

Kennedy Catholic Theatre Presents

# Emma

*Jane Austen*



Adapted by Rachel Atkins For Book-It  
Repertory Theatre

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First commissioned, developed and produced  
in the "Book-It style" TM by Book-It Repertory  
Theatre (Founded in 1990 in Seattle, WA –  
[www.book-it.org](http://www.book-it.org))



2019

# 2019

*Kennedy Catholic Theatre Presents*

## EMMA

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The Little Theater

Gold Cast:

November 14 + 16 at 7pm

November 17 at 2pm

Silver Cast:

November 15 at 7pm

November 16 at 2pm

*director's note*

## BEDTIME STORIES

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A lot of research has been done about the benefits of being read to. In general, children who are read to early and often develop language skills earlier, concentrate better, and tend to do better in school. They're more likely to become lifelong readers. It's calming to be read to. It gives us a sense of wellbeing and strengthens our bond with the reader. It's not coincidental that story telling is the essential work of all theatre artists, and "story theatre" is nothing new.

In 1993 I fell in with a company of Seattle actors who were in the process of building Book-It Repertory Theatre. Book-It's mission is "transforming great literature into great theatre through simple and sensitive production and to inspiring its audiences to read". In the early days we would gather short stories and try to stage them, word for word. This meant incorporating narrative into the dialogue, including all the "he said"s and "she said"s. Over time the company began adapting full-length novels and producing three to five world premiere shows a year. During my decade as a core company member I performed in *Grendel*, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, *Sweet Thursday*, and *Snow Falling on Cedars* among others. I also paid dues to cover rent, sold program ads, coordinated

volunteers and co-created a residency program at Roosevelt High School. We wore a lot of hats.

Book-It's audience and profile grew. It's kind of a local treasure. Their scripts are produced in schools and professional theatres all over the country. What hasn't changed is the theatre's mission, and its commitment to honoring the author's voice.

*Emma* was first produced in 2009 and was remounted in 2015. It's arguably the most comedic of Jane Austen's books, and the most accessible, featuring colorful characters with interesting blind spots. To me it's a story about coming of age and learning to take the high road. Our production has two principal ensembles, and it's been a unique challenge to get both casts ready while working in a new style.

I knew when I started at Kennedy Catholic in 2015 that eventually we would have to do one of their scripts. I haven't performed with Book-It in a few years, but I try to get back to see what they're up to from time to time. When I sit in that audience, or this one, I'm reminded of the simple pleasure of being told a bedtime story, and I usually have interesting dreams afterward. I hope you enjoy *Emma*, and that you have good dreams.

**James Lapan**  
*Director*

## gold CAST

**Emma**

Stephanie Norris\*

**Jane Fairfax**

Jennifer Martinez-Ramos

**Harriet Smith**

Olivia Barbera\*

**Mrs. Elton**

Megan Olson\*

**Mrs. Bates**

Tinsae Shifreaw\*

**Mrs. Weston**

Nina Perry\*

**Miss Bates**

Mianna Behrens\*

**Mr. Knightley**

Nicky Scragg

**Frank Churchill**

Charles Dickeson

**Mr. Elton**

Mateo Velasco

**Mr. Weston**

Sean Jahner

**Mr. Woodhouse**

Troy Morris\*

## silver CAST

**Emma**

Julia Yi

**Jane Fairfax**

Isa Martinez\*

**Harriet Smith**

Alexis Morrison\*

**Mrs. Elton**

Hope Kuchan\*

**Mrs. Bates**

Ashley Blake\*

**Mrs. Weston**

Lyn Shaffer\*

**Miss Bates**

Olivia Voss\*

**Mr. Knightley**

R.J. Lizama

**Frank Churchill**

Nicky Gulizia

**Mr. Elton**

August Ricard\*

**Mr. Weston**

Ryan Abajero

**Mr. Woodhouse**

Troy Morris\*

**Additional Company**

Alec Fitelson, Gabbi Carlos, Nicole Perez, Nina Ocana, Freddy Mota Montes

*\*Thespian Society Member*

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## production TEAM

**Director**

James Lapan

**Assistant Director**

Olivia Voss

**Scenic Design**

Darren Olson

**Choreography**

Alyza DelPan Monley

**Costume Design**

K.D. Schill

**Lighting Design**

James J. Ennis

**Sound Design**

Rob Witmer

**Dance Captains**

Nina Perry + Lyn Shaffer

**Production Assistant**

Mark Ralston

**Program + Poster Design**

Rebecca Wilson

**Stage Manager**

Margo Brown

gold cast

# BIOGRAPHIES

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**Olivia Barbera**

Olivia is thrilled to be in the fall play this year. This is her sixth show with Kennedy Catholic and her eighth show overall. She would like to thank her family and friends for being great. She hopes you enjoy the show. xoxo Gossip Girl



