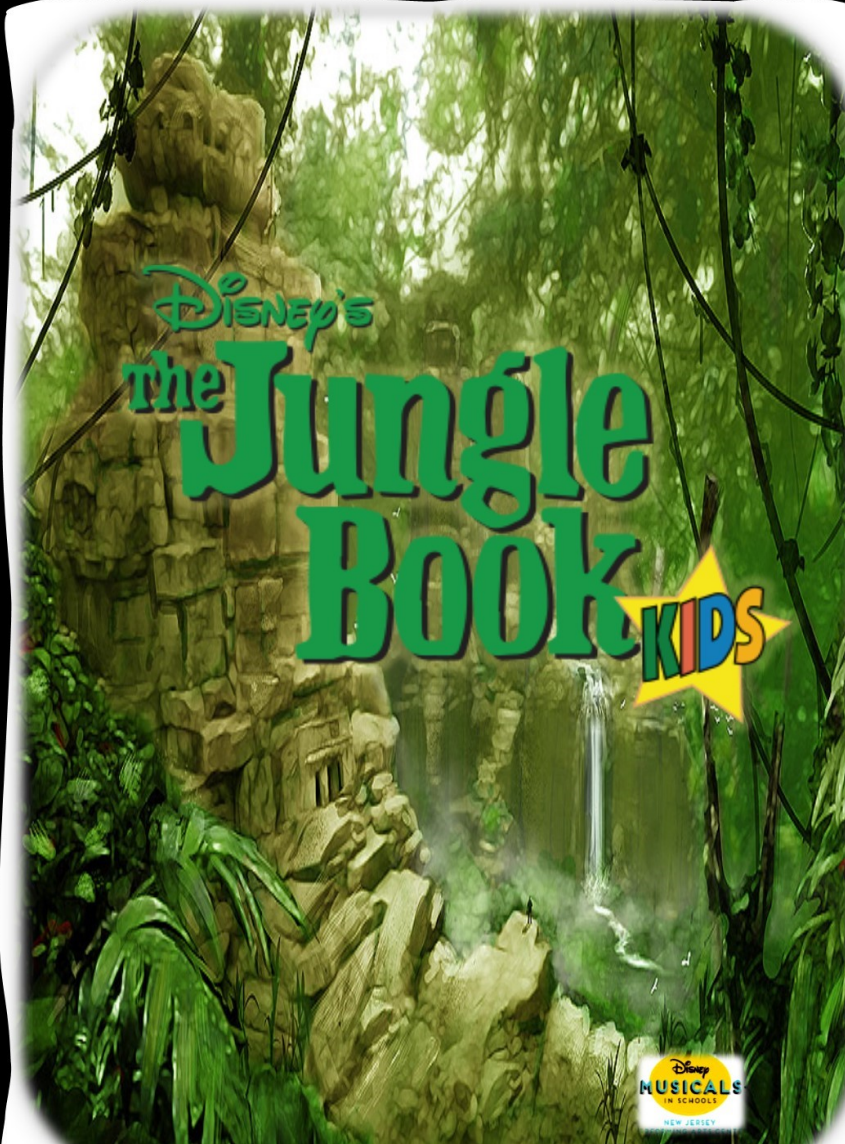



PLAYBILL®



Disney's
The Jungle Book  KIDS

Disney
MUSICALS
IN SCHOOLS
NEW JERSEY

CONGRATULATIONS
FOREST STREET
STUDENTS AND STAFF ON YOUR
PRODUCTION OF

The Jungle Book

WE APPLAUD EACH OF YOU
FOR A JOB WELL DONE.
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!



The Orange Administrative Cabinet

Dr. Paula E. Howard

Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Adekunle James

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Karen Harris

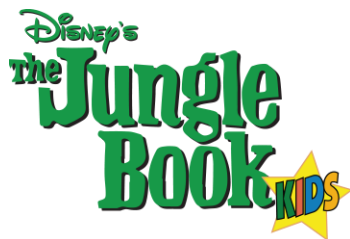
Language Arts Department Director

Shelly Harper

Special Services Director

Dr. Tina Powell

Math & Science Department Director



Directed and Choreographed by
Theresa Jones

Assistant Director
Torenzo Blair

Produced by Yancisca Cooke and Bill Donnelly

Production Manager: Avril Bogle

Assistant Production Manager: Alejandrina Museses

Stage Manager: Jacob Warta

Music Director: Marianne Mroz

Choreographer: Theresa Jones

Assistant Choreographer: Monique Walker

Community Relations: Ernesto Lorenzo

NJPAC Teaching Artists:

Adrienne Asterita and Daryl L. Stewart

Music & Lyrics by Richard M. Sherman, Robert B. Sherman
and Terry Gilkyson

Book Adapted and Additional Lyrics by Marcy Heisler

Music Adapted and Arranged by Bryan Louiselle

Based on the Rudyard Kipling novel and the Disney film

Disney's *The Jungle Book KIDS* is presented through special
arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International.

421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019

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***The Orange Board of Education
Congratulates
Forest Street School***



Good Luck with your production of
Jungle Book Kids

Cristina Mateo, President

E. Lydell Carter, Vice President

Abdul Shabazz Ashanti

Gloria Fisher

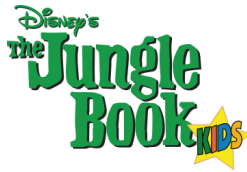
Kyleesha Hill

Jarteau Israel

Jeffrey Wingfield



*Your Achievement
Is Our Success*



Jungle Book Kids
Forest Street School, 2017

Presented by the students of
Forest Street School
in cooperation with
Disney Musicals in Schools
and

New Jersey Center for Performing Arts

Thursday, March 23, 2017 6:00 PM

Friday, March 24, 2017 6:00 PM

Saturday, March 25, 2017 2:00 PM



Forest Street
School



**Congratulations
and
Best Wishes
to the Cast and Crew of
“Jungle Book”**



**Dwayne D. Warren, Esq.
Mayor
City of Orange Township**

From our Principal...

Welcome Forest Street Family to our Grade 3-5, student production of **Disney's *Jungle Book Kids!***



We are honored to have you here in "the jungle" as we celebrate the dedication and hard work of our young thespians. Our children have put their heart and soul into long hours of rehearsal to make this Disney show the best it can be! I am certain you will be thrilled by this wonderful and magical performance.

Special thanks to the **New Jersey Performing Arts Center** (NJPAC) and their professional teaching artists, Daryl Stewart and Adrienne Asterita, who trained our Drama staff in Disney theatrical methods and spent many long hours rehearsing with our young cast members. Thanks also to Ernesto Lorenzo, our school's Family Liaison and *Jungle Book* photographer and videographer for capturing precious moments. Finally, thanks to our parents, guardians, teachers and staff for encouraging and supporting our students, actors and crew as they pursued this goal. I know that your inspiration behind the scenes is the secret, magic ingredient that will result in a great show!

