

**Gunston Elementary
School Presents**



April 8 - 9, 2016



FCV South County Rec and Travel Soccer Programs

FCV South County Soccer Program (FCV-SCAA) personally invites Gunston Elementary Students to join our recreational and travel soccer programs. Our recreational and travel soccer programs are the fastest growing soccer programs in Fairfax County. Come explore our soccer program and enjoy the county's 4 newest turf lighted facilities at South County High School/South County Middle School.

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For questions call Kurt at (703) 606-9896 or email at kmgordon@starpower.net.



**At FCV SCAA we support kids on and off the pitch,
Good luck to the entire cast of the Lion King!**

Gunston Elementary's

Production of



Music & Lyrics by

Elton John & Tim Rice

Additional Music & Lyrics by

Lebo M, Mark Mancina, Jay Rifkin, and Hans Zimmer

Book by

Roger Allers & Irene Mecchi

Based on the Broadway production
directed by

Julie Taymor

CONTENTS

Special thanks to all of the parents and teachers who have made this production possible!

Music Adapted & Arranged and Additional Music & Lyrics and "Luau Hawaiian Treat" written by **Will Van Dyke**

"It's a Small World" written by **Richard M. Sherman** and **Robert B. Sherman**

While we made every effort to accurately include all information in this program, we apologize for any possible omissions or errors.

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MAIN CAST

(In Order of Appearance)

Rafiki

Taylor Bailey

Mufasa

Zachary Alpaugh

Sarabi

Emily DiGiulian

Zazu

Gabriella Espinola

Scar

Manny Elsyad
Martin Espinola

Young Simba

Matthew Botts

Young Nala

Lexi Halston

Sarafina

Brooke Birrell

Shenzi

Haylie Walker

Banzai

Anthony Webb

Ed

Corran Smith

Timon

Nathan Grunkemeyer

Pumbaa

Lily Thomas

Simba

Braelen Cage

Nala

Wynn Brenner

ENSEMBLE

Birds

Esther Godwin
Adjara N. Ovattara
Destiny Walker

Buzzard

Ryan Alpaugh

Elephants

Syed Muaz Gamer (Lead)
Kaleb Abiy

Gazelles

Sarah Whitis (Lead)
Lacey Alpaugh
Eyoel Bineyam
Kolby Curry
Lena Resson

Giraffes

Emma Delaney (Lead)
Giuliana Espinola
Kennedy Marshall

Grasslands Dancers

Gelila Dawet (Lead)
Sarah Barrett
Aleah Biscombe
Alyssa Biscombe
Rheyana Calderon
Tega Efenarhua
Aniya Kelly
Destini McVey
Naomi Rechka
Kaitlyn Smiley
Rebecca Stroh

Hyenas

David King (Lead)
Davide Abella
Grant Cage
Parker Cage
Jacob O'Quinn
Caleb Taylor

Lionesses

Aydan Paul (Lead)
Brooke Barnes
Jorja Herron
Tiffany Nguyen
Marissa Schuman
Elea Zeno

Rhinos

Martin Espinola (Lead)
Jayla Carey
Ray Haffly

Wildebeests

John Mendoza (Lead)
Lorenzo Abella
Kyler Barnes
Todd Benton
Elia Botts
Jerry Brown
Johnny Clarke
Gwendolyn Goeller
Alexa Meckley
Tyler Raymo
Braxton Webb
Gabriel Webb

Zebras

Emily Barrett
Emily Nelson
Rachel Stroh
Dawn Houston

PRODUCTION TEAM

Directors

Ms. Hogan, Miss Lomax

Assistant Directors

Ms. Booth, Ms. Frolova

Music Director

Mr. Benton

Choreographers

Mrs. Haffly, Ms. Phillips

Producer

Tammy Grunkemeyer

Set & Props Designers

Joe Grunkemeyer, Tammy Grunkemeyer, Mr. McConnell, Ms. Mullen

Costume & Mask Designers

Erika Botts, Kaela Botts, Christine Chilton, Kelly Clarke, Virginia "Bella" Clarke, Amanda Espinola, Joe Grunkemeyer, Nathan Grunkemeyer, Tammy Grunkemeyer, Stephen Junod, Thuy Le, Jo McManus, Ms. Mullen, Mel Nelson, Taylor Nguyen, Tiffany Nguyen, Debbie Schuman, Vicki Smith

Makeup Artists

Cassandra Baltimore, Rachel Baltimore, Avril Biscombe, Erika Botts, Kaela Botts, Jackie Brenner, Karen Gilpin, Naomi Goeller, Collette Junod, Stephen Junod, Stella Lomasson, Shelby Meckley, Abby Mills, Dara Paul, Cassie "Tia" Plannakis, JoVon Rogers, Liz Seetin, Julie Snyder, Valerie Thomas, Sadiqu Tokhi, Lisa Webb

Light & Sound Director

Mr. McConnell

PRODUCTION TEAM

(Continued)

Stage Crew

Kaela Botts, Mary Cox, Ms. Geiser, Nicole Harris, Bilal Masood, Tan Nguyen, Dean Spears

Property Master

Ms. McKeon

Ad Sales

Jackie Brenner

Videography

Bowen Films, Ms. Moore

Program Designer

Naomi Goeller, Square Bubble Design

Photographers

Rodney Bailey, Hannah Goeller

Cast Shirt Designer

Naomi Goeller, Square Bubble Design

Animal Herders

(Volunteers who went above and beyond as needed)

Darcy Bailey, Priscila Borges, Erika Botts, Jackie Brenner, Sylvia Calderon, Kelly Clarke, Amanda Espinola, Naomi Goeller, Tammy Grunkemeyer, Jennifer Halston, Joyce Kabir, Rosalynd Keys, Dara Paul, Nicole Raymo, Dona "Bamma" Sauer, Debbie Schuman, Celeste Stroh, Rebecca Sutter, Mitzi Walker, Lisa Webb

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Circle of Life with Nants' Ingonyama

Rafiki, Ensemble

Grasslands Chant

Ensemble

The Lioness Hunt

Lionesses

I Just Can't Wait to Be King

Young Simba, Young Nala, Zazu, Ensemble

Be Prepared

Scar, Shenzi, Banzai, Ed, Hyenas

They Live in You

Mufasa, Ensemble

The Stampede

Ensemble

The Mourning

Sarabi, Lionesses, Nala, Rafiki, Hyenas

Hakuna Matata

Timon, Pumbaa, Young Simba, Simba, Ensemble

Shadowland

Nala, Lionesses, Rafiki

Can You Feel the Love Tonight

Timon, Pumbaa, Simba, Nala, Ensemble

He Lives in You

Rafiki, Ensemble

Luau Hawaiian Treat

Timon, Pumbaa, Ensemble

Finale

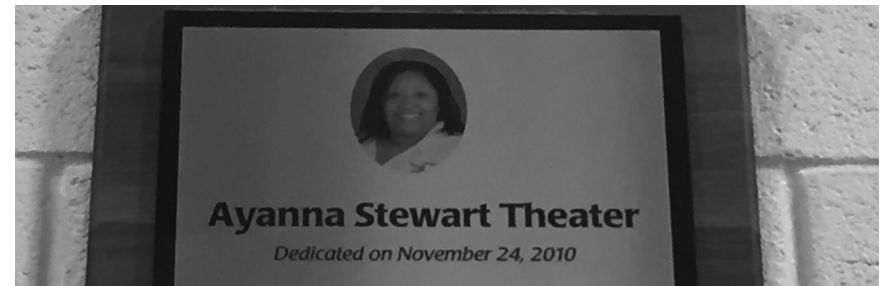
Company

In Memory of

AYANNA STEWART

It has been 6 years since Gunston Elementary school last produced a play. In 2010, we lost Ayanna Stewart, beloved Gunston Elementary School teacher. Ayanna loved her job and was a champion of the importance of these school productions and the value of theater in a student's education and growth. During her time at Gunston she led productions of *Suessical the Musical*, *The Ugly Duckling*, and *Willie Wonka Jr*, working alongside some of the same staff members who have today brought *The Lion King Jr.* to Gunston. Many of her students are now in middle school and high school and we would like to thank those students who have come back to help with the production in honor of their former teacher.

When Andrea Hogan and Randy Benton learned that *The Lion King Jr.* would be made available to schools, it instantly resonated as way to honor Ayanna and bring theater back to Gunston. So, as did Simba, we may have lost our way for a little while, but with the inspiration of those who came before us we now bring you Gunston Elementary School's production of *The Lion King Jr.*



DIRECTORS' LETTER

Congratulations to the entire cast and ensemble!!! It's hard to believe we started this journey roughly three months ago and here you are, actors, actresses and singers ready for "Broadway"! The collective hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm you brought to our rehearsals has helped ensure the success of Gunston's first play in six years. With each rehearsal you continued to demonstrate what it meant to be a "Gunston Eagle" and came together as our "*Lion King, Jr. Family*". We couldn't be more proud of you! May you continue to inspire others in the future to continue this legacy that was passed on by Miss Ayanna D. Stewart. Thank you to the stage crew and our returning Gunston Eagle middle schoolers! We appreciate all the support you've given us.

To Tammy Grunkemeyer, we thank you for all your time, and attention to detail. We cannot thank you and your family enough for the countless hours you put into making this production a dream come true! Parent volunteers, you are amazing! Thank you for checking our children in and out daily, making costumes, doing makeup, and spending countless hours helping memorize lines and dances. All of your individual talents put together have made this production a success. Thank you to Gwen King and Gunston Elementary School PTA for your financial support. We also want to thank the entire PTA Board whose hands-on support brought this production to life. We look forward to many more play productions in the future.

To the amazing staff and teachers of Gunston Elementary. We Love you! We know you work so hard and thanks for taking the time to supervise, help behind scenes, and support us with developing our students into the stars we always knew they were. Special thanks to our coffee supporter Kelly McKeon, we couldn't have made it through rehearsals without you. Thanks to our custodial staff, who always ensure that our rehearsal space is always prepared and ready to go. Thanks to our administration, JoVon Rogers and Kristen Rucinski, for supporting our *Lion King Jr.* vision and always having an open door in our times of need.

Here at Gunston we are a family! And our Circle of Life would not be complete without all of you! Remember, Hakuna Matata, And Be Prepared for an amazing production coming to the Ayanna Stewart Stage near you!!

Love,

Ms. Hogan - Co-Director
Miss Lomax - Co-Director
Ms. Booth - Asst. Director
Ms. Frolova - Asst. Director
Mr. Benton - Music Director
Mrs. Haffly - Choreographer
Ms. Phillips - Choreographer
Mr. McConnell - Lights & Sound



PRODUCER'S LETTER

"There is more to see than can ever be seen, more to do than can ever be done." Early on Rafiki's words were resounding in my ears, because there was so much to do. What you are about to see is amazing. But it doesn't begin to compare with what I have already seen getting to this day.

Our directors have worked tirelessly, willingly and lovingly (after a full day of teaching) to motivate, inspire and guide over 70 students in bringing out their best on and off stage. Our principals have given their unwavering support, and without that this simply wouldn't be possible. Even though we've done our best to list our volunteer crew in this program, you would be hard-pressed to find a teacher, office staff, custodian or cast parent whose hasn't in some way helped us orchestrate months of rehearsals and all of the many tasks that surround *The Lion King, Jr.* event.

I am proud to be a part of a PTA that is so committed to supporting our students and giving them great opportunities to shine. Our parents have been amazing! I must admit collaborating creatively with Ms. Mullen and with our incredible costume team has been an especially wonderful experience for me personally. We are fortunate to have such talented, creative parents, family members, teachers, and friends who are willing to share their time, energy...and problem-solving skills. One day I came across an old African proverb that says "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far go together." Thank you for taking this journey together.

Thank you to all the students. It has been an honor getting to know more about what is special in each of you. Keep this experience with you always. Know that you could accomplish something incredible because of your hard work and dedication. Know that all these costumes and makeup and time your teachers and parents have dedicated is because they love you and are proud of you. As Mufasa says, "Remember who you are."

-Tammy Grunkemeyer

A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPALS

We are so proud of our talented Gunston Eagles! We've been quite impressed with you from day one of the auditions and were further touched when we witnessed the selfless compassion and encouragement you showed towards one another as each role was announced. The electrifying energy you brought to each rehearsal made it evident that the final production of *The Lion King Jr.* could compete with any Broadway production!

-Ms. JoVon Rogers, Principal

-Ms. Kristen Rucinski, Vice Principal



PRIDEGRAMS

We love you Brooke and Kyler! -- Your family

Proud of you, Tyler Raymo! -- Mom, Dad, Andrieu, and Abby

Congratulations, Kaitlyn Smiley! -- Jason Woods and Family

Proud of you, Todd Benton! -- Mom, Dad, Will, and Tori

Emily DiGiulian I am so proud of you for choosing to follow and focus on your dreams! Great job showing your girl power! Love and big hugs, Jeannette

Proud of you, Taylor Bailey! -- Mom and Dad

Congratulations, Destiny! -- Jerry

Proud of you, Jerry Brown! -- Mom and Dad

Aydan, I'm not lion', you are my pride and joy. Love Daddy, Mommy, and Avery

Proud of you, Alyssa & Aleah Biscoombe! Love, Mom and Dad

Break a Leg, John Mendoza! -- Mom and Dad

Proud of you, Aniya! -- YaYa and Grandpa

Proud of you, Lily Thomas! -- Mom, Dad, and Andrew

PRIDEGRAMS

(Continued)

Congratulations, Aydan Paul! -- Love, Grandpa Bear and Grandma Cheryl

Elia, We are so proud of you! We love you very much. Rock it out! Love Dad, Mom, Kaela, Matthew, Ezra, Grandma, Linda, and Papa Joe, and Cory, and the rest of the family

Break a Leg, Aydan Paul! -- Brooke Birrell

Congratulations, Wynn Brenner! -- Brooke Birrell

Proud of you, Brooke Birrell! Always -- Ms. Dee

Congratulations David! Lead the Hyenas! Love, Mom, Dad, and Taylor

Johnny, You Are Our Favorite Shining Star! Congrats on a wonderful stage debut, we're proud of you and your accomplishments! Lots of love and break a leg! Love, Mom and Dad

To All My Wild Beasts, STAMPEDE!!! Gore the Lion!! With Love, A Momma Wildebeest

Proud of You, Rheyana Calderon! -- Dad, Mom, Seneca, and Bradon, and Brandon

Brooke Birrell -- So proud of you my BFF! Aydan Paul

PRIDEGRAMS

(Continued)

Congratulations, Gelila! -- Aydan Paul

Proud of you, Elea Zeno! -- Mom and Dad

Congratulations, Wynn Brenner! -- Aydan Paul

Congratulations, Corran Smith! -- Alex Hopper

Haylie - Best of luck. I am very proud of you. You will do great. You're the best hyena I know, Shenzi -- Meredyth

Aydan -- Raise the woof! Love Steve

Mono (Martin) Break a horn! -- Aydan Paul

Congratulations, Rheyana Calderon!--Nawna, Randy, and Boys

Emily DiGiulian You are awesome! I am so proud of you! Love Dad

Congratulations, Taylor Bailey! -- Aunt Aimee, Grammy, and Grampy

Congratulations, Johnny Clarke! -- Bama & Bob

Break a Leg, David King! -- Ms. Tiffany

Proud of you, Wynn Brenner! -- Nanny & Pop Pop

Young Nala rocks the stage! Break a lioness leg! -- Love, Mom, Dad, and Parker

PRIDEGRAMS

(Continued)

Break a Leg, Taylor Bailey! -- Nana

You're doing a great job in the show, Lily (Pumbaa). I think both of us can really be funny. -- Nathan (Your buddy Timon)

Congratulations, Alexa Meckley! -- Jack Jones

Break a Leg, Esther Godwin! -- Mom and Dad

Proud of you, Wynn Brenner! -- Dear ol' Grandad

Congratulations, Aydan Paul! -- Desi, Scarlett, and Josie

Proud of you, Bilal Masood! -- Dad

Break a Leg, Gwendolyn Goeller! -- Amah and Dad

Johnny Clarke...Following in my foot steps! -- Aunt Cassie

Aniya, we are so proud of you. Mommy and Daddy

Haylie, Daddy and Mommy are so proud of you! You make us laugh and smile everyday! Great work Shenzi! We love you!

Emma - You will do great as the Lead Giraffe - Meredyth

Nathan - Best of luck. You will do great as Timon. - Meredyth

PRIDEGRAMS

(Continued)

Proud of you, Aydan Paul! -- MJ Dudine

Brooke and Kyler Barnes, You are my pride and joy, my shining stars, my everything. With all my love, Grandma

Congratulations, Johnny Clarke! -- Uncle Jason

Proud of you, Thumper Girl! -- Mommy and Daddy

Proud of you, Peanut! -- Mommy and Daddy

Congratulations, David King! Love Mom, Dad, and Taylor

Break a Leg, Kaitlyn Smiley! -- Mommy and Daddy

Congratulations, Gabriel Webb! -- Mom and Dad

Proud of you, Anthony Webb! -- Mom and Dad

Congratulations, Braxton Webb! -- Mom and Dad

Proud of you, Nathan! -- Grandmama, Granddaddy, and Grandmommy

Proud of you, Tiffany Nguyen! -- Mom, Dad, Taylor, and Tan

Break a Leg, Corran Smith! -- Mum, Dad, and Torquil

Lexi Halston, Proud of you! Love Mom, Dad, and Parker

A star is born! I am so very proud of you, Emily. Love, Nanny

PRIDEGRAMS

(Continued)

You make us so proud, grateful and inspired! Love you mostest, mostest, times infinity -- Mom and Dad

Way To Go Lily! Grandma and Grandpa

Congratulations, Aniya! -- Grandma and Grandpa

Proud of you, Alexa Meckley! -- Your Family

Haylie, I don't really hate hyenas. What I mean is that I like the people playing them. Good job! -- Nathan (Timon)

Proud of you, Kyler Barnes! -- Mommy and Daddy

Congratulations, Wynn Brenner! -- The Vincents

Proud of you, Ray Haffly! -- Mom and Dad

We are so proud of all your hard work! Good luck Zachary (Mufasa), Ryan (Bird) and Lacey (Gazelle)! We love you so much, Mama, Daddy, Alex, and Nicholas

Break a Leg, Johnny Clarke! -- Cousin Atlas

Proud of you, Brooke Barnes! -- Mommy and Daddy

Espinolas! Giuliana our baby giraffe, Martin the lead rhino and Gabriella, Zazu, the King's majordomo! Your dedication and hard work has been beyond compare. We are so happy with the fun and friends you have made! Love Mom, Dad, and Javi

PRIDEGRAMS

(Continued)

Proud of you, Kolby Curry! -- Mom & Dad

Proud of you, Rheyana Calderon! -- Nana & Pops

Congratulations, Johnny Clarke! -- Cousin Apollo

Proud of you, Rachel Stroh and Kolby Curry! -- Mrs. Bono

Nathan - We love you and are so very proud of you! -
Mama and Daddy

We all love you and are so proud of you. Good luck.
Love Ryan, Daddy, and Mommy

Shine bright like a diamond. Knock their socks off
buyahh Love Booyah Mish

Proud of you, David King! -- Aunt Cindy and Kevin

Gazelles Rule! Yay Kolby! Love, Aunt Skosh, Ryan, Kelsey,
and Kara

Proud of you, Marissa Schuman! -- Mom and Dad

Proud of you, Destini McVey! -- Mom

Matthew, We are so proud of you! We know your young
Simba performance will be EPIC!! We love you! - Dad,
Mom, Kaela, Elia, Ezra, Grandma, Linda, and Papa Joe,
and Cory, and the rest of the family

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School's production of

The Lion King, JR



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Thanks Lion
King Jr. Staff!!!



The Webb Boys would like to extend their appreciation to the Gunston Staff and PTA who worked tirelessly to put together the Lion King production! Thanks to your devotion to our children they have had a wonderful experience. In a show of thanks - Anthony, Gabriel, and Braxton would like to offer an invitation to their restaurant. **Please bring in this ad and your Gunston employee ID for a meal on us!** For everyone else, please enjoy **one free appetizer with this ad.**

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AUTOGRAPHS

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ARTS

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the Lion King Jr. cast and crew!!!



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