Yirenny Cordero '25

Yirenny is very excited to be playing a role that her blockmates claim is just her main personality trait.

Daddy/Policeman

Jordan Woods '24

Catch Jordan at 3 am telling himself to "smile, smile, things are not as bad as they seem".

Chitty Chatty Pal 2/Secretary/Modern Dance
Teacher/Scarlett

Jessie Xiang 'GSD



Emily/Nilda/Sandra

Mikaela Belle Martin '23

Mikaela Belle is a senior at the College studying linguistics and psychology. She has a love for theater, dance, and music and was so happy to be able to audition for and participate in Bubbly! Mikaela holds Black theater near and dear to heart and cannot wait to bring her characters to the stage.



Miss Pain/Harriet Tubman/Tallulah

Allison Hunter '26

Allison Hunter, a native of Atlanta, GA and graduate from South Atlanta High School is a first-year at Harvard University. She hopes that she will become an Attorney or Superintendent. Allison has a passion for education, advocacy, community service, music, and wants to find solutions to remedy inequities and find more opportunities for lower-income neighborhoods and students.



Granny

Madison Webb '25

Madison Rachelle Webb is a sophomore in Dunster House studying Psychology. She sings as an Alto in the Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum— Harvard's mixed-voice, SATB choir—and the Harvard LowKeys. She performs and tours with both ensembles on campus, domestically, and internationally, with upcoming tours to Carnegie Hall in New York City in April 2023 and Sweden in May-June 2023.



Larry/Keith/Lucas

Walter Ohams '23

Walter is an aspiring actor who can't sing or dance that well but that's ok you fake it til you make it. If any of you babes in the audience know a casting agent tell them to book me love you lots:)



Jazz Teacher/Dance Captain/Secretary

Anie Udosen '26

If you told Anie earlier this semester she would be in a musical, she would have never believed you. However, Anie is elated she tried something new and hopes to empower you to step out of your comfort zone as well.

Prince/Cosmic/Policeman/Director Bob

Kate Ravenscroft '26

Kate has moved 10 times and she is incredibly annoying when asked "where are you from?" When she isn't busy picking up minor roles in shows 2 days before they open, she is likely busy being loud.



Director

Kristian Hardy '24

Kristian is from the fine state of South Carolina! When she's not studying or directing theater, her free time is filled with Disney channel animated shows, solo dance parties, and naps. She wants to extend an enormous thank you to her friends and family, whose love and support have held her up through this semester.



Assistant Direcetor

Keren Elmore '25

Keren Elmore is a first-year studying Government and Public Policy. She previously assistant directed "Crossroads", an original play by former IOP Fellow Gloria J. Browne-Marshall, and is currently the choreographer for the 28th First Year Musical. When not working on Bubbly, you may find Keren at the Institute of Politics or drinking her 10000th chai latte! Keren is ecstatic for the audience to experience the amazing world of Bubbly!!

Co-Music Director

John Lindsay '24

John is from Georgia and is a musician by day and big foodie by day and night. If you don't see him around, he's probably at shake shack

Co-Music Director

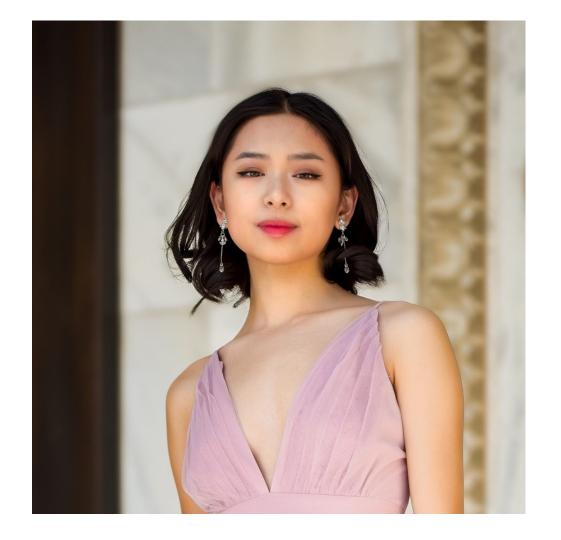
Sophia Lerebours '26

Once upon a time, a young first-year ventured out of her dorm (go greenough!) and stumbled into the Loeb Ex. After observing her surroundings, she decided she kinda liked it here. The music was cool, so she ended up co-music directing!



