



SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE PRESENTS  
THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN

# DROOD

THE SOLVE-IT-YOURSELF MUSICAL

DIRECTED BY

**OTTO LAYMAN**

VOCAL DIRECTION BY

**RACHEL SHORT**

BOOK, MUSIC, AND LYRICS BY

**RUPERT HOLMES**

CHOREOGRAPHY BY

**BROOKE MELTON**

COSTUME DESIGN BY

**BONNIE THOR**

LIGHT AND SET DESIGN

**MIKE MADDEN**

MUSICAL DIRECTION BY

**ROBERT JOHNSON & SIO TEPPER**

**APRIL 24, 25, 30 & MAY 1, 2 AT 7PM**  
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**SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE PRESENTS**

**THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN**

# **DROOD**

**THE SOLVE-IT-YOURSELF MUSICAL**

**BOOK, MUSIC, AND LYRICS BY RUPERT HOLMES**

**WITH**

**NICK BLONDELL, KENDALL CHRISTENSEN, NATALIE "SHUG" CVITANIC,  
BLAKE DEVINE, BRADLEY DEVINE, SPENCER GLESBY, ANDREW GUTIERREZ,  
QUIQUE HERNANDEZ-BLACK, SABLE LAYMAN, MEREDITH LEMERT,  
AARON LINKER, NOLAN MCCARTHY, ALESSIO MORELLO, CAI NORTON,  
HANNAH ROBINSON, RIO SALAZAR, LIZZIE SAUNDERS, HAILEY SIMMONS,  
IRVING SOTO, CAMILLE UMOFF, COOPER UMOFF, MIA VALDES,  
SARINA WASSERMAN, DAVID ZEVALLOS, AND BEN ZEVALLOS**

**DIRECTED BY  
OTTO LAYMAN**

**MUSICAL DIRECTION BY  
ROBERT JOHNSON & SIO TEPPER**

**CHOREOGRAPHY BY  
BROOKE MELTON**

**VOCAL DIRECTION BY  
RACHEL SHORT**

**SCENIC ART BY  
ISAAC HERNANDEZ**

**COSTUME DESIGN BY  
BONNIE THOR**

**PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER  
BEAU LETTIERI**

**SOUND DESIGN BY  
EJÉ LYNN-JACOBS**

**SET DESIGN BY  
MIKE MADDEN & OTTO LAYMAN**

**LIGHT DESIGN BY  
MIKE MADDEN**

Meredith LeMert

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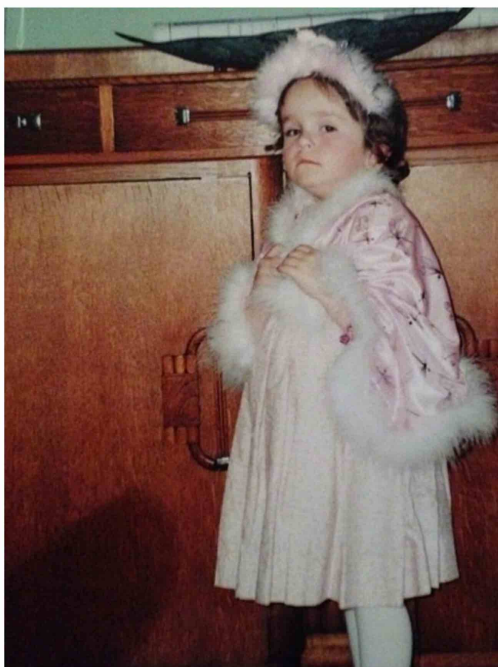
**DeVine Boys we are so proud of you!  
Enjoy your last show together at SBHS!**





THANK YOU OTTO, ALL ARTISTIC DIRECTORS PAST/PRESENT,  
AND FELLOW STUDENTS WHO HAVE MADE AARON'S  
EXPERIENCE AT SBHS SO INCREDIBLY RICH.

VICKY AND GARY LINKER



*Congratulations Hailey, it's been a great run! We're so proud of you!  
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# CAST

QUIQUE HERNANDEZ-BLACK ..... MR. WILLIAM CARTWRIGHT, CHAIRMAN  
HAILEY SIMMONS ..... MRS. JANE THROTTLE, STAGE MANAGER  
NOLAN MCCARTHY .....MR. THOMAS PURCELL, CONDUCTOR

ACTOR NAME	MUSICAL HALL ROYALE ACTOR	DROOD CHARATCER
AARON LINKER	MR. CLIVE PAGET	JOHN JASPER
CAMILLE UMOFF	MISS ALICE NUTTING	EDWIN DROOD
MEREDITH LEMERT	MISS DEIDRE PEREGRINE	ROSA BUD
RIO SALAZAR	MISS JANET CONOVER	HELENA LANDLESS
IRVING SOTO	MR. VICTOR GRINSTEAD	NEVILLE LANDLESS
NICK BLONDELL	MR. CEDRIC MONCRIEFFE	REV. SEPTIMUS CRISPARKLE
NATALIE "SHUG" CVITANIC	MISS ANGELA PRY SOCK	THE PRINCESS PUFFER
ALESSIO MORELLO	JAMES HITCHENS	MAYOR SAPSEA
BLAKE DEVINE	MR. NICK CRICKER	DURDLES
BRADLEY DEVINE	MASTER NICK CRICKER	DEPUTY
SABLE LAYMAN	MISS FLORENCE GILL	BEATRICE
COOPER UMOFF	MR. HARRY SAYLE	SHADE OF DROOD
BEN ZEVALLOS	MR. MONTEGUE PRUITT	SHADE OF JASPER
SPENCER GLESBY	MR. PHILIP BAX	WAITER, BAZZARD

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HANNAH ROBINSON	MISS TAMERLANE BALFOUR
CAI NORTON	MR. CHRISTOPHER LYON
SARINA WASSERMAN	MISS SARAH COOK
MIA VALDES	MISS ISABEL YEARSLEY
KENDALL CHRISTENSEN	MISS VIOLET BALFOUR
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Congratulations to Santa Barbara High School for its wonderful production of **The Mystery of Edwin Drood** and to Otto, Brooke, Bonnie, Sio, Robert, Rachel, and Beau and to all the fine actors for their excellent work.



Special Love and congratulation, of course, to Camille for her portrayal of Drood, and to Cooper for his “Shady” return to the stage.



Coo and Pete Umoff



# MUSICAL NUMBERS

"There You Are" – Company

"A Man Could Go Quite Mad" – Jasper

"Two Kinsmen" – Jasper and Drood

"Moonfall" – Rosa

"The Wages of Sin" – Puffer

"Jasper's Vision" – Orchestra

"A British Subject" - Drood, Rosa, Helena, Neville, Crisparkle and Company

"Both Sides of the Coin" – Sapsea, Jasper and Company

"Perfect Strangers" – Rosa and Drood

"No Good Can Come from Bad" – Jasper, Rosa, Drood, Neville, Helena,  
Crisparkle and Waiter

"Never the Luck" – Bazzard and Company

"Off to the Races" – Sapsea, Durdles, Deputy and Company

## INTERMISSION

"England Reigns" - Company

"A Private Investigation" – Puffer, Datchery and Company

"The Name of Love" / "Moonfall (Reprise)" – Jasper, Rosa and Company

"Don't Quit While You're Ahead" – Puffer, Datchery and Company

"Don't Quit While You're Ahead" (Reprise) – Company

"Settling Up the Score" (Reprise) – Chairman, Suspects and Company

"The Garden Path to Hell" – Puffer

"Puffer's Revelation" – Puffer

"Out on a Limerick" – Datchery

"Jasper's Confession" – Jasper

"Murderer's Confession"

"Perfect Strangers" (Reprise)

"The Writing on the Wall" – Drood and Company



# ORCHESTRA

The Droid Orchestra is comprised of various musicians who are based in Santa Barbara. Many of the members are affiliated with UCSB. Melinda Eschenfelder is in her fourth year at UCSB, completing a B.A. in Music and exploring her interests in piano, clarinet, and musicology. Upon graduating, she will pursue a credential in music. Shane Sato and Jacob Acosta are both in their second year of undergraduate study at UCSB, majoring in Economics/Accounting and Applied Math, respectively. They are both members of the UCSB Jazz Ensemble and the local funk rock group, Four Closure. Nicholas Marks recently graduated from UCSB with a B.S. in Computer Science. This is his third collaboration with SBHS, having previously played for SPAMALOT and How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying. He plays trumpet in the local group, The Olés, which is currently in the process of recording a full-length album to be released in the fall. Adriane Hill is currently completing her graduate studies in Flute Performance at UCSB. She is the Teaching Assistant to the University Wind Ensemble and Flute Choir. Jordan Warmath is a viola graduate student at UCSB. She is the violist in the UCSB graduate quartet, the Young Artists Piano Quartet. Grace Sedgwick grew up in Santa Barbara and recently completed her undergraduate degree at UCLA, having majored in Clarinet Performance and Music Education. She currently teaches music in many local elementary schools, and will be pursuing an M.M. in clarinet at Ohio State University next school year.

## MEMBERS OF THE MUSIC HALL ROYALE ORCHESTRA

Keyboard 1.....	Sio Tepper
Keyboard 2.....	Robert Johnson
Keyboard 3/Percussion.....	Lin Eschenfelder
Flute.....	Adriane Hill
Clarinet.....	Grace Sedgwick
Trumpet.....	Nick Marks
Violin.....	Jordan Warmath
Bass.....	Jacob Acosta
Drums.....	Shane Sato



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## QUIQUE'S BUCKET LIST



- See the world
- See the world burn
- Bond with my son
- Go to Disneyland and find my son where I left him in 2006
- Champagne with ants
- Find the lost city of Miami
- Make a bathroom buddy
- Cut an onion without crying
- Cut an onion
- Stop eating bees



- Challenge sensei to a duel
- Move the bed
- Read a book without any pictures in it
- Find out who my true friends are
- Marry my garbage man
- Take a better picture of Bigfoot
- Tell my family about my secret second family in Venice Beach
- Kick a bucket
- Die
- Come back to life like last time

**More fun facts about Quique at [quiquehernandez.com](http://quiquehernandez.com)**



*Camille Umoff*

Youtube/SoundCloud/Facebook

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRANDSON AARON AND THE ENTIRE CAST AND CREW ON  
ANOTHER WONDERFUL SHOW! WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!

LOVE,  
NONA AND GRANDPA





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AND PATRONS OF

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*of*  
**EDWIN DROOD**

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# WHO'S WHO?

**Otto Layman (Director)**, now in his 19th year as head of the Theatre Department at Santa Barbara High School, Otto has directed *Big Fish* (2014), *How to Succeed in Business* (2014), *Chicago* (2013) *Cabaret* (2013), *The Glass Menagerie* (2013), *SPAMALOT* (2013), *God of Carnage* (2012), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (2012), *Into the Woods* (2012), *Alice in Wonderland* (2011), *Anything Goes* (2011), *Little Shop of Horrors* (2010), *Singin' in the Rain* (2010), *Pinocchio* (2009), *Footloose* (2009), *A Village Fable* (2008), *Hair* (2008), *Beauty and the Beast* (2008) & *Peter Pan* (2007); *The Pajama Game* (2007) & *Still Life with Iris* (2006); *On the Town* (2006) & *The Wind in the Willows* (2005); *Carnival!* (2005) & *The Ash Girl* (2004); *Copacabana!* (2004) & *Mrs. McThing* (2003); *The Wizard of Oz* (2003) & *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (2002); *A Tale of Two Cities* (2002) & *Fright Night* (2001); *Into the Woods* (2001) & *Alice in Wonderland* (which he also adapted) (2000); *Once in a Lifetime* & *Durang, Durang* (1999); *A History of the American Film*, *On the Razzle*, & *At This Evening's Performance* (1999); *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Three Penny Opera*, & *Night of Once Acts* (1998); *Alice Underground*, *A Night of One Acts*, & *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* (1997); and *The Raven* (1996). A longtime member of the Ensemble Theatre as an actor and Playwright in Residence, Otto received his A.A. in English Literature from San Diego Mesa College (1980); a B.A. in English Literature from UCSB (1982); an M.A. in Creative Writing from Boston University (1987); and a Master's in Education from UCSB (1996).

**Brooke Melton (Choreographer)** is a Santa Barbara native and SBHS alumni. After high school, she received her Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Dance and Choreography at UCI and University of Arizona. Brooke has performed with ballet, modern, musical theatre and aerial companies in California, Arizona and Oregon, choreographed and taught for a variety of companies, colleges and universities around the pacific and midwest. Her work has been showcased in international, national and regional festivals, featured in music videos, fundraising and philanthropic events, and earned her a variety of awards, grants and other recognition. Since moving back to Santa Barbara 2 years ago, Brooke has taught dance at Westmont College, and continues to work at Santa Barbara City College, Gustafson Dance Theatre, Co-directs the program at the Cate School, serves on the board of Art Without Limits and is working on developing a dance program to aid and inspire kids in the foster care system. Brooke has had a blast working with all of the talented individuals involved in putting together the production of "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."

# The *MYSTERY* of EDWIN DROOD

SBHS Theatre  
Spring 2015



Photo: ©2015 Isaac Hernández

**ISAAC HERNANDEZ**  
PHOTOGRAPHER FILMMAKER WRITER ILLUSTRATOR

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# WHO'S WHO?

**Robert Johnson (Musical Director)** Robert Johnson is a fourth-year music composition major at UCSB's College of Creative Studies. He is glad to be working once again in this space in his fourth show at SBHS, previously contributing to *Big Fish* (2014), *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (2014) and *SPAMALOT* (2013). Prior to collaborating with SBHS, Robert regularly played for Actor's Conservatory Theatre San Diego and San Diego Junior Theatre, as well as serving as resident music director of a student-run musical theater group at UCSB. This show marks Robert's fourth time music directing, having previously done so for productions of *The Who's Tommy* (2011), *Grease* (2012), and *Cabaret* (2013), and is the 16th musical that he has worked on. He looks forward to his upcoming senior composition recital at UCSB, which marks the culmination of his studies with Dr. Jeremy Haladyna, Dr. Jon Nathan, Christopher Rountree and Neil Garber.

**Sio Tepper (Musical Director)** grew up in the local music scene as a native to Santa Barbara. She began studying piano at the age of four with Marilyn Clemons and continued her studies with Lana Bodnar in later years. In 1998, Sio won first place in the Los Angeles sector of the Piano Teacher's National Association of Japan's annual competition. Sio attended Santa Barbara High School (Class of 2010) and was involved in youth music programs both on and off campus. She performed in the Music and Arts Conservatory's Young Soloist Showcase in 2004, 2006, 2008, 2009, and 2010. Upon graduating from SBHS, Sio entered UCSB with a music scholarship for a B.M. in Piano Performance, continuing her studies in piano with Dr. Charles Asche. During her time at UCSB, she explored many musical styles such as American folk music and jazz. Sio graduated in 2014 with a B.A. in Ethnomusicology.

Currently, she teaches piano privately to students of various ages. She also performs locally on piano and guitar while continuing to explore composition and songwriting, combining her passions for music and writing. Sio strives to give back to the community that helped her grow as an artist through her continued involvement in youth music education, working with programs like Music and Arts Conservatory and Stage Left Productions. This is Sio's fourth collaboration with the SBHS Theater Department and her first time serving as Co-Music Director. Previously, she played for *Big Fish* (2014), *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (2014), and *SPAMALOT* (2013), under the musical direction of Dr. Jon Nathan. Sio is greatly honored to come back to her alma mater and have the opportunity to work with Director Otto Layman once again.

# WHO'S WHO?

**Rachel Short (Vocal Director)** is excited to be joining SBHS for the first time as Vocal Director for such a unique show. She is a Ph.D candidate in Music Theory at University of California, Santa Barbara, where she currently teaches Fundamentals of Music. Her M.A. is from Queens College, City University of New York, in Music Theory. She has enjoyed various teaching, music arranging, and choral directing posts in music, theatre, voice, dance, and acting in Santa Barbara, New York City, New Jersey and San Diego. She composed music for the original musical "Gretel & Hansel," which she also choreographed. She also leads worship at Santa Barbara Community Church.

As a performer, Rachel recently made her Santa Barbara debut as Queenie in *The Wild Party* (Out Of the Box Theatre Co.). Other favorite productions include *The Music Man*, *Camelot*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Singing In The Rain*, *Into The Woods & Dixie Highway*, and the world premiere of *American Rhythm*. When not singing, teaching, or researching, she enjoys spending time with her husband Chris (they met through musical theatre), and their young daughter and son.

Proverbs 3:5-6

**Bonnie Thor (Costume Designer)** Started her creative life in historically abundant Northern California and Washington, D.C. Music, dance, painting, drawing and sculpture were all preferred mediums through her high school career in Goleta. Bonnie holds a BFA degree in Illustration from California College of the Arts and MFA in Costume and Fashion Design from Academy of Art University. After university in San Francisco and Oakland, she moved to Portland Oregon, and worked with designers and crews on stage and screen in the Pacific Northwest. Bonnie is an active member in The Costume Designers Guild Local 892 as a Costume Illustrator. *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* is her third collaboration with Otto Layman and SBHS Theatre. Past shows include *How to Succeed Without Really Trying* (2014) and *Big Fish* (2014).

She is thankful for the amazing support of her family in her creative and artistic endeavors.

**Mike Madden (Light and Set Designer)** has been working with director Otto Layman for over a decade. His first set design at Santa Barbara High School was *Mrs. McThing* (2003) and most recently he served as light designer for *Big Fish* (2014). Mr. Madden's entire professional life has revolved around technical theatre. Bit by the theatre bug in high school, he went to CSU, Chico, and earned his degree in Theatre Arts. Along the way, he has designed and teched live theatre all over Northern and Southern California, Ashland, Oregon, and London, England. He has worked for roughly thirty different companies, and hundreds of shows as anything from deck hand to technical director, from designer to voice-over talent.

**SEED MACKALL LLP**  
COUNSELLORS AT LAW

Seed Mackall LLP wishes to congratulate Santa Barbara High School Theater on its stellar production of **The Mystery of Edwin Drood**.

We especially commend all the fine actors and actresses for your hard work and dedication and for the energy you brought to this wonderful show, you have done your school and your families proud.

We applaud you.

---

The attorneys of Seed Mackall LLP:

Peter A. Umoff  
(proud father of Cooper and Camille)

Thomas N. Harding

Barton E. Clemens

Alan D. Condren

Nicholas J. Schneider

Evan T. Pickering



# WHO'S WHO?

**Beau Lettieri (Production Stage Manager)** can be found in the Santa Barbara High School Theatre during many hours of the day. Beau became interested in technical theatre during junior high school and immediately became involved in technical theatre at SBHS on his first day of high school. Since then he has worked backstage on *The Drowsy Chaperone* (2012), *God of Carnage* (2012), *SPAMALOT* (2013), *The Glass Menagerie* (2013), and has stage managed *Cabaret* (2013), *Chicago* (2013), *How to Succeed in Business* (2014), and most recently *Big Fish* (2014).

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## TECHNICAL CREW

### Run Crew:

Endora Lazzar-Williams, Kieran Meaney, Amanda Weymouth, Naomi Fujita,  
Kazumi Fujita, Leah Martin

Light Board Operator ..... Johnathan Kim  
Fly Rail Operators ..... Abdul Alrhman Alkhattari, Byron Osborn

### Construction Crew:

Endora Lazzar-Williams, Kieran Meaney, Amanda Weymouth, Naomi Fujita,  
Kazumi Fujita, Leah Martin, Johnathan Kim, Abdul Alrhman Alkhattari,  
Byron Osborn, Emiliano Avila, Luis Bravo, Javier Diosdado, Daniel Gamez,  
Richard Montejano, Lauro Panchi, Luis Perez, Michael Torres  
and 6th Period Stage Craft

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## SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE WOULD LIKE TO THANK:

The generosity of the indefatigable Mary Layman; Nancy Black, Lynn Robinson, Vicky Linker, Josie DeVine, and Bridget Lackaye for organizing tickets, concessions, and promotions; Jon Nathan; Bonnie Thor for her poster illustration; Stephanie Baker; Isaac Hernandez; John Becchio, Patty Diaz and the SBHS Administration

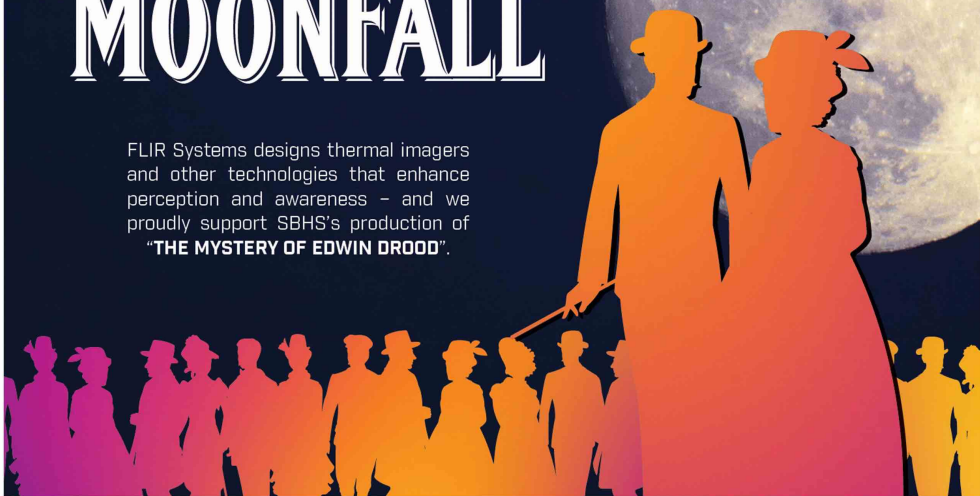
**and our playbill sponsors and parents!**



Congratulations Kendall and Shug  
and cast & crew  
Love Noel, Brent & Kathy  
Good luck in your coming adventures!

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ENTIRE CAST AND CREW,  
YOU MAKE US ALL PROUD!



Your Fan, and Proud mother of Rio / Miss Janet / Helena  
- Bridget

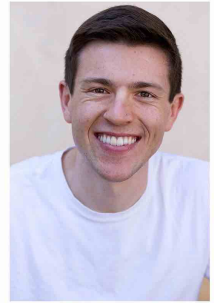
# SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

CLASS OF 2015



**Nick Blondell** is excited to wrap up his four short years in SBHS's program with a bang! The Mystery of Edwin Drood marks his final show under the direction of Otto Layman, and would like to thank Kit Steinkellner, his family, and the aforementioned Mr. Layman for their tutelage and support. Favorite roles include J.B. Biggley in How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, and The Leader of the Female Chorus in Lysistrata.

**Blake DeVine** is blessed to perform in his ninth SBHS theatre production. He has appeared in Alice in Wonderland (2011), Into the Woods (2012), Drowsy Chaperone (2012), Spamalot (2013), How To Succeed (2014), and three years of Music of the Night. Blake would like to thank Otto Layman, Christina McCarthy, Bonnie Thor, and his entire family. Blake plans on attending Florida State University in the fall, where he will pursue his degree in Digital Media Production



**Kendall Christensen** is filled with bittersweet sentimentality to be leaving the SBHS theater for uncharted territory, but she is tickled pink to be going out with a bang alongside her fabulous fellow cast members. Her previous shows include Music of the Night 2015 and Spamalot, and she was also costume director for Music of the Night 2013. She would like to thank the casts and crews of shows past, present, and future for keeping the wild rumpus alive.

After moving from Oklahoma, **Shug Cvitanic** was grateful to find a new home in the warm and welcoming community that is SBHS theater. Her first role as a freshman was in Alice and Wonderland. Since then, she has been lucky enough to perform in The Drowsy Chaperone, Spamalot, Music of The Night, and now Drood. She would like to thank Otto Layman for believing in her from the very beginning as well as the wonderfully talented and kind cast for making the theater such a great space. And of course, she sends love to her family (especially her mom) who has endured her obnoxious singing and frequent hysterics in preparation for every show thus far.





# Congratulations, ALESSIO!

And the entire cast, crew and  
artistic directors of "Drood"

**Bravissimi!**

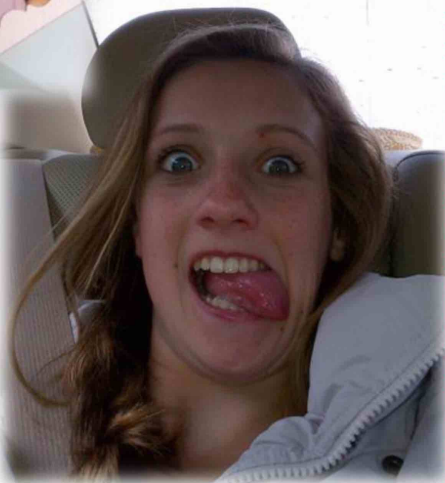
Alessio, we'll be savoring your final performances  
in a high school production. You'll soon be graduating  
and going on to choose your own "ending"!

*~Love, Mamma & Papá*





Maybe  
she's born  
with it...



You find joy in  
everything you  
do - on stage  
and off!

Love you!  
Dad, Mom, Brandon, Barney, Millie and Pebs

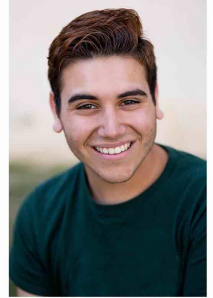
# SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

CLASS OF 2015



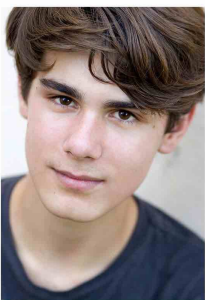
**Alessio Morello** became a part of the SBHS theatre late in his high school career, with Music of the Night 2014. Since then he has performed in How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, and Music of the Night 2015. Alessio started his theatrical endeavors in elementary school, appearing in the Peabody Charter productions of Peter Spam and Whodunit, and starring in Dugly Uckling. Alessio would like to thank his family for their fawning adoration.

**Andrew Gutierrez** has proudly called this theatre his home for the past four years. He started his amazing journey in the ensemble of Alice in Wonderland freshman year. He went on to play the superintendent in the The Drowsy Chaperone, Prince Herbert in Monty Python's Spamalot, Fred Casely in Chicago, Mr. Bratt in How to Succeed in Business, and most recently Will Bloom in Big Fish. He is so extremely excited to end his run here with a bang in the role of Horace. Off to the races!



**Aaron Linker** feels incredibly humbled to have participated in Santa Barbara High School theatre for all four years. From Music of the Night 2012 to The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Aaron has always felt welcome and at home in the theatre. He'd like to extend his appreciation to all the artists and actors who made his theatre experience an unforgettable reality, as well as to Otto Layman for his continued care and guidance.

**Hannah Robinson** has been involved with musical theatre since she was 5, but didn't join SBHS Theatre until her junior year. She has been in How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Music of the Night Season 15, and now The Mystery of Edwin Drood. She would like to thank Otto Layman and her family, and is excited to be a part of Droood!



**Spencer Glesby** is delighted to be joining the cast of Drood for his fifth and final show with the Santa Barbara High School Theatre Department. Unfortunately, due to his unimportance in this production, he was only given a 290-character maximum from Otto and Beau. He would like to thank hi

# SANTA BARBARA HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

CLASS OF 2015



**Hailey Simmons** has not been seen outside of this theater since Spring 2013. She would like to thank Otto Layman for allowing her to build a habitat for herself inside the toolroom. Hailey has enjoyed her participation in Spamalot, Chicago, Big Fish, and The Great Rat Standoff of 2014, an autobiographical one-woman show she performed last summer. If you have any scraps from concessions, please leave them for Hailey outside her dwelling.

**David Zevallos** is stoked beyond belief to be involved in the Santa Barbara High School Theatre department. Although David has only been in three productions at the High School, he feels like family with the cast and Otto. He wishes to thank all those who have helped him through his high school career and especially his mother and father whom want him to be involved with theatre for his entire life!



## Stephanie Baker Photography



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Senior Vice President-Wealth Management, Senior International Financial  
Advisor, Portfolio Manager  
1096 Coast Village Rd, Suite B  
Montecito, CA  
T 805.695.7006 F 917.778.0669  
mike\_wasserman@ml.com

Supervisory Office  
225 Liberty St. 41st FL  
New York, NY 10281  
Tel: 212.284.5608



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Vice President  
Wealth Management Advisor  
Portfolio Manager, PIA Program

1482 East Valley Road, Suite 50  
Montecito, CA 93108  
[www.fa.ml.com/chrisgallo](http://www.fa.ml.com/chrisgallo)  
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# A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

My first professional experiences on the stage were at the Ensemble Theatre (first Ensemble Theatre Project, and late Ensemble Theatre Company) when it first began way back in 1979-1980 as a labor of love by Joseph Hanreddy and other members of the UCSB theatre department, who wanted to create a homegrown, professional theatre in Santa Barbara. It began in the 142 seat Alhecama Theatre, where the audience was (literally) within spitting distance of the actors. That proximity of audience to actor was thrilling for performers; to work so close made for an intimate, shared experience, electric and immediate.

I think that is what attracted me as a director to *Drood*, the complete breakdown of the fourth wall and meta-layering of performance: actors playing actors playing characters in a musical...and all the while leading the audiences in hissing the villain and cheering the hero-and best of all, deciding the ending of the show. It's quite a highwire act, reaching a point in the show where the audience is asked to pick the villain, the detective, and the love interests, and for the cast to know the multitude of endings possible—but not know until THE VERY MOMENT IT IS DECIDED. Exhilarating stuff. And fun. I hope that you enjoy your own role in this production, we literally couldn't do it without you.

And so we come to the end of another year of theatre at SBHS, my 19th (!), one in which we once again produced two big musicals, saw students take *Music of the Night* in its 15th iteration to new heights of popularity and artistic brilliance, and created beautiful works of stage art in this chameleon of a space: and we did all this with truly one of the most wonderful senior classes I've ever had the joy to work with. This year I've watched them create a caring, loving, and happy family of actors and technicians, and I've have enjoyed coming to work here every day. (When I wrote that, I thought "coming here to play..."). When my own home is filled with love and laughter, it is saying something that I still love coming here. Enjoy this evening, let yourself go, and play loudly and boisterously with us tonight—

Otto



# SANTA BARBARA BOWL EDUCATION OUTREACH

The Education Outreach Committee  
congratulates Santa Barbara High School  
Theatre for their outstanding production of  
**The Mystery of Edwin Drood!**

Santa Barbara Bowl's Education Outreach  
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