

 npos junior

PRESENTS

ALVER & DOY'S ★
WENDY ★
THE PETER PAN MUSICAL

21-26 APRIL 2025

TSB SHOWPLACE, NEW PLYMOUTH

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WELCOME TO NEVERLAND

On behalf of New Plymouth Operatic Society (NPOS) welcome back to the TSB Showplace. NPOS Junior is back, and we couldn't be more excited!

Following the incredibly successful launch in 2023 with Seussical Jr, what could be a better follow up, than a reimagining of a timeless inter-generational story, that is Wendy Jr.

NPOS is so incredibly fortunate to have an amazing community that fully supports musical theatre and youth in our region. From our sponsors to our cast, crew, families and friends and of course you, our audience. The biggest of thanks to you all.

It's time to fly, so sit back, sprinkle on some fairy dust, and get ready to take flight to Neverland!

SHAUN MURPHY - New Plymouth Operatic Society President

FROM OUR SHOW SPONSOR

Centre City is once again thrilled to join New Plymouth Operatic Society as Major Sponsor for the 2025 Production of Wendy.

What a fantastic and creative way for young talents to learn the skills, dedication and hard work that goes into putting together a series of performances such as this. For some it will be about a single experience, but for others it might be the start of a path to a long term career in theatre and lasting friendships with fellow cast members.

If our sneak preview held at Centre City was anything to go by then you're in for something magical.

SHAWN MCKENZIE
Centre City Manager



Book, Music and Lyrics by Jonathan Alver and James Doy
Originally produced in Auckland by the National Youth Theatre

THE STORY

The Lost Boys of Neverland are restless because their leader Peter Pan doesn't know the endings to any stories.

Wendy Darling loves stories and knows lots of them. She lives in London with her brothers John and Michael, her businesswoman mother Mary, her inventor father George, and their robotic dog Nana.

Peter, accompanied by his jealous fairy Tinker Bell, visits the Darlings' house one night and convinces Wendy to fly with her brothers to Neverland so she can share her stories with the Lost Boys.

Neverland is home to Tiger Lily, the leader of a tribe of sleepy animals, a gospel-singing Mermaid with her school of ocean creatures, and a band of vengeful pirates led by Captain Hook and Bosun Smee. Conflict is everywhere.

Wendy is inspired to take charge and works out a way to bring the Lost Boys and the Animals together.

Peter hangs up his pipes which he has been using to bully the animals and there is harmony.

With peace restored, and the Lost Boys now knowing all Wendy's stories, she decides it's time to return home, much to Peter's disappointment.

Before she can leave, Captain Hook hatches another plan to defeat Peter Pan which results in the capture of all the island's inhabitants.

Tinker Bell is grievously injured in the fight but Wendy persuades the Mermaid to save her. Tinker Bell realises the error of her ways and decides to join Wendy's team.

A rescue plan is set in motion, a battle ensues with Wendy leading the charge, and Captain Hook is eventually chased off by his nemesis, the ticking crocodile.

As peace settles on Neverland, Wendy returns to London with her brothers, ready to make a difference in her own world.



WENDY

Martha-Rose Hagenson



PETER PAN

Oskar Ellmoos



THE DARLINGS

MR DARLING: Luke Shaw

MRS DARLING: Esme Pease

JOHN: Max Armstrong

MICHAEL: Elliot Brooks

THE LOST KIDS

Alejandro Bellringer, Felix Pease

Eleanor Bridgehouse, Luke Shaw

Angus O'Sullivan, Leroy Neale

Amelie Francis, Maggie Cleaver

Blakey Stewart-McDonald



CAPTAIN HOOK

William Broadmore



TINKERBELL

Ruth Hagenson



THE PIRATES

SMEE: Tommy Broadmore

THE MERMAID: Indi Single

Benjamin Bartlett, Esme Pease
Fable Hoskins-Martin, Paige Casey
Blake Downer, Tonia Almano
Czeska Cottam, Venetia Ngeru
Cynan Huirama-Glennie
Luke McLeod + CROCODILE

THE ANIMALS

TIGER LILY: Leah Gunson

NEVERBIRD: Calypso Maddox-Rowe

Arabella Thomson, Astrid Batten
Indie Pretty-Taylor, Paige Liggett
Maisy Edwards, Olivia Moorhead
Belle Fisher, Neve Kerr
Layla O'Brien



ALVER & DOY'S ★

WENDY

THE PETER PAN MUSICAL

Jr.





OUR CREATIVES



RYAN JACOBS: DIRECTOR

Ryan Jacobs is thrilled to return to NPOS to direct *Wendy Jr.* He brings a wealth of theatrical experience, having served as Creative Director for the NZ Music Theatre Company and Artistic Director of Suitcase Theatre (Toronto). He's directed over 40 productions, including 13 summers at French Woods Festival in New York. Ryan made his NPOS debut with *Seussical Jr.* and recently directed *Urinetown: The Musical* at 4th Wall Theatre, continuing his commitment to bold, engaging storytelling within the region.



ALYSSA AVERY: MUSICAL DIRECTOR

With decades of performing experience and over 30 years of teaching, Alyssa is delighted to step into the Music Director role for *Wendy*. Previously for NPOS Alyssa played Donna in *Mamma Mia* (2015) and Mrs Brill in *Mary Poppins* (2018). Landing her dream role of Earth Mother in the professional NZ touring production of *Menopause The Musical* (2020). Her last creative role was vocal director for *Matilda* (2022) and she was music director for Spotswood College productions of *Bugsy* and *Addams Family*. Alyssa has loved working with this talented and enthusiastic cast of young people.



GREER ANDERSON: CHOREOGRAPHER

With a Bachelor in Performing and Screen Arts majoring in Contemporary Dance, Greer has dedicated her life to the art of dance. She performed with NPOS in our 2023 productions of *We Will Rock You* and *Hear Me Roar*, and has previously choreographed *Mamma Mia* for Hawera Repertory Society, as well as numerous pieces for competitions and studio shows. Greer is excited for her debut as Choreographer for NPOS, and has enjoyed sharing her passion of performance with the cast.

ANN STEWART: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Ann is one of NPOS's most active and engaged members. Since joining in 1983, she has amassed an extensive list of credits for roles including Eponine in *Les Miserables* (1994), Miss Hannigan in *Annie* (2003), and Shirley in *Priscilla* (2019). Whether part of the cast or backstage crew, Ann's involvement is highly valued, and in 2023 she was recognised with an MTNZ Merit Award for her outstanding contribution to musical theatre in Taranaki. Wendy Jr is Ann's second credit as Assistant Director, following *Seussical Jr* in 2023.



HUW GRIFFITHS: PRODUCTION MANAGER

Huw joined the NPOS family as Stage Crew for *Les Miserables* (2018), and *Wicked* (2021), and progressed to Assistant Stage Manager for *Matilda* (2022), and then Stage Manager for *We Will Rock You* (2023) and *Jersey Boys* (2024). For our Junior shows, Huw was Company Manager for *Seussical* (2023), and has taken on the mammoth task of Production Manager for *Wendy*. And, because being part of two shows per year isn't quite enough, Huw is also a member of the NPOS Management Board.



MEL HENSHILWOOD: COMPANY COORDINATOR

Mel is a well-known face at NPOS with a show history dating back to Mack and Mabel in 1987. Since then, she has appeared in over 20 shows for NPOS - the most recent being *Jersey Boys* last year, as well as numerous shows for other societies. Over the years Mel has co-directed and choreographed several of our Cabaret shows, and this year, turns her can to Company Coordinator AKA Camp Mother for the cast of *Wendy*.



THE WRITERS

JONATHAN ALVER

Jonathan has written and directed opera, theatre and screen productions for over 25 years.

After training as a singer at the Royal Northern College of Music, Jonathan's major directing debut came at the age of 25 when he remounted the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of *Showboat* at the London Palladium. Since then he has amassed an extensive list of international stage directing credits, writing credits, and he has also directed more than 100 broadcast television hours of *Shortland Street*, *Go Girls*, and is Director of the NZ Opera School.

JAMES DOY MNZM

James Doy (B.Mus L.T.C.L.) is a musician, musical director and composer. He has played for many international touring productions including *Les Miserables*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Cats*, *Matilda* and *Wicked*, and he has been actively involved in training young people in Musical Theatre since 1997.

James was one of the founding members of the National Youth Theatre Company, and has been the Musical Director since its inception in 2005.

Read the full authors biographies at:
www.alverdoy.com/the-authors

THE CREW

PRODUCER: NP Operatic Society

DIRECTOR: Ryan Jacobs

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: Alyssa Avery

CHOREOGRAPHER: Greer Anderson

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Ann Stewart

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Huw Griffiths

COMPANY COORDINATOR: Mel Henshilwood

TICKETING MANAGER: Maree Watson

MARKETING: Tracey Blake, Amanda Bollond

GRAPHIC DESIGN: Amanda Bollond

PHOTOGRAPHY: Chris Hill

STAGE MANAGER: Katelin Gallagher

STAGE CREW: David Liggett, Carli Culpin
Cormac Deegan, Hamish Gunson



SOUND: Dean Clark (HOD), Jasmine Kimi

LIGHTING: Sam Adlam (HOD)

Sheldon Finer, Riley Behrent, Lucas Hansen

PROPS: Libby Needs (HOD), Jimmy

Bovaird (2IC), Natasha Foster, Oscar Sarten,
Jayden Foster, Rob Needs

WARDROBE: Libby Needs (HOD),

Hayley Lampe, Sharon Needs, Chloe Muir,
Amber Baxter, Esther Batten, Melissa Kilian,
Elianna Luke, Robyn Tate, Pipa Clarkson,
Jasmine Gallagher, Hana Barton

MAKEUP: Kristin Sarten-Turner (HOD)

Jacqui Stevenson, Amelia Gaudin, Jan Goss,
Janelle Ferries, Rebecca Mende, Aileen
Turner

HAIR: Eloise Finer (HOD), Lucy Hopperus,

Sophie Nairn, Kellie Divane, Faith Howell,
Kate Cleland, Kim Cleaver

PROGRAMME SALES: Maree Watson

(HOD), Leanne Bartlett (2IC), Karen Smylie
Cathryn Martin, Carol Dawkins, Kim Carr

STAGE DOOR: Diane Bovaird (HOD)

Grant Bovaird, Linda Cloke, Howard Rozon

UNDERSTUDIES

WENDY: Fable Hoskins-Martin

PETER PAN: Luke Shaw

HOOK: Benjamin Bartlett

TINKERBELL: Maggie Cleaver

TIGER LILY: Maisy Edwards

MERMAID: Tonia Almano

NEVERBIRD: Paige Liggett

SMEE: Cynan Huirama-Glennie

MR DARLING: Blake Downer

MRS DARLING: Olivia Moorhead

JOHN: Felix Pease

MICHAEL: Angus O'Sullivan

OUR UNDERSTUDIES WILL
PERFORM THE ABOVE ROLES ON
23RD APRIL AND AT THE MATINEE
PERFORMANCE ON
26TH APRIL







CENTRE CITY

Proud to support making Taranaki more vibrant with entertainment that further enriches our community and brings creative opportunities for our young performers.

**PARK. MEET. SHOP. EAT.
THEN ENJOY THE SHOW!**

 centre-city.co.nz

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are so grateful to all those that have supported our production of **WENDY JR.**

Special thanks to: Centre City, Annex Group, Speedy Signs, Helloworld Travel Strandon, NZCT, Toi Foundation, Chris Hill Photography, Stuff, BSeen Taranaki, Mad Media, iStudios Multimedia, Be Magical, MJF Lighting, BounceNZ, Taranaki Driven, Toi Foundation, NZCT.