Co-Choreographer Fechi Inyama '24

When Fechi isn't in class or at the lab, you can find her at Brain Break distracting her friends from their homework.



Co-Choreographer Adrienne Chan '25

Adrienne (she/her) is a sophomore from Cleveland, Ohio. When she is not dancing or choreographing, you can find her carefully curating her Spotify profile or overthinking, or both at the same time. Thank you to BlackCAST for an exciting and wonderful process, and thank you for coming to see Bubbly!



Stage Manager

Mara Sims '25

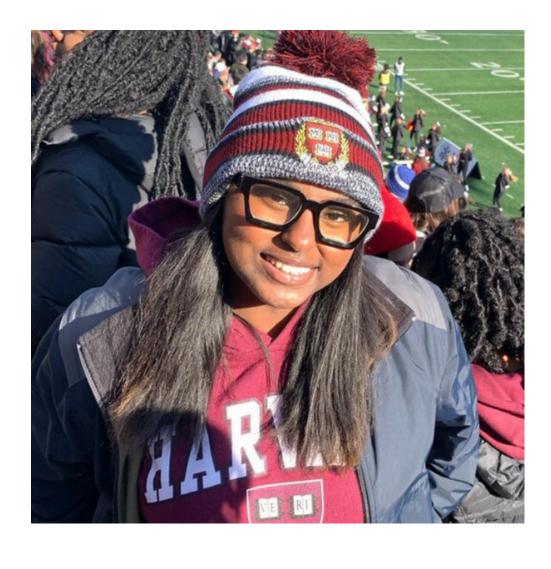
While Mara is so excited to be stage managing this show, her crowning achievements this school year are a successful binge-watch of all 24 seasons of Law and Order: Special Victims Unit and winning over 200 games of anagrams in the first three months of having an iPhone.



Assistant Stage Manager

Sarah Adam '26

Sarah is from Maine no matter how much she tries to deny it. This is her first time working on a production completely behind the scenes, and she loves every second of it. When she's not finishing up a pset last minute during rehearsals, you can probably find her listening to the same ten songs on repeat (current obsession: Ari Lennox's A/S/L album).



Producer

Leah Yeshitila '26

Hi! My name is Leah Yeshitila and I am from Dallas, Texas - I'm a first-year who just got assigned to Kirkland! I love the creative arts and I have seriously enjoyed my role in producing this musical. I'm involved in other Black affinity groups on campus, the EESA Dance Troupe, CBE, and Debate.

Producer

Alicetonia Nwamah '24

Alicetonia is very new to theater-making but has enjoyed witnessing the talent of such amazing Black creatives.

Assistant Producer

Aissata Bah '24

Aissata hates Boston. She doesn't know why she's here. She's just trying to save enough money to move to LA and get staffed on Abbott Elementary.

Technical Director

Onovughakpor Otitigbe '25

Onovughakpor is studying biomedical engineering and history of science with a secondary in theater dance and media - and much like her concentration she loves doing anything and everything in the HRDC as a tech director, actress and sound designer and more!



Scenic Designer

Naomi Kenyatta '24

Naomi Kenyatta is an applied math major who knows how to crunch numbers and screw down the flats.

Sound Designer

Gabriel Brock '26

Gabriel is excited to be a part of the Bubbly Family as he continues to tackle the question: "How much extracurricular theater can one person do in a school year?"

Lighting Designer

Kayla Bey '25

Kayla is thrilled to be designing lighting for another Kristian Hardy show.

Assistant Costume Designer

Chloe Koulefianou '23



Assistant Costume Designer

Leila Jackson '26

Leila is a first-year studying English. When not working very diligently on costume plots and definitely getting them in on time, she can probably be found crocheting somewhere or taking a nap.