Now, please sit back with pride and enjoy our wonderful Forest Street production of *Jungle Book Kids!*

— Ms. Yancisca Cooke, Principal

Synopsis

*Courtesy of Music
Theater International*



Banished by the ferocious tiger, Shere Khan, a human boy named Mowgli and his panther friend, Bagheera, are on the run in the deepest parts of the jungle. On their journey, the two meet a sinister snake named Kaa, a herd of elephants and a giant bear named Baloo, who teaches them the swingin' musical rhythms of the jungle.

After surviving a dangerous encounter with a band of monkeys led by King Louie, Mowgli and Bagheera are forced to run for their lives. When Shere Khan returns, our heroes must rally their fellow animals into battle and restore peace throughout the jungle.



G

Don't be scared! This play is just perfect for audiences of all ages.

Cast of Characters

Mowgli	Cameron Phillips
Bagheera	Grace Okon
Baloo	Noah Hicks-Smith
Kaa	Medardo Mancia
Shere Khan	Fiorella Acosta
Colonel Hathi	Anastasia Merisier
Baby Elephant	Michele Tong Navarro
King Louie	Syriya Greenidge
Old Monkey	Bryan Rivas Jose
Shanti	Melanie Arriola Magana
Jungle Lotus	Destiny Campbell-Martin
Ziggy	Jasir Carter
Silly Monkey	Elijah Collin
Jungle Banyan	Naomi Craig
Grumpy Monkey	Kalea Epitime
Dizzy	Albert Nava Garcia
Sassy Monkey	Skyla Jeter
Jungle Thistle	Lisette Y. Quiroz

**Congratulations
and
Best Wishes !!!**

**to our terrific Forest Street
Cast and Crew of**

Disney's

**THE
JUNGLE
BOOK
KIDS**

"You Are All MY Shining Stars!!!"

Yancisca Cooke
Principal

Nyree Delgado
Assistant Principal

Renee Rogers
Administrative Assistant

Jacqueline Murphy
Guidance Counselor

Hydah Kilonzo-Ndiku
Nurse

Dawn Martin
Security Officer

Wallace Sneed
Security Officer

Supporting Cast

ELEPHANTS

Christie Blaise

Janae Joseph

Johnslie Julien

Khilan Mussenden

Nathaneal Saint-Jean

SNAKE COILS

Amiya Creekmore

Asar Culver

Luca Gamboa

Isabelle Martin

Brendon Robert

Mario Valle Valle



Musical Numbers



Jungle Prologue

Kaa the Snake

Trust in Me

Night Into Day

Colonel Hathi's March

Baloo the bear

The Bare Necessities

Monkey Business

I Wan'na Be Like You

I Wan'na Be Like You (Reprise)

Shere Kahn the Tiger

Mowgli Runs

That's What Friends Are For (Part 1)

That's What Friends Are For (Part 2)

The Bare Necessities (Finale)

I Wan'na Be Like You (Bows)



Supporting Cast

BEES

Ashly Alphonse
Ayannah Charles
Neriah Destine
Alexis Dowell
Nathalia LeSane
Justina Oakley

WOLVES

Nicolas Correa Polkman
Jamal Jackson
Marissa Jean-Baptiste
Magwrantz Lubin
Janniella Rodriguez





Stage Crew



Bryce Miller

Brayden Baptiste

Rasheed Ward

Samuel Ramnauth



Aneye Epitime

Crew Manager

Courtney Dudley

Technical Assistant

Makeyla Giorlando

Technical Assistant

Uriel Mendoza

Props Manager

Oscar Ramirez

Lights and Sound Manager



Costumes



L to R: Zulaika Saint Hubert, Jabril Bridgeman-Fung, Angelina Marcano, Nevaeh Hall Howard and Johanna Michel

Set Design



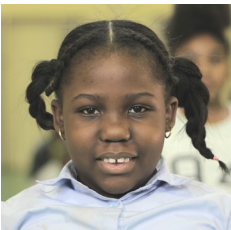
L to R: Kevin Renderos, Jordan Williams, Cassandra Estime, and Brandon Sherwood. Insert: Frandy Martinez

Biographies of the Cast



Fiorella Acosta (Shere Khan) — is a 3rd grade student in the classes of Mrs. Daniels and Ms. White. Her favorite subject in school right now is Art, and when she grows up, she wants to become an Art teacher!!! With her signature burst of energy, she makes everything so clear, “I have a great, special talent, and I know you do too! It’s acting! I love when drama starts to come out and shine! That’s why I am in the Jungle

Book... well, not only because of that, but because it is important! Oh!, and did I mention the role I am playing? It’s a tiger! Scary, right? The name is even evil. He’s called Shere Khan!” In her spare time, Fiorella rehearses her lines from *Jungle Book* and practices the recorder. She adds, “I really want to thank my parents, because if it wasn’t for them, I would not be in the act.” She also wants to thank all the teachers, because if it was not for them planning this show, “then we have to just stand there doing nothing!” But seriously, she wants to really thank them. Last, she sends “Good Luck” to all the *Jungle Book* cast!



Ashly Aphonse (Bee) — says she just loves to sing, and started singing when she was only 3 years old! She also loves to play the piano and has been doing that since 1st grade. She explains, “I have never acted in a play, so this is a new experience for me. But I would like to be a singer, so I spend my free time by singing.” Ashly is a 3rd grade student in Ms. White’s class, but apparently on

her way to a successful career in entertainment! She would like to thank her mom for teaching her how to sing, and she sends Alexis some Good Luck!



Melanie Arriola (Shanti) — loves to act, but has never been in a play. She explains cheerfully, “I like my character. I like the song’s that I sing, and my fav song is, ‘*Wan’na Be Like You.*’” She adds, “The line I like the most is, ‘**Am not—are too!**’” Her favorite scene of the play is when Hathi pokes Mowgli’s nose. She would like to thank her mom and dad for encouraging her to join

Jungle Book Kids, and she wants to thank all the crew.



Christie Blaise (Elephant) — is excited to be a member of the *Jungle Book Kids* cast and is enthusiastic about portraying an elephant in “Colonel Hathi’s march.” She explains that the jungle animals are dancing and singing on a path when they suddenly, “crash into each other at the end of the song.” She has lots of favorite characters in the show—many favorites for different reasons. She says she likes, “Bagheera because she really cares about Mowgli” and she likes, “Sassy Monkey because she really has a lot of passion and attitude.” But Mowgli is also her favorite because, “He’s not scared of anything. He is not even scared of Shere Khan.” Looking ahead to her career, Christie is considering working in a school some day, and says she hopes to be able to conceive and write her own screen play.

