

Ovation

Theatre Company LLC



Alice

by

heart

Director's Note

“Alice! a childish story take,
And with a gentle hand
Lay it where Childhood's dreams are twined
In Memory's mystic band”
—Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*

When I first saw a production of *Alice by Heart* in the summer of 2024, despite having no knowledge of the children's classic *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, I was immediately inspired by the creativity with which the source material is adapted to fit this fresh story, and moved by the depth and importance of its message. As I dove into the original book while preparing to direct this production, I was struck by the fact that although the story is crafted for children, it has a surprising poignancy in the way it portrays the innocence of childhood, the simple beauty of imagination and storytelling, and the way one's relationship to these things changes along the journey from childhood to adulthood — all of which are themes present in the show you are about to see.

Alice by Heart reimagines Lewis Carroll's iconic characters as the dreamlike vision of a girl struggling to cope with loss, grief, and the pains of growing up in a world changing and crumbling around her. It intertwines a “childish” tale with a grounded story about grappling with growing out of one's childhood dreams, and the importance of keeping their memory alive. In our production, we strove to keep the story grounded in reality, using elements from the “real world” to build the characters and world of Wonderland, and keeping reality present onstage at all times. A key component of this was having a small ensemble cast who tells the story as a collective, slipping seamlessly in and out of roles and supporting in each scene and song. Since youth and coming of age are vital to the plot, we intentionally cast age-appropriate actors to portray each role. We also utilized our staging and choreography to elevate the emotion and beauty of this story and the creativity with which it is written.

I would like to express my gratitude to the creative team of Alli, Becca, Jake, Jillian, and Connor for lending their talents and brilliance to this production, and for their commitment to fostering an environment of both education and fun. Thank you to the cast for embracing our vision, and for bringing energy and enthusiasm to every rehearsal. Thank you to our fabulous designers, Karenëlisë, Justin, Jess, Tom, Pete, and Dan for making this production look beautiful and authentic. And finally, the biggest thank you is always to my Mom, for inspiring me, teaching me, believing in me, and supporting my passions. I love you :)

Thank you for coming, and I hope you enjoy the show.
—Tim Gore

OVATION THEATRE COMPANY

proudly presents



July 17-18, 2026

Music by
Duncan Sheik

Book by
**Steven Sater &
Jessie Nelson**

Lyrics by
Steven Sater

Orchestrations by **Duncan Sheik**; Additional Orchestrations by **Simon Hale**; Vocal Arrangements by **Jason Hart**

Alice by Heart was first commissioned and produced by National Theatre Connections in 2012; Developed with the Assistance of Theatre Aspen, Aspen, Colorado. A workshop production of *Alice by Heart* was presented by New York Stage and Film & Vassar at The Powerhouse Theater, Summer 2018. New York Premiere at the MCC Theater February 26, 2019 Artistic Directors: Robert LuPone, Bernard Telsey, & William Cantler Executive Director: Blake West

ALICE BY HEART

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

Flashing lights and smoke effects will be used during this production. All photography and videography is strictly prohibited. Please turn your cell phones completely off.

Production Team

Director	Tim Gore
Music Director	Becca Crivello
Choreographer	Jillian Mastroberte
Associate Music Director	Jake Doble
Assistant Director	Alli Zenga
Stage Manager	Connor Burns
Costume Design	Karenëlisë Metz
Costume Team	Jen Brown, Alea Millis, Elizabeth Robinson
Set Design	Jessica Millis and Justin Millis
Set Construction	Tom Plano
Lighting Design	Pete Dusaitis
Hair and Wig Design	Jake Doble
Sound Engineer	Tim Gore
Prop Coordination	Dan Gore
House Manager	Dan Gore
Poster and Program Design	Tim Gore
Volunteer Coordinator & Cast Board	Shawna Carroll
Marketing Coordinator	Jake Doble

Special Thanks to...