Hair & Makeup Designer

Bettie Closs '25

Bettie is a sophomore in Leverett House who loves sewing and designing. As evidenced by her double major in TDM and Statistics, she also really enjoys multi-tasking.



Props Designer

Alison Forchoh '24

Alison, the Lowellian from Lowell, MA, can either be found in a zipcar hauling ballet barres or giving dye jobs to unsuspecting baby dolls.

Videographer

John Bugeraha '26

Incase you need to make an attention-grabbing promo video for your upcoming play, Better Call John!

WHO'S WHO - BAND



Bassist

Oliver Wattles '25

Oliver is a bassist from Novi Sad, Serbia, and uses influences from both his homeland and the worlds of rock, pop and jazz to inform his playing.

Flute

Elyse Martin-Smith '25

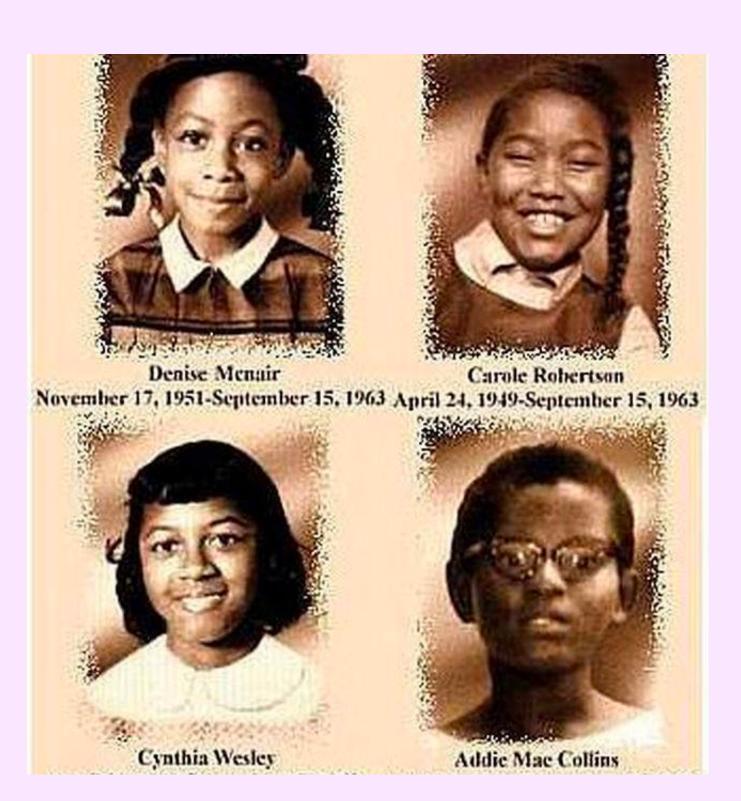
Piano

Rachel Guo

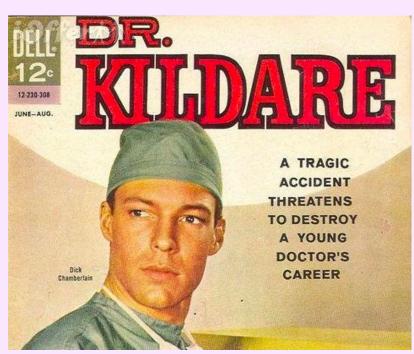
Percussion

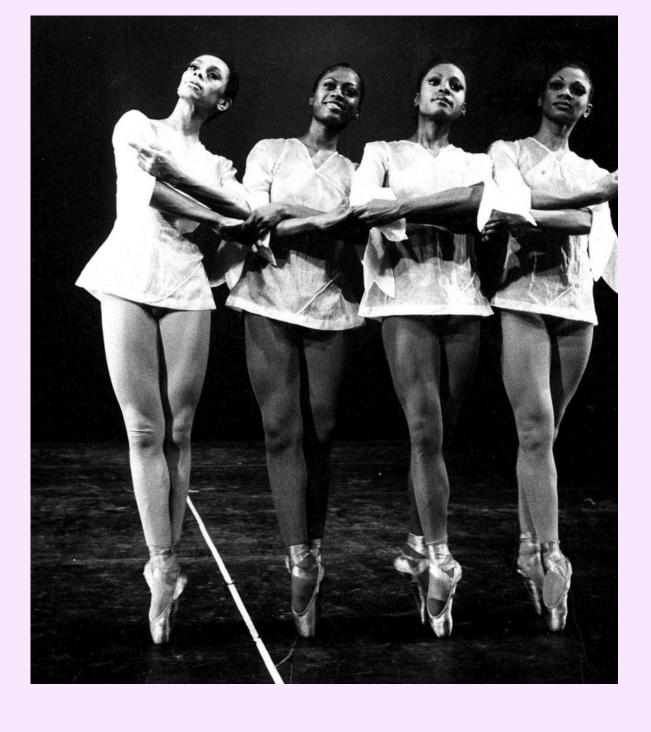
Chris Beller & Luana Brazzan

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WORLD OF BUBBLY!









tinyurl.com/bubblydramaturgy

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Harvard Black CAST would like to thank the Harvard Radcliffe Dramatic Club and the Harvard College Women's Center for sponsoring this production and investing in student art!

- Thank you to Mara and Sarah for all their hard work, we appreciate you both more than you know. Yirenny Cordero
- Black people in theater I love youuuuu Walter Ohams
- Andrew would like to thank his family's support from NJ, his dear friends, roommate, and the entire crew and cast. Andrew Guy
- Thank you to the pit and everyone in the show!! John Lindsay
- A special thank you to my co-choreographer Adrienne Chan! I literally could not have done this without you XOXO Fechi Inyama
- Thank you to Kristian and Mara for all of their hard work in putting this show together this would not be possible without you!! Keren Elmore
- Thank you to Chinyere Obasi for being my theater fairy godfather and protecting my sanity. I love you so dearly! Kristian Hardy
- Thank you so much to Mara for always being on top of everything, understanding, and helping me and the whole company throughout the entire production!! Sarah Ayan Adam
- Thank you to Jeremie Lozier, Kat Sistare, Alex Giorgetti Gabriel Brock
- Thank you to my family, friends, and God for making life worth living with the support and investment in my gifts. – Allison Hunter
- Thank you to CJ for pulling me aside less than 48 hours ago and asking 1. if I was white, and 2. if I would be willing to be in a VERY last minute. Kate Ravenscroft
- Thank you to Alicetonia and Leah for working so hard behind the scenes!
 Aissata Bah
- Thank you to Kendi King and Avery Williams for being amazing friends and working during their trip to visit me
- - Kristian Hardy

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Unserious Thank You's

- God bless Dunster's Squash Court. Madison Webb
- Thank you to Cosmic for his diligent rehearsal attendance –Yirenny Cordero
- Shout out to the millions of freshmen in our cast & crew who all got placed in Kirkland. Black Kirk you will RISE! Walter Ohams
- Anie as jazz teacher; Clump formation Adrienne Chan
- Kristian, you are the most patient person in the world. Sorry I always had
 to see the choreography in slaur-maur to pick it up!: P Gabrielle
 Medina
- When in doubt, DO THE SKATE!! Keren Elmore
- Issa Rae, the Boston REI Bike Shop Staff, the Self-Checkout Attendant at the Harvard Square CVS – Gabriel Brock
- I'd like to thank myself. I'm not new to this, I'm true to this! I'd like to thank Black people for ... showing up! I'd like to thank Kristian for enthusiastically walking to every possible position in the theater just so she can tell me when that light not hitting right. She got her steps in! I'd like to thank Kristian for being the president and Walter for being the copresident! She put in her hours for Black CAST and does it with glitter, sparkle, and shine, as does Walter. Kayla Bey
- Thank you to all of the cast that put up with my Dream Girls shenanigans.
 Allison Hunter
- Thank you Ogechi for never failing to make me bust out laughing. You are such a talented comedian. Kristian Hardy



Keep up with us eharvardblackcast on Instagram