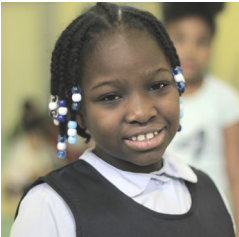


Destiny Campbell-Martin (Jungle Lotus) — has special talents for dancing and music, “I love to dance”, she says, “especially with my cousins.” She adds, “I used to play violin, but I decided this year I wanted to do something a little different. So I decided to join the Disney cast.” She mentions that she really doesn’t have any experience with acting, but it is fun and she loves it! Destiny is in the 5th grade with teachers Ms. Bruntz, Ms. Hunter, Ms. Stokes and Mr. Canares. Her favorite subject is Science. She plans to go to college when she gets older, but for now she doesn’t know what she wants to be when she grows up. In her free time, she sometimes sing to herself, but she’s not a big fan of singing in front of people. She wants to thank her parents for taking care of her and giving her the education she needs. She sends good luck to all of the Disney cast, and adds, “because I want all of us to do great and not be afraid and just to do our best out there.”





Jasir Carter (Ziggy) — has a special talent for dance and says he just loves to dance! “I decided to join the Disney cast”, he says, “because it is something different and I knew I would enjoy it. I never really acted before, but it is really fun.” Jasir is a 4th grade student, taking classes with Ms. Donnerstag and Ms. Miguel. His favorite subject is Science. In his free time, he likes to play video games and football. He wants to thank his family for always taking care of him. Jasir would also like to thank the Disney production team for making it possible for him to be a part of a wonderful cast. “Good luck to the cast and crew!”, he adds, “Let’s have fun!”



Ayannah Charles (Bee) — says she is thrilled to be part of the *Jungle Book Kids* adventure as “Bee #2.” She’s a 3rd grader who is 8 years old, has lots of favorites and big plans for the future! Ayannah likes Math, Social Studies, Science and ELA, and proudly reports she, “knows all her multiplication.” Her favorite teachers are Ms. Daniels and Ms. White, and her favorite school is Forest Street! She fondly recalls winning many awards at Forest and that, “her mom helps her very often and is always there to clap for her.” When she grows up, she’s thinking about becoming a doctor or perhaps an ELA teacher.

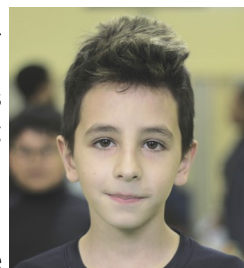




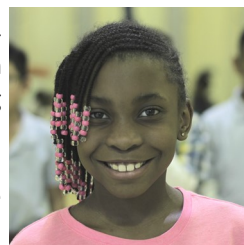
Elijah Collin (Silly Monkey) — says that he “loves *Jungle Book Kids* because it is so much fun! We practice our lines and songs at every rehearsal!” Elijah is 8 years old and in Ms. White’s class. After high school, he wants to get into a good college. He likes Math and says he is considering becoming a computer coder when he grows up. But for now, he also like acting and dancing, and in his free time, listening to music. Elijah says he has never done a musical before and is very happy that he is able do one now and see what it is all about. He adds, “Now, YOU know what it’s all about! It’s so much fun, maybe you wish you could be a cast member too.”



Nicolas Correa Polkman (Wolf) — was a little apprehensive at first about joining the cast of a show as big as *Jungle Book*, but in his words, “Once I was in it, it was not scary at all!” Nicolas says this is his first time acting anywhere, but he did do a concert at a previous school. He says, “That experience was fun, but I know that this year is going to be even more fun, every single moment. I know because I feel the power!” In his spare time, he likes to play soccer and basketball, as well as practice on his favorite musical instrument: his drums. He is currently in Ms. Miguel’s 4th grade class. As the show opens, he would like to wish luck to his good friend Brendon J Robert, “because he helped me with my bio” and to his Art teacher, Ms. Bogle, because, “she inspired me to get involved with the show.”



Naomi Craig (Jungle Banyan) — is very excited to perform in her first school play. She is a 9-year-old, fourth grader in Ms. Donnerstag’s class. She is a high-achieving student who has many talents and hobbies such as dancing, acting and gymnastics. Her idol is her sister, Medina Craig. When Naomi grows up, she want to be the first, Muslim-American president of the United States. She wishes good luck to the cast and hopes the show is amazing and successful.





Amiya Creekmore (Snake Coil) — is from Ms. White’s class. As some of you know, her fav subject is Art. It all started when her mom gave her some paper one day to draw with, and she did! Now, she says, she really loves Art. Amiya’s other interests include Gymnastics, where she has obvious talent, and playing the recorder with Ms. Mroz’s class. She also spends some of her free time, during the week, going to the park and practicing with her friends. She would like to send “*Thank*

you” to Mr. Blair for helping her with the dances, and to Ms. Walker for helping her with the songs. She says thanks to Ms. Daniels for getting her to practice on time, and to all the rest of the Disney cast for being good friends. Most important, she wants to shout out, “Good luck to all my snakes: Luca, Isabelle, Mario, Asar and Medardo!”



Asar Culver (Snake Coil) — is in the third grade, with teachers Ms. Daniels and Ms. White. He says that his favorite subjects at Forest are Math and Science, and that he enjoys playing the recorder in Music class. His experience as an entertainer includes a show at a previous school in which he spoke lines and portrayed Jackie Robinson. After high school, he plans to attend Davidson College in North Carolina and then go on to the

NBA to play professional basketball. But for now, Asar spends his free time reading, playing basketball, and playing with his cousins. He sends his sincere thanks, “to the Disney people who helped us to learn all the routines”, “to my parents for letting me be in Disney, and to all my teachers who helped the cast along the way.” He wishes good luck to the whole Disney cast.





Neriah Destine (Bee) — is an aspiring actress in Ms. Bruntz’s 5th grade class. Her stage experience includes dancing, playing the violin and the recorder. Neriah looks ahead to a career someday as a professional dancer like her role model, Beyoncé. To assure that her dream comes true, she practices dance with great devotion. She is an advanced student at Orange Dance Conservatory and takes part regularly in dance competitions, sometimes traveling great distances. In February of this year, she traveled to California to take part in one such event. She also performs dances on special holidays. All this means Neriah has little free time. After school, she practices dance each day and then does homework. As for college, she hasn’t chosen a university yet but is also considering becoming a Dance Instructor like Ms. Jones. She’s thankful to her parents for her dance program and their cooperation with all that *Jungle Book* involves. She gives a shout out to Zyniya Greenidge, who helps her get to *Jungle Book* on time. She also wishes good luck to Syriya Greenidge, Nathalia LeSane, Magwraants Lubin and Destiny Campbell-Martin.





Alexis Dowell (Bee) — is in the 3 grade in 3B, which means her teacher is Ms. Daniels. Her favorite subject is actually ELA, which is also Ms. Daniels' favorite subject. Alexis plays the recorder in Ms. Mroz's Music class, but it appears she has a special talent for dancing and singing. And she is no stranger to the stage because she has some acting and performance experiences going back to Kindergarten! She added she has "also done singing and school plays."

Alexis is already looking ahead to her career, considering Essex County College and then going on to become an ELA, Social Studies, or Language Arts and Reading teacher like her favorite hero, Ms. Daniels! For now she spends some of her spare time working on stunts and cheers. She wants to thank her teachers Ms. Daniels and Ms. White for their help in her education and pursuit of knowledge so she can go to college. She adds, "I want to send luck to the cast of *Jungle Book*. I hope people like our show, and that we are in luck!"