**Mianna Behrens**

Mianna is a senior and this is her third play at Kennedy Catholic. She was in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Oklahoma!* in the past. She has also done stage crew. She is so excited and wants to thank her family and friends for their support.



**Charles Dickeson**

Charles is currently a senior and this is his fourth and final fall play. He'd like to thank his parents for always supporting him, previous mentors such as Kate Dolan, and his friends for always supporting him. "It is an honor to perform at Kennedy Catholic," he says.



**Sean Jahner**

Sean is a senior and this is his tenth show at Kennedy Catholic. From *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, to *High School Musical*, he's had a variety of roles. Before he graduates, Sean wants to present a play like no one's ever seen at Lancer Acts V.



**Jennifer Martinez-Ramos**

Jennifer is a senior and this is her third show at Kennedy Catholic. She also performed in three outside shows, and hopes to continue participating in theater and film projects. Jennifer would like to thank her family and friends for their support.



**Troy Morris**

Troy is a senior and *Emma* is his fifth show at Kennedy Catholic. He has been performing in plays since fourth grade. In his spare time, he enjoys running and watching Netflix. He would like to give a special shout out to Jake Renn!

gold cast

# BIOGRAPHIES

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## Stephanie Norris

Stephanie is a junior and some of her favorite roles include Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde*, and Laurie in *Little Women*. She has also written two plays and enjoys singing in Excalibur choir. She would like to thank her friends, family, Mr. Lapan, and of course Peppa Pig.



## Megan Olson

Megan is a junior and this is her sixth production at Kennedy Catholic. In her free time, she can be found playing the ukulele and guitar. She would like to thank Sabina and Julian for making her life more interesting and the theater department for being her second home.



## Nina Perry

Nina is a junior and this is her seventh show at Kennedy Catholic. She is also in Excalibur choir and dances in her free time. This is her first big role in a large production and she would like to thank her family and friends for their support.



## Nicky Scragg

Nicky is a senior and this is his eleventh show at Kennedy Catholic. He has performed in numerous roles outside of the department on and off camera. This is Nicky's final fall play and while it is bittersweet, he would like to thank everyone who has supported him.



## Tinsae Shifreaw

Tinsae is a senior and this is her ninth show at Kennedy Catholic. She is also Vice-President of Thespian Society and is involved in the school choir. She writes stories in her free time and hopes to debut at Lancer Acts. She would like to thank her family and friends.



## Mateo Velasco

Mateo is a junior and this is his sixth show at Kennedy Catholic. He loves to draw whenever he can. Mateo would like to thank his family and friends for their constant support. Enjoy the show!

*silver cast*

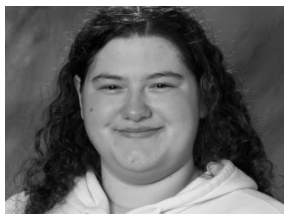
## BIOGRAPHIES

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### **Ryan Abajero**

Ryan is a senior at Kennedy Catholic and has been in multiple shows throughout his time here. In his spare time, he enjoys drawing and playing in the Kennedy Catholic Symphonic Band. Ryan hopes you will enjoy the show.



### **Ashley Blake**

Ashley is a senior. She has performed in the past three fall plays, the past three musicals, the past three touring companies, and last three Lancer Acts. She found her family in Kennedy Catholic theatre and cherishes every memory.



### **Nicky Gulizia**

Nicky is a freshman and this is his first show at Kennedy Catholic. Nicky has also performed in six outside shows. He tumbles and likes to hang out with his family and friends. Nicky also loves his two dogs and cat. He would like to thank Mr. Lapan, his dad, and his friends for their support.



### **Hope Kuchan**

Hope is a junior and this is her fifth show at Kennedy Catholic. Hope is also in Kennedy Catholic Singers. In her spare time, she likes to listen to music, read, and look at memes. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their love and support.



### **R.J. Lizama**

R.J. is excited as this will be his first stage appearance ever and he can't wait for more. As a freshman, he looks forward to his future in theatre. In his spare time, he likes imagining and writing stories. He would like to thank his family and friends for their helpful encouragement.



### **Isa Martinez**

Isa is a junior and this is her ninth production at Kennedy Catholic. She writes music and sings in her spare time and dreams one day to perform professionally. She would like to thank her younger sister Elena for attending every show and always inspiring her. Enjoy the show little sis!

silver cast

## BIOGRAPHIES

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### **Troy Morris**

Troy is a senior and *Emma* is his fifth show at Kennedy Catholic. He has been performing in plays since fourth grade. In his spare time, he enjoys running and watching Netflix. He would like to give a special shout out to Jake Renn!



### **Alexis Morrison**

Alexis is a junior and *Emma* is her fourth main stage show at Kennedy Catholic. She has been cast in the ensemble for the past two musicals, but this is her first speaking part. She has several years experience before performing here and hopes to pursue directing as a career.



### **August Ricard**

August is a sophomore and has been in three Kennedy Catholic productions before *Emma* as well as four outside shows. August enjoys doing improv and watching movies whenever he can. August would like to thank everyone for coming.



### **Lyn Shaffer**

Lyn is a sophomore, and this is their third show at Kennedy Catholic. They were in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Oklahoma!* They have also performed in St. Francis productions. In their spare time, Lyn likes to read, crochet, and listen to D and D podcasts.



### **Olivia Voss**

Olivia is a junior and this is her ninth show at Kennedy Catholic. In the past, she was in *The Crucible* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. When not doing theater she enjoys art, reading, telling stories, and fashion.



### **Julia Yi**

As a freshman at Kennedy Catholic, this is Julia's third show overall. She was previously cast at Saint Vincent de Paul school. Julia has also participated in the speech team for three years and has a particular passion for writing.



additional cast

## BIOGRAPHIES

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### **Gabbi Carlos**

Gabbi is a sophomore and this is her second show at Kennedy Catholic. She has also performed in middle school productions. She enjoys playing video games and making art, as well as performing with the band.



### **Alec Fitelson**

Alec is a sophomore, and this is his first time acting in the fall play. Last school year, he was a stage hand for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Oklahoma*. He was the narrator in Lancer Acts 4. In his free time, he enjoys drawing, writing, and playing video games.



### **Freddy Mota Montes**

Freddy is senior at Kennedy Catholic. He is very confident in his acting role and enjoys being involved in *Emma*. He would like to thank everyone for coming and hopes they will enjoy the show



### **Nina Ocana**

Nina is a freshman and this is her first show at Kennedy Catholic. She has performed at her old school, Holy Family in Auburn. She likes to play basketball and sing from time to time. She also wants whoever is reading this to have a nice day and enjoy the show.



### **Nicole Perez**

Nicole is a freshman and this is her first play. She chose Kennedy Catholic partly for the welcoming theatre program. She was a part of her middle school's speech team for three years. Nicole is thrilled to be in this play and hopes it will be the first of many.





*Emma* is produced in part with the generous support of BSHARP. BSHARP unites parents, faculty, and the community in support of performing and fine arts to ensure Kennedy Catholic student-artists will experience the best artistic education possible. For more information read the BSHARP newsletter or like the BSHARP Facebook page.

*upcoming*  
**EVENTS**

**Jeff Behrends Memorial Service**

November 23 // 10am

*Kennedy Catholic Gymnasium*

**Arts and Crafts Fair**

December 7 // 9am-4pm

*Kennedy Catholic Cafeteria*

**Christmas Concert**

December 17, 2019 // 7pm

*Highline Fine and Performing Arts Center*

**Festival of Catholic High School Choirs**

February 3, 2020 // 7pm

*Benaroya Hall*

*Visit [www.kennedyhs.org](http://www.kennedyhs.org) for more information  
about upcoming events!*

