



West Valley Arts Presents: LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

SHOW DETAILS

Performance Dates: September 8 - October 1, 2022

Approximate Show Runtime: 2 hours with intermission

This production is appropriate for ages 16+

Get tickets at wvcarts.org or by calling (801) 965-5140

PRODUCTION PHOTOS

Link will go live Sept. 3 and expire Nov. 17

If you need access, please email laurel.christiansen@wvc-ut.gov with your affiliated media outlet name.

Photo Credit: West Valley Arts

Video Credit: West Valley Arts

Press Release: (LINK COMING SOON)

Digital Handbill: <https://www.wvcarts.org/program> (live Sept. 8)

High Res Poster ([JPG](#))

Square image ([PNG](#))

Direct link: <https://www.wvcarts.org/little-shop-of-horrors>

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Book by Howard Ashman

Music by Alan Menken

Lyrics by Howard Ashman

Based on the film by Roger Corman, screenplay by Charles Griffith

Feed the need for musical hilarity with this delicious sci-fi smash about a florist named Seymour who raises a man-eating plant named Audrey II. One of the longest-running Off-Broadway shows, Little Shop of Horrors is a charmingly tongue-in-cheek comedy. Watch Seymour learn about R&B-singing Audrey II's out of this world origins in this horror comedy rock musical. Buy Tickets Now.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (BROADWAY VERSION)

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

Cast

Michael Hohl, Mr. Mushnik
Anna Kaitlyn Burningham, Chiffon
Ren Cottam, Seymour Krelborn
Douglas Irely, Orin Scrivello
Nneka Barcelona, Crystal
Tara Janae Smith, Audrey
Jared Lesa, Audrey II
Daysha Lassiter, Ronnette
Byerly Neilsen, Puppeteer/Ensemble
Taylor Smith, Ensemble
MacKenzie Pedersen, Audrey U/S
Kortney King-Lives, Urchin Swing
Zack Elzey, Seymour Krelborn Swing
Maxx Teuscher, Orin/Audrey II Swing

Creative Team

Directed by Izzy Arrieta
Assistant Choreography by Stefanie Spiece
Music Direction by Karin Gittins
Assistant Music Direction by Kimberly Teitter
Executive Producer, Jeff Olsen
Consulting Producer, John Sweeney
Managing Producer, Vanessa Olson
Production Assistant, A2, Rachel Mardis
Technical Director, Adam Flitton
Scenic Designer, Jason Baldwin
Lighting Designer, Michael Gray
Costume Designer, Kelsey Nichols
Assistant Costume Designer, Alicia Kondrick
Wig/Makeup Design, Savanna Finley
Sound Designer/Engineer, Bryce Robinette
Properties, Marilyn Montgomery
Stage Manager, Al Saunders
Box Office Supervisor, Melissa Salguero
Stage Manager, Front of House Supervisor, Adam (AL) Saunders
Audio Engineer, Bryce Robinette
Light Board/ASM, Cody Neville
Wardrobe Supervisor, Alicia Kondrick
Dresser, Emma Stringham
Dresser, Heidi Frank
Dresser, Matt Sanguine
Wigs/Make up, Julie Call
Deck Crew/Backup Light Board Op, Angel Fernandez
Deck Crew, Brandon Green
Deck Crew, Ayden Davis

Synopsis

Seymour Krelborn is a meek and dejected assistant at a floral shop who happens upon a strange plant, which he affectionately names “Audrey II” after his crush at the shop. Little does he know that this strange and unusual plant will develop a soulful R&B voice, a potty mouth, and an unquenchable thirst for HUMAN BLOOD. As Audrey II grows bigger and meaner, the carnivorous plant promises limitless fame and fortune to Seymour, as long as he continues providing a fresh supply of blood. Just when it’s too late, Seymour discovers Audrey II’s extra-terrestrial origins and his true drive for world-domination.

BIOS

Michael Hohl, Mr. Mushnik

Michael is thrilled to be back on this stage with favorite credits that include: *She Loves Me* (Mr. Maraczek), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Lord Astor), *Big River* (Pap), *Big Fish* (Amos Calloway), *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Jacob), *Catch Me If You Can* (Roger Strong), *The Three Musketeers* (Athos), *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Teddy) and *No Time for Sergeants* (General Bush). At HCT Sandy he recently played in *Light in the Piazza* (Roy Johnson) and *Bright Star* (Mayor Dobbs). CPT - *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Atticus Finch), and *Noises Off!* (Freddy) and *Lend Me A Tenor* (Saunders). Michael has a BS in Business Management from Westminster College.