Kalea Epitime (Grumpy Monkey) — is a 4th grade student in Ms. Donnerstag's homeroom class. Her favorite subjects are Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science. She loves acting in plays, gymnastics, dancing and cheering. In addition, she is hardworking student who is a participant of the Orange District's "Gifted and Talented" program. Kalea "looks forward to doing this play successfully" and invites everyone to, "sit back and enjoy the play!!!"



"P.S. I am the monkey you see that is grumpy."

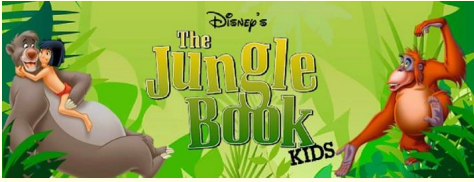


Luca Gamboa (Snake Coil) — is in Ms. White's 3rd grade class and his favorite courses this year are Dance and Music. His past experience on the stage includes playing the Recorder and performing a Spanish dance. He also

has a unique talent for making a "cat noise" and doing an up-side-down, 360° maneuver. Luca tries to use his spare time wisely, and looking ahead, he is considering a career in law enforcement. He wants to thank his parents for letting him join *Jungle Book Kids*, and he sends good luck to everybody in the play.



Congratulations to my son



Luca
Gamboa

and to the entire cast and crew!

Thank you to all responsible for putting
this event together. —Charles Gamboa

Syriya Greenidge (King Louie) — may be the most multi-talented and versatile member of the *Jungle Book Kids* cast. She plays a wide variety of musical instruments, including drums, guiro, maracas, piano and backpacker guitar. Syriya explained the guitar, “It’s long and skinny and fits on your back like a backpack.” Her acrobatic talents include flipping, break dancing and her flexibility in general. She also has previous stage experience performing last year in a show about



Ruby Bridges, and in a guitar show.

Syriya is in the 5th grade at Forest. Her favorite subjects are Math, Technology and Art. As she gets older, she’s, “planning to work hard and graduate school early so I can get a job/career and house early.” Her career plans include becoming an engineer working in science or on machines, maybe at NASA, or possibly becoming a mathematics teacher. For now, she spends her free time doing her homework and playing her Xbox. Syriya wants to thank her parents, grandma, aunt, Zyniya, Ty’Ajah, Johnslie, Marjorie, Jennifer, Daiana E., Amiya, Khilan and Abessalat. She also wishes good luck to Amiya, Khilan, Destiny and Cameron. “Good luck to all of you!”





Noah Hicks-Smith (Baloo) — is very grateful to have been cast in the role of Baloo in our show. He says he has a variety of special talents, among them acting, playing checkers, and thoughtful prayer. He is an especially good reader, and due to his hard work, has reached an 11th grade reading level! Noah is in the 4th grade classes of Ms. Donnerstag and Ms. Miguel and also travels during the week to attend Orange’s Scholars

Program, something he has been part of since Kindergarten. His favorite subject at Forest is Science. In his free time, Noah studies his Jungle Book script, reads, writes comics, watches TV, exercises, plays basketball and spends time with his family. He is also a member of the Boy Scouts of America. His theatrical experience includes a portrayal of Paul Robeson for Black History Month and his career plans include joining the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) or becoming a veterinarian. He sends a shout out to his parents, the Smiths, with thanks for wishing him good luck and great blessings for this upcoming show. He also wants to thank his aunties and his grandmother for great blessings too. Finally he says, “Break a leg!” to Cameron (Mowgli), and “Good luck” to Jasir (Ziggy).



Jamal Jackson (Wolf) — says he’s in Jungle Book because it’s fun, and aside from *Specials*, it’s the light of his day! Jamal is currently in the 5th grade. His favorite subjects are Math, Gym, Dance and Art. He chose the last three because he’s good at them and in his words, “it seems the most fun thing during the school day.”

But he’s really great at Math too and was part of the 4th -5th Grade “24 Competition.” In his free time, he enjoys playing sports or his PlayStation. In closing, he observes that out of all the video editions of Jungle Book, he prefers the cartoon version, “because it’s more full of excitement and it’s more funny.”

Marissa Jean-Baptiste (Wolf) — loves her character because she gets to dance! She really appreciate Ms. Jones, Ms. Walker, Ms. Bogle, Mr. Blair and Mr. Warta for preparing her to present on a real stage. She also wants to thanks her mom and dad for encouraging her to be in the play. To all of her Jungle Book mates— she wishes “Good luck!” in their various roles, and for winning them in the first place. She also sends good luck out to her Jungle Book teachers and hopes the show will get great reviews. Lastly, she wishes herself good luck too!



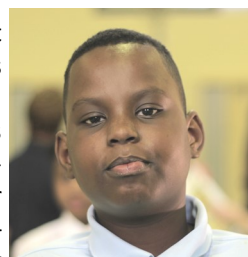
Skyla Jeter (Sassy Monkey) — loves school so much she is an “A” student! She plans to attend a great college, and attributes the certainty of that plan to her teachers, Mrs. Daniels and Ms. White. Skyla is presently in the 3rd grade; her favorite subject is Dance. “I used to go to dance class...” she explains, “and that is why I am so good at it. I have been in two plays, but in Jungle Book, I feel nervous.” She enjoyed having the chance to tell everyone a little about herself in the biography, and she wishes good luck to everyone in the show. “BYE!”



Janae Joseph (Elephant) — is happy to be part of *Jungle Book Kids*. She observes she is, “part of a cast where there are some really nice people, fun costumes and all kinds of exciting things happening.” She’s a fourth grader with lots of talent, and she can’t wait to get her chance to perform on the “Forest stage.” She wants to thank all who have helped to make this show a success and sends good luck wishes out to all the cast and crew!



Johnsliie Julien (Elephant) — says this may be the first time he’s acting in a formal stage play, but he does have some experience from last year when he did a smaller performance in front of a classroom. Johnsliie is in 5-B, Ms. Bruntz’s 5th grade class. His favorite subject this year is Art and he also plays the trombone. For now, he says, “I’m still trying to discover what my special talent is, but I’m working on it.” He wants to say “Thank you” to his parents for believing he will be a great actor, and “Good luck” to his friend Bryan whom he hopes will be a great success in life.





Nathalia LeSane (Bee) — can't wait for opening night and says, "It's the cast's big chance to show off their hard work!" She says they have all worked hard, especially Nathalia herself. "I'm a bee and I like the role of the bee.", she says. "The bees kind of explain how I am as a person. I'm a person who likes to help others, but I also like to make people laugh and I like to make people happy. When I make people laugh and happy, I feel nice and warm. I really don't like it when people are

upset." She says she enjoys acting and being in the cast, and that *Jungle Book* is one of her favorite movies. Nathalia is a 5th grade student in Mr. Canares' class and tells everyone to, "Have a wonderful time at the show!"