Chris Paul and The Londonderry Times

Nate Sawyer, Sarah Herron, and the Bedford HS Theatre Company

Actorsingers

Kelsey and Eric Berthiaume

Greater Derry Arts Council

Lisa Burns

Matthew Roscoe

Cast

ALICE	Jennah Gunawan
ALFRED	Daniel Lewis
RED CROSS NURSE / QUEEN OF HEARTS	Amanda Armillay
TABATHA / CHESHIRE CAT	Lyss Peddle
HAROLD / MAD HATTER	Nicholas Metz II
DODGY / DUCHESS	Samson Carter
NIGEL / MOCK TURTLE	Federico Mills
DR. BUTRIDGE / JABBERWOCK	Brett Branscombe
CLARISSA / QUEEN OF DIAMONDS	Meg Roscoe
ANGUS / CATERPILLAR	Declan Corbett
MARY / CATERPILLAR	Hanna Carroll
ENSEMBLE	Charlotte Latour Alyssa Meyers Raylyn Paul
YOUNG ALICE	Charlotte Feole-Lundy (<i>Fri. & Sat. 1 PM</i>) and Clara Curtis (<i>Sat. 7 PM</i>)
YOUNG ALFRED	Kyle Daly (<i>Fri. & Sat. 1 PM</i>) and Levi Freilich (<i>Sat. 7 PM</i>)

Musical Numbers

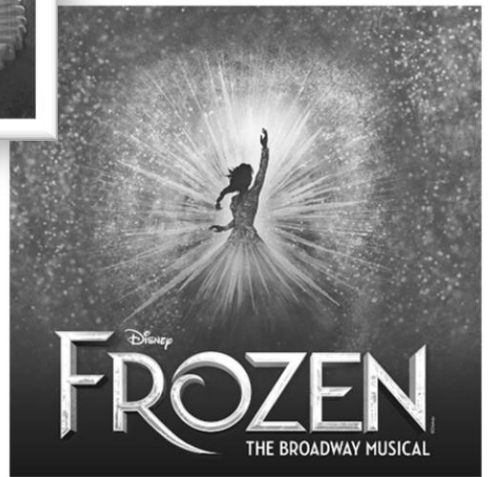
“West of Words”	Alice, Alfred, Company
“Down the Hole”	Company
“Still”	Alfred, Alice
“Chillin’ the Regrets”	Caterpillar, Alice, Company
“The Key Is”	Alice, Caterpillar, Alfred, Company
“Those Long Eyes”	Cheshire Cat, Alice, Alfred
“Manage Your Flamingo”	Duchess, Queen of Diamonds, King of Hearts, Queen of Hearts, Knaves
“Sick to Death of Alice-ness”	Mad Hatter, Alfred, Dormouse
“Brillig Braelig”	Jabberwock, Alice, Company
“Some Things Fall Away”	Cheshire Cat
“Your Shell of Grief”	Mock Turtles, Alice
“Another Room in Your Head”	Alfred, Alice, Company
“Isn’t It a Trial?”	Queen of Hearts, Caterpillar, Queen of Diamonds, Company
“Do You Think We Think You’re Alice?”	Company
“I’ve Shrunk Enough”	Alice, Cheshire Cat, Queen of Hearts, Alfred, King of Hearts, Duchess, Company
“Still (Reprise)”	Alice, Alfred
“Afternoon”	Alice, Alfred
“Winter Blooms”	Alice, Tabatha, Company

AUDITIONS



- ◀ auditions **August 2**
- ◀ callbacks **August 3**
- ◀ ages **8-18**
- ◀ performances **October 2-3**

- auditions **August 2** ▶
- callbacks **August 4** ▶
- ages **12 to Adult, 8-11*** ▶
- performances **November 13-14** ▶



*Auditions for the roles of Young Elsa and Young Anna will also be open to ages 8-11.

Register now at

ovationtc.com



The Cast of A



Alice by Heart

The Cast



AMANDA ARMILLAY | RED CROSS NURSE / QUEEN OF HEARTS

Amanda is thrilled to be making her Ovation debut! In her daily life, Amanda serves as a public defender — she's no stranger to a trial, which has translated to her current role quite well! Prior shows include: *Avenue Q* (Ensemble) and *Company* (Kathy). She'd like to thank her endlessly supportive husband Jim, her two gremlins, and her friends and family who encourage her continued moonlighting in musical theater.



BRETT BRANSCOMBE | DR. BUTRIDGE / JABBERWOCK

Brett is excited to be back onstage with Ovation after *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Congregant). A New Hampshire based music educator, he has previously directed school productions of *Seussical Jr.* and *CLUE: The Musical*. Brett also sings with the New Hampshire Master Chorale and is a candidate for his Doctorate in Music Education at Boston University, where he researches the interactions between artificial intelligence, creativity, and music education.



HANNA CARROLL | MARY / CATERPILLAR

Hanna is so excited for everyone to see *Alice by Heart*! Her most recent shows have been in *Spamalot* as a featured dancer (OTC) and *Footloose* as Ariel (LDC.) She wants to give a huge thank you to the team and cast for making this show truly amazing.



SAMSON CARTER | DODGY / DUCHESS

Samson is ecstatic to be joining this talented cast for such a moving production. This is his second time on stage with Ovation. He's enjoyed learning to dance, and feeling the empowering strength of a skirt again.



DECLAN CORBETT | ANGUS / CATERPILLAR

Declan is thrilled to be cast in his first community theatre small cast production. He has a special place in his heart for *Alice by Heart*, and has brought both the characters of Alfred/White Rabbit to life before and now the Caterpillar in this spectacular production. He would like to dedicate this performance to his supportive friends & family as well as his current & previous *Alice by Heart* cast.

The Cast

CLARA CURTIS | YOUNG ALICE (SAT. 7 PM)

Clara is excited to be back with Ovation! At just 10, she is a seasoned actress, having performed in many shows with Ogunquit Playhouse, Rochester Opera House, Hackmatack, and Boston's Footlight Club. She has also grown up learning from Pine Street Players, MusicalArts, and of course OTC! Shout out to Carson and Crosby for introducing her to theatre. Next up, she's SO excited to share the stage with her dad in *Anastasia*. Thanks to Mama Metz for being the best.



KYLE DALY | YOUNG ALFRED (FRI. & SAT. 1 PM)

Kyle Daly is a soon-to-be 3rd grader living in Derry, NH. Kyle is thrilled to be performing in both of Ovation's summer shows, playing Alexei & Little Dmitry in *Anastasia* and Young Alfred in *Alice by Heart*. Kyle got his start with Ovation earlier this year in *101 Dalmatians Kids!* Kyle would like to thank everyone at Ovation for believing in him and welcoming him into the Ovation family!



CHARLOTTE FEOLE-LUNDY | YOUNG ALICE (FRI. & SAT. 1 PM)

Charlotte is thrilled to be making her Ovation debut as Young Alice! An upcoming 4th grader, you can catch her next weekend as Young Anastasia (*Anastasia*), also with Ovation. Other favorite roles include Violet (*Willy Wonka*) and Eeyore (*Winnie the Pooh*). She wants to thank the entire cast and crew for being so welcoming and her Mom and Dad for all their support. She dedicates these performances to her Papa.



LEVI FREILICH | YOUNG ALFRED (SAT. 7 PM)

Levi is excited to be performing as Young Alfred in his 6th show with Ovation! He would like to thank the cast and crew for their support and encouragement. He hopes you enjoy this adventure "down the hole"!



JENNAH GUNAWAN | ALICE

Jennah is so grateful to be a part of Ovation's production of *Alice by Heart*! This show is incredibly special to her and she is ecstatic to show you all the passion she has put in to it. Favorite past credits include: Eurydice — *Hadestown* (Memorial High School), Scaramouch — *We Will Rock You* (Palace Theatre), Anne Boleyn — *Six* (Ovation Theatre). Jennah would like to thank the entire ABH creative team for allowing her this opportunity!



The Cast



CHARLOTTE LATOUR | ENSEMBLE

Charlotte is so so excited to perform with this amazingly talented cast of *Alice by Heart*! When not performing, you can find her swimming or playing volleyball with her friends. Charlotte has found her home with Ovation Theatre Company, and this show truly could not have been a better experience for her. She can't wait for you to watch this jaw dropping show, and she hopes you enjoy!



DANIEL LEWIS | ALFRED

Danny is thrilled to be in his first Ovation production! Some of his favorite previous roles include, Prince Christopher (*Cinderella*), George Gibbs (*Our Town*) and Troy Bolton (*High School Musical*). He has loved the entire process and is so excited for everyone to see this amazing cast! He would love to thank his parents and siblings for the constant encouragement. Enjoy the show!!!



NICHOLAS METZ II | HAROLD / MAD HATTER

Nicholas Metz is so excited to perform in Ovation's production of *Alice by Heart*! His previous roles include Historian in *Spamalot*, Oliver Warbucks in *Annie Jr.*, Fester in *Addams Family*, and Cat In The Hat in *Seussical Jr.* He hopes you enjoy the show!



ALYSSA MEYERS | ENSEMBLE

Alyssa is so excited to be performing in her first Ovation show! *Alice by Heart* has been an amazing experience and she is so excited to share it with you all. You may have seen her performing at Bedford High School as Taylor McKessie in *High School Musical* or the understudy for Cinderella in *Cinderella*. She wants to thank her friends and family for the great support. Enjoy the show!



FEDERICO MILLS | NIGEL / MOCK TURTLE

This is Federico's first show with Ovation Theatre Company, and he has had an absolute blast! He has had so much fun getting the opportunity to dance and sing, as well as bond with the entire cast. This is his second year doing theatre, and this show has been his favorite production yet, he hopes the audience enjoys the show as much as he got to!

The Cast

RAYLYN PAUL | ENSEMBLE

Raylyn is beyond excited to be a part of this beautiful show! She is an active member of the Ovation Family, frequently participating both onstage and as a member of the production team! She is also currently preparing to perform in Off-Broadway's *Matilda* in just three short weeks, as well as to open for the Radio City Rockettes this winter! She thanks the creative team and her family for their constant support!



LYSS PEDDLE | TABATHA / CHESHIRE CAT

Lyss is excited to make her Ovation debut in one of her favorite shows! Past favorite credits include: Delia (*Beetlejuice*), Sandra Bloom (*Big Fish*), Madame Thenardier (*Les Mis*), and Tess Tyler (*Camp Rock*) all at Palace Theatre. Lyss is going into her sophomore year at Emerson College for acting and sends her love to her friends in Boston! #cheshirepurr



MEG ROSCOE | CLARISSA / QUEEN OF DIAMONDS

Meg is thrilled to return to Ovation for *Alice by Heart* after making her theater debut in *Hunchback*. This production marks her first featured onstage role, and she has loved the opportunity to grow as both an actor and dancer. She's incredibly grateful to work alongside such an amazing cast and production team, and extends her heartfelt thanks to her family, friends, and mentors for their endless love and support.



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July 23-25, 2026

Anastasia

From Tony winners Terrence McNally, Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens, this dazzling show transports its audience from the twilight of the Russian Empire to the euphoria of Paris in the 1920s, as a brave young woman sets out to discover the mystery of her past. Pursued by a ruthless Soviet officer determined to silence her, Anya enlists the aid of a dashing con man and a lovable ex-aristocrat. Together, they embark on an epic adventure to help her find home, love, and family.

Performing next weekend – get tickets now!

October 2-3, 2026

The Big One-Oh! Jr.

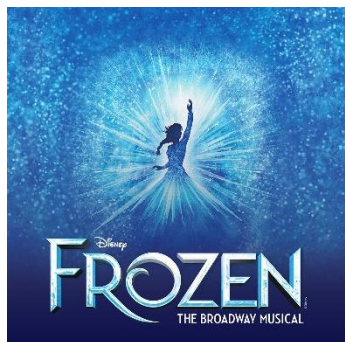
Ages 8-18 | Charley Maplewood has never been one for parties — that would require friends, which he doesn't have. Well, unless you count his monster friends, but they're only imaginary. But now that he's turning ten — the big one-oh — he decides to throw a birthday party for himself, complete with a "House of Horrors" theme. Of course, things don't work out as he plans. Will Charley be able to pull it together before the big one-oh ... becomes the big OH-NO!?

Auditions in just 2 weeks – register now!



November 13-14, 2026

Frozen



Ages 12 to Adult | In the beautiful mountainous kingdom of Arendelle, Princesses Anna and Elsa grow up sheltered inside their castle, isolated from the world and increasingly distant from each other. When Elsa is crowned queen, the magical powers she's desperately tried to conceal from her sister take control, and she flees into the mountains. As a ferocious winter descends on Arendelle, Anna sets off on an epic journey to find Elsa and bring her home — with the help of hardworking ice harvester Kristoff, his loyal reindeer Sven, and a happy-go-lucky snowman named Olaf.

Auditions in just 2 weeks – register now!

Coming summer 2027!

Loving this summer's lineup at Ovation? Then you won't want to miss next summer! Learn more at ovationtc.com.

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