Anna Kaitlyn Burningham, Chiffon

Anna Kaitlyn is very excited to make her West Valley Arts debut. She is a freshman at the University of Oklahoma & has plans to study a major in Musical Theatre w/ a minor in Political Science, on a Pre-Medicine track. She truly loves to dance and hopes to continue to perform as she pushes herself into adulthood. She would like to shoutout her parents, as well as her thirty siblings for indulging her in her theatrical hobbies. Previous credits include Anita in *West Side Story* (Hopebox), Specs in *Newsies* (Terrace Plaza), and Juliet in *Romeo & Juliet* (OPPA).

Ren Cottam, Seymour Krelborn

Ren, from Phoenix, AZ is thrilled to be making his West Valley Arts debut. Favorite credits include *The Light in the Piazza* (Fabrizio) and *A Tale of Two Cities* (Charles Darnay) at the Hale Centre Theatre. Ren holds a BFA from the Music Dance Theatre program at Brigham Young University where he was seen on stage in Frank Wildhorn's *Wonderland* (White Knight), in the Young Ambassadors show group, as a member of Contemporary Dance Theatre, and other roles in various mainstage and workshop productions.

Douglas Irely, Orin Scrivello

Doug is thrilled to be returning to West Valley Arts after appearing as Reverend Shaw in last season's *Footloose*. Originally from Miami, FL, Doug has performed on Utah and Florida stages for most of his life. He was most recently at the Hale Centre Theater in *Singin' in the Rain* (RF Simpson) *Treasure Island* (Captain Smollet) and *The Mousetrap* (Major Metcalf). Favorite roles are *Big Fish* (Edward Bloom), *Catch Me If You Can* (Frank Abagnale Sr.) *Mary Poppins* (Mr.

Banks) *Pageant* (Miss Texas), *Assassins* (John Wilkes Booth), *A Little Night Music* (Frederick) and *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (Percy Blakeney). Doug has performed on tour with Michael Ball as lead vocalist, toured Southeast Asia with the Brigham Young University (BYU) Young Ambassadors and holds a BFA in Music Dance Theater from BYU.

Nneka Barcelona, Crystal

Nneka has been performing for most of her life. Some of her favorite roles have been Harriet in *Civil War*, Jarene in *The Color Purple*, Sarah's Friend in *Ragtime* and Joanne in *Rent*. Nneka is a Singer during the day and a Postpartum Doula at night. She is passionate about "The 4th Trimester" and newborn education. Her heart is also with our local refugee children and in teaching them history and life lessons through art and music. Her deepest dream is to raise her future children and grandchildren on a clean, heavenly, peaceful earth full of music, art and laughter. "WAR IS OVER!" -John Lennon

Tara Janae Smith, Audrey

Tara is very excited to be a part of *Little Shop of Horrors* at West Valley Arts alongside such an incredibly talented cast! Playing Audrey has been a bucket list/dream role for Tara and she is honored to finally share the stage with Seymour at this wonderful theatre. Tara was most recently seen in the WVC Arts production of *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble), and has performed in regional productions throughout the valley: *Cinderella*, *Newsies*, and *West Side Story*. She wants to thank her loving husband and children for love and support and would like to thank the entire production team and cast of *Little Shop of Horrors* for making her dreams come true.

Jared Lesa, Audrey II

Jared is thrilled to make his West Valley Arts debut in one of his bucket list roles. Most recently seen as Signor Naccarelli in *Light in the Piazza*, some other recent credits include: *A Christmas Carol* (The Ghost of Christmas Present) and *Les Misérables* (Bishop of Digne) with Hale Centre Theatre; Rossini's *La Cenerentola* (Don Magnifico) and Handel's *Serse* with Opera NEO (Elviro); and *La Traviata* (Giorgio Germont) with St. George Opera.

Daysha Lassiter, Ronnette

Born and raised in the south, Daysha brings a southern charm to every environment she is in. Daysha started her journey in performance as a young girl, but didn't attain formal training until her mid-twenties. Her first operatic role was Zita in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* (Italy, 2016) and her breakout role into musical theater was Nell in Fats Walker's *Ain't Misbehavin* (WVC Arts, 2020). She's since been booked as a vocal coach to aspiring young voices and an array of accolades and accomplishments including the lead with Utah Lyric Opera as Electra in Mozart's *Idomeneo* and Soloing for Debra Bonner's Unity Gospel Choir; however her biggest and BEST role is Mother to Shepard, her only child.

Byerly Neilsen, Puppeteer/Ensemble

Byerly is pleased to return to West Valley Performing Arts and is excited to make his puppeteering debut. You may have seen him previously in West Valley Arts production of *Footloose the Musical* and *The Foreigner* as well as Sandy Hale Center Theatre's *A Christmas Carol*. Byerly would like to thank his wonderful girlfriend, family, and friends for always supporting him.