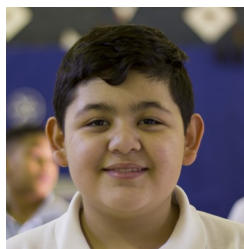
Magwrantz Lubin (Wolf) — is in the 5th grade home-room of Mr. Brian Canares. She says her favorite subject is Math because she thinks it plays a very important role in life. One of her special talents is dancing. As she tells it, "Dancing is my life! I mean, I do not know what I would do if I did not dance!" To prepare herself for success, she has been attending a private dance school for six years and plans to continue this year. Magwrantz

is also musically talented, playing both the guitar and the clarinet. Following high school, she plans to attend Seton Hall University or perhaps Rutgers. Meanwhile, she spends some of her free time creating artwork and some of it, of course, dancing! Magwrantz would like to thank her parents, teacher, family, and friends for their support. She also wishes "Good Luck" to her friends Nathalia and Grace.



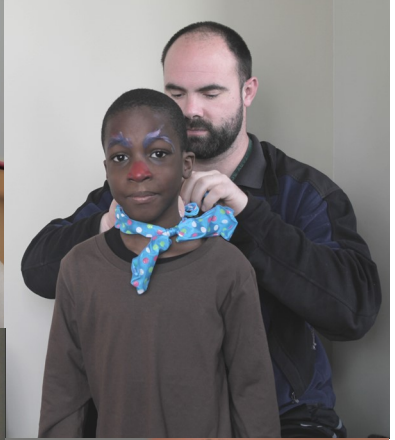


Medardo Mancía (Kaa) — is new to the United States, having just moved here from El Salvador last year. But he has adjusted to his new life very well and is anxious to demonstrate that by proudly going on stage in front of everyone. Medardo, who is in Ms. Bruntz’s 5th grade class, says he, likes Art class a lot, his favorite color is green and his favorite food is chicken. He reports that he joined the cast of *Jungle Book* because he expects it will be lot of fun. In his own words, “I like Disney because I learned more how to act in this show.”



Isabelle Martin (Snake Coil) — is in the 4th grade and her teacher is Ms. Donnerstag. Her favorite subjects are English Language Arts, Social Studies and Science. One of her special talents is her flexibility. Although she has not performed before in front of an audience, she is confident that she will do great. Isabelle’s college choice is The Julliard School and her career choice is to be an actress and a dancer. She adds, “I hope to perform on Broadway someday.” Isabelle spends her free time reading fiction books, dancing and attempting to write her own books. As for *Jungle Book*, she would like to thank Ms. Jones, Mr. Blair, Mr. Warta, Ms. Walker, Mr. Donnelly, Ms. Mroz, Ms. Bogle and Ms. Cooke for making this whole production happen. She would also like to thank her friends for helping her with the music and her lines. She concludes, “I wish luck to all my fellow actors and actresses. Break a leg!”







Assistant Director Torenzo Blair modeling a dance at rehearsal



Anastasia Merisier (Colonel Hathi) — is a nice person with a passion for dancing. “I am very practical, humorous and patient.” she says. “I’m also very ambitious. I’m from the best state ever. Haiti! Haiti is very nice. I wanted to join Disney so I can become even better at dancing and also so I can learn how it feels to be in a play.” She lights up as she explains her role as an elephant, “Colonel Hathi to be exact”, she adds. Anastasia says the rush is just amazing and she is thankful every day to have this opportunity.

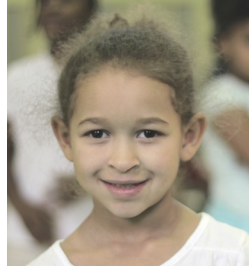


Khilan Troy Mussenden (Elephant) — is happy to be participating in *Jungle Book Kids*. He is in the 3rd grade, with teachers Ms. Daniels and Ms. White. He enjoys playing sports, especially his favorite, Basketball. He explains that, “Basketball is a sport that keeps your body healthy.” He says that he plays basketball almost everyday so his body is always in good condition. As far as school goes, Khilan says he “always does his homework, so he gets A+’s a lot!” and “I try to get 4’s every day. When I grow up”, he adds, “I want to be a basketball player.”



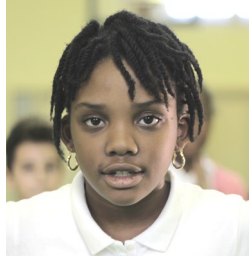
Albert Nava Garcia (Dizzy) — has a special talent: he can juggle and sing and dance—all at the same time! He plays the clarinet and flute and sometimes the drums. He recalls a time when he was younger, when he was supposed to perform in front of a large group of people, but felt too shy. But that was a long time ago! Now he has a title role in *Jungle Book Kids* and is ready to perform in front of the whole town of Orange! At Forest, Albert is in Ms. Miguel’s 4th grade class. His leisure time includes doing his homework, playing soccer, basketball, drawing or playing games. He also has a lot of interest in racing. He wants to thank his Art teacher, Ms. Bogle, for encouraging him to join the cast of *Jungle Book*, and his friends and family who are all counting on him to perform his very best.

Justina Oakley (Bee) — is perfect in her role as a “bumble bee”, and says she loves working as a cast member of the show. Her talent as a great singer and dancer, combined with her bubbly personality and positive attitude, make her a super addition to the cast. Justina is in the 3rd grade and loves her teachers, Ms. Daniels and Ms. White, as well as the staff who worked with her on *Jungle Book*. Her favorite food is pizza, but



she often chooses strawberry yogurt instead because she knows it’s a healthy choice. At home, she has a brother named Omari and a loving family. When asked about her career plans, Justina summed it up perfectly, “When I grow up, I want to be an actor who plays a person that, ‘starts a trip in the jungle, and becomes friends with animals’, just like *Jungle Book*.”

Grace Okon (Bagheera) — is in the 5th grade home-room class of Mr. Canares. Her favorite subjects are ELA, Art and Dance. She is talented with technology too, working with tablets, computers and other electronics. One musical instrument she plays is the violin. “During the past performance, I felt a little nervous”, she explains, “but, it was actually fun when everyone came in a big group.” One of her career plans later on is to become a doctor. But for now, she says, “Sometimes when I am done with



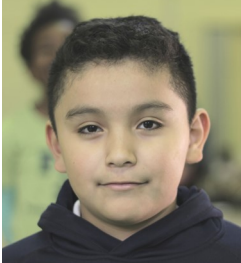
all of my homework and my mom says I can do anything I want to, I go on my tablet and watch funny things! She says thanks to her mom for getting together a terrific cat costume for *Jungle Book*, “so I can look just like Bagheera, the black panther!” She wants to send good luck wishes to everyone in *Jungle Book*, and adds, “They all try so hard to become their very best!”

Cameron Phillips (Mowgli) — is an intelligent, responsible and outgoing young man who loves being helpful in his community. Cameron really enjoys acting in *Jungle Book Kids* and singing in school concerts. His favorite activities are playing baseball, football, and riding his bike. His favorites hobby is reading “Diary of a Wimpy Kid” and the “Captain Underpants” series. He also likes playing video games, rapping, dancing, and watching YouTube. Cameron is a very caring student who is always willing to lend a hand to whomever is in need of help. Cameron believes in leading by example, being respectful to all, and having a positive attitude.





Lissette Yahira Quiroz (Jungle Thistle) — is a 4th grader and loves singing, acting, and dancing. Her first acting experience was as a munchkin from *The Wizard of Oz*. She is a ballet student at *Maria Priadka School of Dance*, and was part of *The Orange Dance Conservatory*. During her free time she likes to read, watch TV, and play games. She would like to thank Mami and Papi for supporting her 100%, and says all to the cast and crew, “I know you’re going to be terrific and I wish you all the very best luck!”



Bryan Rivas Jose (Old Monkey) — says his biggest ambition right now is, “to be good at acting so my parents could be proud of me.” Bryan’s favorite subjects at school are Math and Social Studies. In his free time, he enjoys playing the guitar with his cousin, and getting ready for *Jungle Book* by practicing the dances and songs. He also enjoys reading books and playing on his PS4. Looking ahead to his future, he

hopes to attend a good university and is open to traveling to one that is far away. He wants to thank Jamal Jackson, “because he helps me with dances and the songs.” Bryan sends his good wishes to the other actors, and says if they just try their best, he is confident they will be great when the show opens.

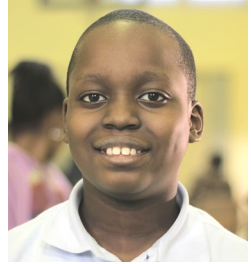


"Oh, oobee doo, I wan'na be like you!"



Best Wishes
to the
Cast and Crew
of
Jungle Book Kids
from
The Donnelly
Family

Brendon Robert (Snake Coil) — is in the 4th grade class of Ms. Miguel. His favorite subject is Math because he finds it to be the easiest of all. He says he has never performed anywhere other than in the *Jungle Book* show, but he does have some experience in entertainment: "I love to play the drums and I am double-jointed", he explains. As for career plans, Brendon tells us he would like to go to Harvard University someday, and later, perhaps become the president of the United States. But for now, during his free time, he enjoys playing football on his Xbox. Brendon adds, "I would like to thank Mario Valle because he always believed that I could become a great actor." He also sends out a good luck wish to Albert and Nicolas because they helped him with his lines.



Janniella Eve Rodriguez (Wolf) — is a hard working *Jungle Book Kids* cast member in Forest Street School. Her special talents are singing and doing Hip Hop dances. The musical instrument she plays is the recorder. Her teachers are Ms. Daniels and Ms. White and her favorite subjects are Math, ELA, Science and Social Studies. She spends her free time by playing, singing in the shower, and watching TV. Her



theatrical experience includes performing Hip Hop at All Stars. She would like to thank her parents because, "They know I love acting and singing, so, 'THANK YOU MOM and DAD so much for supporting me so much!'" She also wants to send a good luck wish to Fiorella (Shere Khan)... **"GOOD LUCK FIORELLA!!!!"**





Nathanael Saint-Jean (Elephant) — is in the third grade and is 9 years old. His favorite sports are baseball and basketball. In his free time, he likes to play basketball and read. “I like playing with my friends”, he says, “but I also like to spend time with my family.” He would like to thank the Disney® teachers, Ms. Daniels and his mom. “So this is me! Nathanael Saint-Jean”, he adds, and he invites everyone to come to see

the show and discover what it’s all about!



Michele Tong Navarro (Baby Elephant) — a third grade student at Forest, is fast becoming a rising star. She explains, “this is my first time in a play, but I think I am really good at dancing.” Her favorite subjects at Forest are Math and ELA, and her teachers are Ms. White and Ms. Daniels. Looking ahead to life after high school, Michele is considering attending Rutgers University to become an ELA teacher. In

her free time, she likes playing soccer with her family, as well as creating original dances to perform. Michele also appeared on stage with the Disney cast earlier this school year in the *Winter Concert* (2016) and appeared previously as a dancer in the *Spring Concert*, “*Around the World*” in 2015. She wants to thank her mom and Ms. Jones for all their support!





Mario Valle Valle (Snake Coil) — self-described, is a hard-working student in Ms. Miguel’s class. This is the first time he is appearing on the Forest stage and he reveals he’s, “both nervous and excited!” Although feeling a little shy about being in the show, he feels lots of confidence too. In his free time at home, Mario loves spending time with his little brother who is only 3 years old. When he has time, he also plays soccer with his friends, reads or spends some time on PlayStation®. As he looks to his future, Mario is considering becoming a doctor or a scientist! He wishes good luck to the cast and crew.



Our sincere thanks to Steven Dourdis, Family Liaison, for bringing Disney Musicals in Schools to Forest and for being an integral part of our Disney Planning Committee.

Director and Choreographer



Theresa Jones — received a B.F.A. in Dance Performance and a Master of Education Degree in Dance Education from Rutgers University. She has had extensive training in Ballet, Lyrical, Modern, Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap, Musical Theatre, African, and Latin styles. Ms. Jones completed her dance training at Broadway Dance Center in New York City. There she was a member of AIM Performance Company and a scholarship recipient. Ms. Jones has trained at Steps on Broadway, Dance Sport, and The New Jersey School of Ballet.

Some of her performances include: Madison Square Garden, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, The U.S. Open, MTV's TRL, Dancers Responding to AIDS, American College Dance Festival, Britney Spears Promotional Party, and ECA World Fitness Convention. Ms. Jones has also appeared in Dance Magazine. She has directed three musicals for Heywood Avenue School, as well as numerous musicals for Norwescap Family Success Center. She is excited to work with NJPAC and the talented students of Forest Street School!

Assistant Director



Torenzo Blair — is a native of Hampton, Virginia, where he became involved with the arts at a very young age. He is an actor, dancer, singer, musician, carpenter and photographer. Blair is a graduate of Hampton University where he received his B.A. in Theatre Arts with a concentration in Performance. He has also trained at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City. His credits include performing in productions such as *Dream Girls* (Jimmy Early), *Joe Turners Come and Gone* (Bynum Walker), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Dentist), and *A Raisin in the Sun* (George Mur-

chison), just to name a few. After graduating, he returned to his Alma Mater as director for the main-stage production of Samm-Art Williams' *Home*. He has served as a crew member and carpenter for The Virginia Lyric Opera and The National Black Theatre Festival. Most recently he served, on tour, as a team member for Tyler Perry's stage play, *Madea On the Run*. Blair works as a substitute teacher in Orange as he continues to pursue his career in acting. He is thankful for the opportunity to work with the amazingly-talented students and staff of Forest Street School.

Producer

Yancisca Cooke — is Forest Street School’s principal, and the primary instructional leader overseeing the daily operations and instructional program of its 400+ students and 50+ faculty members. With 25 years of experience in education, Ms. Cooke served as a Special Education and General Education teacher with the New York City Department of Education, as well as the



assistant principal of Lincoln Avenue School prior to coming to Forest. It is her personal mission to be an advocate for *all* children, developing them into life-long learners as well as productive citizens. This philosophy is rooted in her belief that there must be a focus on the *whole child*—socially, emotionally, physically and academically—in order to successfully nurture and develop children. Ms. Cooke holds a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and Education from Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, North Carolina, and a Master’s Degree from Mercy College in New York, where she received her certification in School Administration and Supervision. It is most notable that she has recently completed all required coursework for a doctoral degree from Kean University, and that she is currently completing her dissertation. Ms. Cooke is an active member of the distinguished organization of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Rho Gamma Omega Chapter, which serves the Oranges and Maplewood. But she is most proud of the future leaders she has developed in her son, Erick, who currently attends Rutgers University, and her daughter, Yaara, a junior at Union High School. She is thankful and delighted that Forest has been honored with the NJPAC/Disney *Musicals in Schools* grant that has made this production possible, and she is convinced that the talented students of Forest will deliver an equally amazing and delightful show. She sends her heartfelt thanks and best wishes to the staff and the entire cast and stage crew of *Jungle Book Kids*!





Assistant Producer



Bill Donnelly — is an ESL teacher at Forest Street School, working with grades 3 to 7. In addition to the Disney show, he is involved with the Micro Society program—our town of Pantherville, and the School Management Team (SMT). He also works closely with Forest’s Family Liaison, Ernesto Lorenzo, to stimulate greater parent and community connections in Forest’s neighborhood. He is a graduate of Kean University in

Union, NJ, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education and Spanish, and a Master of Arts in Instruction and Curriculum. Although he has never acted on the stage, he has been active behind the scenes. In addition to this *Jungle Book Kids* program booklet, he has previously produced similar booklets for *Annie* (2014) and (2003), *Guys and Dolls* (2007), *Footloose* (2006), *While the Lights Were Out* (2006), *Hotel Paradiso* (2005), *You Can’t Take It With You* (2005), and *Kiss Me Kate* (2005). Mr. Donnelly wishes to thank all of the parents, staff, administrators, sponsors and advertisers who made this booklet possible, and sends a message of *Good Luck* out to the entire cast and crew of *Jungle Book Kids*.

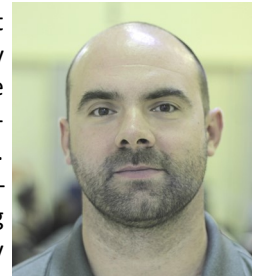
Production Manager

Avril Bogle — has been the Art Instructor at Forest Street School for 12 years. Outside of school, she is also a working artist and a teacher. She attended the New York City College of Technology (CUNY) for Graphic Design and Advertising, before going back to receive her teaching certificate in General Education. She began teaching Pre K-5 at a Montessori School in Brooklyn, NY, where she originally lived. She recalls about her experience, “Every year we prepared two shows for presentation at Art Design High School in Manhattan, and I was the set designer as well as the production manager for both of these showcases.” When Ms. Bogle later moved to New Jersey, she returned to school to complete an Art Certification for grades K-12. Since joining the staff at Forest, she has been involved in many, many FSS productions, and is looking forward to another successful show this year. She wishes all the best to the production staff and student actors, and adds with a smile, “You are all doing a great job!”



Stage Manager

Jacob Warta — is a pillar of support at Forest Street School and the magician behind-the-scenes at many Forest productions. You need only look up into the jungle skies to see how his gymnasium has been transformed into a mysterious jungle. Outside our show, Mr. Warta is Forest’s Physical Education and Health teacher. In addition to being the key person behind lighting and sound in this production, he has assisted with many previous Forest productions, including *Annie, Jr* in 2014 and numerous concerts before and after.



As Stage Manager for *Jungle Book Kids*, he has trained our student, stage crew to operate the sound equipment and our new theatrical

lighting (you need only look up into the jungle skies again to see it) as well as handle all the logistics of set design and scene changes. Mr. Warta wants to thank his terrific stage crew, and says with confidence, “They know what they’re doing and they’ve got everything under control!”



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Music Director



Marianne Mroz — has been a music teacher in Orange for 19 years. She holds a BA, MA in Music Education & Music Performance from Montclair State, and an MA in Educational Leadership from Kean University. She has enjoyed working with the cast and staff on this musical, and wishes all, "Good luck on your performance!"

Assistant Choreographer



Monique Walker — is the 6th/7th grade ELA teacher here at Forest Street Elementary School. She is currently in her 15th year of teaching, and explains it this way, "I'm still here because I absolutely love interacting with my students from day to day." Ms. Walker is a graduate of Seton Hall University with a degree in Criminal Justice, and Walden University with a Master's degree in Reading and Literacy. As an ELA teacher, she is also

Forest's "*Star of Stage and Screen*", winning a District-wide award earlier this school year for "beating the NJ state scores" and achieving more academic progress in her English classes than most schools across the entire state. This award resulted in a large monetary prize for Forest Street School. (**Thank you Ms. Walker!!!**) In addition to her role as *Jungle Book's* Assistant Choreographer, she is a former member of the *Teacher's Dance Ensemble* for Orange. She enjoys spending free time with family and, of course, dancing. She sends good wishes to the whole cast, "Break a leg, Forest Street Panthers!"

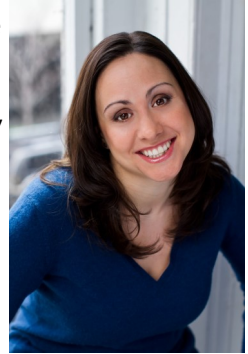
Community Relations and Photography

Ernesto Lorenzo — is a new but highly valued part of the Forest Street School staff. As an *Americorp* member, he is Forest’s “Family Liaison”, helping to bring the school and family communities together to support the personal and academic development of our children. Born and raised in Newark, NJ, Mr. Lorenzo attended Rutgers University in New Brunswick, graduating in 2014 with a B.A. in Journalism and Media Studies. In 2012, he secured a \$25,000 business loan, and started his own small business, a production company called *Eternal Circle Productions*. He has worked as a freelance cinematographer for the last 4 years, shooting short films, feature films, music videos and commercials.



NJPAC Teaching Artist

Adrienne Asterita — has over 15 years of experience teaching and working with kids focusing in the Performing Arts. She has been working as a Teaching Artist with NJPAC since 2015, and is proud to be a part of *Disney Musicals In Schools* for the second year. Adrienne has also been a Teaching Artist in NJ with The Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn and with Premiere Stages at Kean University, as well as a private acting and audition coach. In the summer, Adrienne is the director of the Musical Theater Workshop program at Summers at LREI (The Little Red School House) in Manhattan, which she



has helped to develop since 2008. She began her teaching journey working in their After-School program in 2000, as well as becoming a regular substitute teacher. Adrienne has a background in the performing arts, with a B.F.A. in Drama from NYU. She attended Playwrights Horizons Theatre School at the Tisch School for the Arts, where she learned everything from acting and directing, to stage-managing and design. She has worked professionally as an actress in Theatre, Film & TV, and works a lot as a freelance vocalist. Adrienne has the unique experience of singing the National Anthem at various sporting events at Shea Stadium, Giants Stadium, and multiple times at Madison Square Garden. She also has recorded two children’s albums, and is a member of an original children’s music group called *Junior Jam*. Adrienne can be seen most weekends singing with different live bands in NJ or NYC at various venues, as well as private events. Her most recent and favorite project of all time is raising her daughter who was born in March of 2015.

NJPAC Teaching Artist



Daryl L. Stewart — is a professional performing & teaching artist. Stewart's regional music theater credits include Gershwin's *My One & Only*, *The Wild Party*, Disney's *Aida*, *Carousel*, *Ragtime*, *Into The Woods*, *Step-show* (NYMF) and *Five Guys Named Moe*, *The Wiz*, *Once On This Island*, *Annie*, *Seussical*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *High School Musical*, *Fame* and Disney's *The Lion King Experience*. Stewart's solo concert credits include Tam-

many Hall, The Village Underground, Cohoes Music Hall, Gizzis, Montclair Art Center, The Harvard Club, The Yale Club, Encore Cabaret and many more. Most recently, Stewart's original solo play, "Fully Versatile", premiered Off-Broadway at Playwrights Horizon, NYC.

Education: New York University, New York Conservatory for Drama and Papermill Playhouse Conservatory. Stewart serves on the faculty of several arts organizations including NJPAC Center for Arts Education, Disney Musicals in Schools, Luna Stage Theater Co. and Institute of Music. He is the 2014 Urban League YP Honoree for the Arts, Two-Time Papermill Rising Star Nominee and a 2013 BMC Award Nominee. iamdarylstewart.com | [@thedarylstewart](https://www.instagram.com/thedarylstewart)





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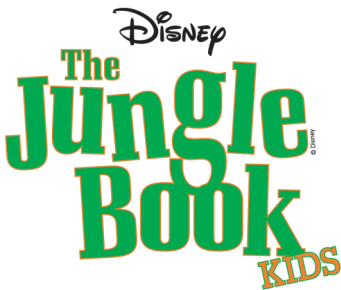
The Forest Street School's
faculty & students

On their

Stage Presentation of
Jungle Book Kids

**Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world -
Nelson Mandela**

Best Wishes
to
Forest Street School
and to the cast and crew of



from
Ms. Caroline
Onyesonwu
and the
Bilingual/ESL Department

*You make us
very proud!*

The Honorable Assemblywoman

Sheila Y. Oliver

New Jersey General Assembly

34th Legislative District

wishes



Warmest Congratulations

and

Best of Luck!

to the students, staff and faculty of

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in their stage production of

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Best Wishes
to the
Cast & Crew



from
Ms. Donna Sinisgalli
Supervisor
Visual and Performing Arts, K-12
Orange Public Schools



from the
Forest Street
ESL teachers

Mr. Donnelly
&
Ms. Titlebaum

Congratulations
to the
Cast and Crew of
Jungle Book Kids!





Best Wishes and Congratulations to a great Start with the Production of *Jungle Book*

The best of luck to my big star Love ulats Cam

Get up there and shine!! Mr. Silvooy

Congrats Isabelle from mom!

we adore you mi campeon Buena Suerte mi nino Albert Nava muchos Exitos en tu nuevo reto

Best wishes!! Ms. Hanson

Breaklegs! You are rockstars! Duf

Best of Luck to all the cast. I know it will be awesome Ms. Kenyon

Good luck on your performance your hard work will pay off Mrs. Napier

Congrats Forest St.!! Sparkley Shine, Glick & Glow of Arizona

Best of luck for a great show! Antunes *

Best of Luck to the cast Break a leg madhette Kassing

Buena Suerte Cam!

You Are The Best Cast Ever! Ms. M. Mroz + Ms. T. Jones

Good Luck Baby Girl Netia Love Honey

Mr. Breakthrough

a Break Leg Skyla Ms. Miracle

To Jannella Congrats on your Ribbon

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Advertising Sales	Bill Donnelly , Jacqueline Murphy and Avril Bogle
Costumes	Avril Bogle
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Performance Videography	Ernesto Lorenzo
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Special Thanks to... All the people behind the scenes who helped to make our show a big success, especially: Principal Yancisca Cooke (our Guiding Star), A.P. Nyree Delgado, Renee Willis and Dawn Martin for so much help in more ways than space allows

enumeration, Dr. Paula Howard for editing of, encouragement and support for this play program booklet, Ms. Bunny for help with fund raising, Pramawattie Springer for help staffing our concession tables, Deidre Dobbs for connections, arrangements and ad design, Joan Purkiss for photos and ad design, Hon. Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, Esq. and the Township of Orange for being loyal supporters of our productions, Donna Sinisgalli for some terrific NJPAC Student Share photos, and our terrific Forest Street Custodial Staff who set up everything behind the scenes. Thanks to Mr. Warta for invaluable assistance with lighting and sound systems, to Mr. Scott Clark for sound system set up, to Steven Dourdis for securing our NJPAC/Disney grant, and to Ms. Evelyn Lekunze for keeping the cast fed many times during rehearsals. Thanks finally to all the unmentioned but appreciated parents, staff and friends who facilitated this successful production in one kind way or another. —Bill Donnelly, Program Editor

“Oh, oobee do, we wan’na be like you!”

CORY A. BOOKER
NEW JERSEY



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

March 16, 2017

Forest Street School
Orange Township Public Schools
651 Forest Street
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Dear Friends,

Greetings! Bonswa! ¡Saludos!

It is an honor to extend my warmest greetings as you gather for this evening's play, "Jungle Book Kids."

The arts allow us to see the world through the eyes of others, and they give us a unique perspective that has the power to influence countless lives. Your commitment to ensuring that quality arts education is available to the children in your community is commendable. Although I cannot join you in person at tonight's event, please know that I am there in spirit as you enjoy this performance.

Congratulations to all of the teachers, parents, and families who have helped to make this night possible. Thank you for your inspiring work!

Felisitasyon a tout pwofesè, paran yo, ak fanmi ki ede fè jou lanwit sa a posib. Mèsi pou gran travay motivasyon sa a.

¡Felicitaciones a todos los profesores, padres y familiares que ayudaron a realizar esta noche!
¡Gracias por su trabajo inspirador!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C.A.B.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

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Nyree Delgado, **Assistant Principal**



Concert Program Editor ~ Bill Donnelly, ESL Teacher

Concert Program Cover ~ Avril Bogle, Art Director

Forest Street Logo Design ~ Ernesto Lorenzo, Family Liaison



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