Taylor Smith, Ensemble

Taylor is thrilled to be apart of this show! She was last seen in Andrew Lippa's *The Wild Party* (Burrs) at Hart Theatre Company. Some other favorites include, *A Tale of Two Cities* (Sydney Carton) at CPT. *Shrek the Musical* (Shrek) at Murray Arts. *A Christmas Carol* (Poor Husband), *Cinderella* (Lord Pinkelton), at HCT. Avenue Q (Brian) at University of Utah. Taylor would like to thank his wife Amanda and kiddos Evie and Miles for letting him come play and pretend on stage!

MacKenzie Pedersen, Audrey U/S

MacKenzie can't wait to dust off her stilettos and attempt to keep her balance as Audrey in this magnificent production of *Little Shop of Horrors!* She has a history of performing onstage throughout Utah including HTC, HCTO, Sundance, and the Neil Simon Festival. MacKenzie received her BFA in Musical Theatre from Southern Utah University. Favorite roles include: *Annie Get Your Gun* (Annie Oakley), *The Last Five Years* (Kathy), and *Singin' In the Rain* (Lina Lamont). Most recently she can be heard voicing those ads on Spotify that you always want to skip. Big thanks to her family & friends for their constant cheerleading! Enjoy the show and remember: DON'T FEED THE PLANTS!

Kortney King-Lives, Urchin Swing

Kortney is happy to be a part of her first production with West Valley Arts! This will be her second time being in a production of *Little Shop of Horrors!* Other notable roles include: *Sister Act* (Deloris Van Cartier), *Caroline or Change* (Washing Machine), *Cabaret* (Fritzie), *Company* (Sarah), and *Hairspray* (Lil Inez) as well as various Dancer/Ensemble roles in productions of *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Aida*, *Grease*, *Footloose*, and *Legally Blonde*. She has loved granting wishes for Make-A-Wish and various other charities for over 10 years with Wish Upon a Party portraying characters such as Princess Tiana, Moana, and Mirabel Madrigal. This show is dedicated to her husband Nicholas for always being the most supportive person in her life.

Zack Elzey, Seymour Krelborn Swing

Zack is excited to reprise his role as Seymour Krelborn! Favorite roles include *Bright Star* (Billy) at Hale Center Theatre Orem, *Freaky Friday* (Adam) at Hale Centre Theatre, *The Normal Heart* (Ned Weeks) with An Other Theatre Company), and *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble) at Utah Repertory Theatre. Thank you to the cast, crew and family for the support! Enjoy the show!

Maxx Teuscher, Orin/Audrey II Swing

Maxx is jazzed to be working on his first show at West Valley Arts! This is the furthest south he has worked, as his usual stomping ground is a little more north, in the Ogden/Logan area. Maxx enjoys jamming with his band (Ded Sullivan on Apple Music), eating brunch with his friends and singing karaoke at four in the morning. His most recent credits include *The Scarlett Pimpernel* (Chauvelin), *Bright Star* (Jimmy Ray), *Comedy of Errors* (Antiphilus of Syracuse), and *Company* (David). Maxx is stoked to work with so many fantastic people while swinging this show.

Howard Ashman

Best known as a pivotal creative mind behind the renaissance of Disney animation and his work on *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin* and *Beauty and The Beast* (which is dedicated to, "Our friend, Howard Ashman, who gave a Mermaid her voice and a Beast his soul...") Ashman's first love was theater. Ashman was a founder of off off Broadway's renowned WPA Theater, where he conceived, wrote and directed *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*, as well as the classic musical, *Little Shop of Horrors* (both music by Alan Menken). In 1986, he wrote and directed the Broadway musical *Smile* (music by Marvin Hamlisch). Lamented as a lost treasure of the 1980's theater scene, *Smile* remains popular on High School and College campuses throughout the country. Howard Ashman died in 1991 from complications of AIDS. For more information, please visit howardashman.com.

Alan Menken, Composer. Theater: *God Bless You Mr Rosewater, Little Shop Of Horrors, Real Life Funnies, Atina: Evil Queen Of The Galaxy, Kicks, The Apprenticeship Of Duddy Kravitz, Beauty And The Beast, A Christmas Carol, Weird Romance, King David, Der Glöckner Von Notre Dame, The Little Mermaid, Sister Act, Leap Of Faith, Aladdin* and *Newsies*. Film: *Little Shop Of Horrors, The Little Mermaid, Beauty And The Beast, Newsies, Aladdin, Pocahontas, The Hunchback Of Notre Dame, Hercules, Life With Mikey, Lincoln, Home On The Range, Noel, Enchanted, Shaggy Dog, Tangled* and *Mirror Mirror*. Songs: *Rocky V, Home Alone 2* and *Captain America*. Awards: 8 Oscars (19 nominations), 11 Grammys (including Song of the Year), 7 Golden Globes, Tony® (plus 4 nominations), Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, New York Drama Critics, Olivier and London's Evening Standard Award, Drama League. Honors: Songwriter's Hall of Fame, Doctorates from New York University and University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

West Valley Arts Productions at the West Valley Performing Arts Center are funded in part by:

