# *VRT logo CMYK red.jpg Shrek 2014*

# Cast\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Aly Wepplo** (Fiona) is delighted to return to Virginia Repertory Theatre.  Richmond credits include *Steel Magnolias, The Importance of Being Earnest, Wait Until Dark*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, A Thousand Clowns*, *The Fantasticks, The Marvelous Wonderettes,* and *The Rocky Horror Show*. Aly is an Associate Company Artist with Company of Fools in Idaho, where she appeared in *The Glass Menagerie, Doubt,* and *Jack and the Beanstalk*. She is also a graduate of the University of Richmond, where her work culminated in the creation of *WomanWords,* a solo piece on how language shapes identity.



**Ashlee Arden Heyward** (Dragon/Ensemble) is from Chesapeake, VA by way of Queens, NY.In May of 2013, she graduated from Ferrum College with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater, Cum Laude. She returns for her third show this season with Virginia Rep. She was previously seen *in ‘Twas the Night before Christmas* and *Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad*. Thank you so much to Virginia Rep for making me feel so welcome these past few months. It has truly been a pleasure!



**Audra Honaker** (Ensemble) Regional:  *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Richmond Triangle Players/Henley Street Theatre/Richmond Shakespeare); *Pop!, Time Stands Still, Dog Sees God, A Bright New Boise* (Firehouse Theatre Project); *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Company of Fools); *Urinetown: the Musical, Once Upon A Mattress, The Miracle Worker, Lucky Stiff, Steel Magnolias, Little Women* (Swift Creek Mill Theatre); *tick..tick...BOOM!,* *Summer of '42* (Stage 1 Theatre Co.); *Fiddler on the Roof, The Secret Garden, The Crucible, Brooklyn Boy, Into the Woods, The 1940's Radio Hour* (Virginia Repertory Theatre); Television: *Killing Lincoln* (National Geographic).



**Brent Gallahan** (Ensemble) is thrilled to be a part of another Virginia Rep Production. He is a recent graduate from Virginia Commonwealth University where he earned a BFA in Theatre Performance. Favorite credits include: Virginia Rep *Stone Soup* (Theatre IV tour), *Seussical*, *Honk*; Theatre VCU *Avenue Q*, *Grease*;Henley Street Theatre Co. *Lord of the Flies*;Riverside Dinner Theater *Ring of Fire,* *The Pajama Game, Peter Pan, 42nd Street, Thoroughly Modern Millie, Shenandoah*; Film: *LINCOLN.* Special thanks to Robin Arthur, Bruce Miller and Phil Whiteway for this opportunity and my family: Mom, Dad, Brandon, Grandparents, and Adam for all their love and support.



**Brianne Chin** (Ensemble) is so excited to be making her Virginia Rep premiere! Her most recent credits include *The Wild Party* (Mae) with Firehouse Theatre Project and *Legally Blonde* at Riverside Dinner Theater. Other favorite credits are *Mary Poppins*, *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Annie*. Brianne thanks all her friends, teachers, and family for their never ending love and support. Without all of you, the dream wouldn’t be possible.



**Carolyn Meade** (Ensemble) was last seen on The Children’s Theatre of Virginia stage as The Sour Kangaroo in *Seussical.* Richmond: Madeline True in *The Wild Party*, Johnna in Cadence Theatre Company’s production of August: Osage County (RTCC Nomination), Sonya in *Godspell, Shipwrecked!, F\*ing A, The Good Body, 365 Days/365 Plays Revisited, Thoroughly Modern Millie, Annie, Bat Boy, A Movie Star Has to Star in Black and White, X Dance, On The Town* and *City of Angels, The Producers.*



**David Janeski** (Ensemble) The Children’s Theatre of Virginia audiences may recognize David from his title role in *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Today see him on stage as a pig and other animals. Love to Tessa and Lacey



**Ellie Wilson** (Young Fiona/Ensemble) has also been seen on the Virginia Rep stage in: *Madeline’s Christmas* (Madeline), *Seussical* (Young Kangaroo), *The BFG* (Sophie), *The Sound of Music* (Gretl), and *Honk!* (Fluff).  Other favorite performances include *Annie, Jr.* (Molly) with SPARC and *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* (Little Girl) at the University of Richmond. Ellie enjoys art, reading, playing the piano and performing with the Young Midlothian Singers.  She is grateful to her family for their love and support.

**Hanna Clinton** (Teen Fiona/Ensemble) is very excited to be performing on the Children’s Theatre stage. She last appeared with Virginia Rep in their 2009 production of *A Christmas Carol* . Other local theater appearances include Firehouse Theater Project and the Theatre Gym. She is currently a freshman at Thomas Dale High School in the theater specialty program and has studied several years at SPARC. Hanna would like to thank all her voice and dance teachers for helping her so much over the past few years, as well as her family and friends for being so supportive. She would especially like to thank her mother, Debra Clinton, who inspired her to become an actress.



**Hannah Zold** (Ensemble) is happy to be back on the Virginia Rep stage. She is originally from Connecticut and has a B.F.A. in Music Theatre from Shenandoah Conservatory.  Although her all time favorite role has been Miss Sandra in *All Shook Up* for Prather Entertainment Group National Touring Company, some of her favorite roles have been locally in: *Bare* with Richmond Triangle Players and *Suessical*, *Into The Woods, Mame* and *The Full Monty* with Virginia Rep. She would like to send lots of love to her supportive friends, family and her wonderful husband, John!



**Jason Marks** (Shrek). New York:  *Broadway Gypsy of the Year 2010* (with Carol Channing), *Young Edgar, Bound for Broadway*.  Regional: Max Bialystock in *The Producers* (Park Playhouse & VA Rep), Watson in *Holmes & Watson Save the Empire* (Oregon Cabaret Theatre), Horton in *Seussical,* Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* (RTCC nomination), Nicely-Nicely in *Guys & Dolls* (RTCC Award, Best Supporting Actor in a Musical).  Awards: Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts in Theater (Richmond Magazine), Big Broadway Break Contest (Staybridge Suites Times Square, NYC).  Proud Equity member.  [www.jasonmarksonline.net](http://www.jasonmarksonline.net).



**Joe Winters** (Ensemble) just graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University this past December, where he received his BFA in Theatre Performance. He is excited to be performing his first show with Virginia Rep. Previous performance credits include Francisco in *[Vampire]Medea* performed at the Atlanta Fringe Festival,Neechee in *Stupid Kids* at Richmond Triangle Players, *The Rocky Horror Show* at The Firehouse Theatre Project, Alan in *bare: a pop opera* at Richmond Triangle Players, and Sketch in *Hairspray* at TheatreVCU.).



**Keydron Dunn** (Ensemble) originally from NC recieved a BA from UNC.  He has traveled the USA with Virginia Rep in numerous rolls. His favorite role is in *Songs for the Soul*.  When he is not on stage he helps grandma's and grandpas to remain independent and cross the street. Thank you Virginia Rep, all thespians, RiversidePACE and Magnolia.



**Mark Persinger** (Ensemble) recently appeared in Virginia Rep’s production of “Twas the Night Before Christmas”. Other credits include “Lyle, Lyle Crocodile”, “Madeline’s Christmas” “My Fair Lady”, “White Christmas”, “The Sound of Music”, “Guys and Dolls”, “The Odd Couple”, “Seussical”, “Honk!”, “A Christmas Carol”, “Annie”; “Peter Pan”, “Joseph… Dreamcoat”, “She Loves Me” (Virginia Rep); “The Taming of the Shrew”, “A Servant of Two Masters” (Richmond Shakespeare/Henley Street); “My Son Pinocchio” (SPARC); “La Cage aux Folles”, “The Last Session” (Richmond Triangle Players) and “Floyd Collins”, “As Thousands Cheer” (SCMT). Mark would like to thank Caryn and Lorelei for their love and support



**Matt Shofner** (Pinnochio) is a co-founder of Spin, Spit & Swear, the producing company of the Ghost Light After Party at RTP, TheatreLAB's award winning production of Riding the Bull, and the Cover to Cover concert series at Hardywood Park.  Local performance credits include *The 1940's Radio Hour*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (RTCC Nomination), *Seussical* (2005) and *The Magic Flute* (Virginia Repertory Theatre), *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *I Love A Piano*, *Drifty's Polar Parade* and *Drifty's North Star Jamboree* (Swift Creek Mill Theatre), *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (RTCC Nomination, Firehouse Theatre Project), *All Fall Down* (TheatreLAB), *The Last Session*, *Breathe* (Richmond Triangle Players).  Additional credits: *Rent* (Japan Nat'l), *The Golden Mickey's*, *Toy Story: The Musical*, *Twice Charmed* and *Disney Dreams* (Disney Cruise Lines).  Matt earned his BFA in Theatre Performance from VCU.



**Robert King** (Lord Farquaad) is proud to be part of such a talented cast in his VirginiaRep debut.  He holds three degrees in the Performing Arts and has sung/acted/danced in 50+ plays, musicals, and revues.  When he’s not confined to his knees, Robert is a Singer of "Standards" and Show Tunes – [www.TheRobertKingExperience.com](http://www.TheRobertKingExperience.com).  You can "Like" him on Facebook (The Robert King Experience), or “Follow” him on Twitter (@RKingExperience) and Instagram (therobertkingexperience).  He’s grateful for an *extraordinary* wife Jo Ellen, a *remarkable* son Austin, an *incredible* son Wyatt, and an *amazing* daughter Adriana. He thanks you for attending FARQUAAD THE MUSICAL!



**Ronnie Brown** (Donkey) is happy to be returning to Virginia Rep.’s Willow Lawn stage for the third time. A two-time RTCC Award Nominee for Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor in a Play, some of his onstage credits include *Take Me Out (*Richmond Triangle Players*), The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (RTP and Henley Street Theatre), and *The Velveteen Rabbit* and *Scorched Earth* (Virginia Rep.). Ronnie would like to thank Robin and Sandy for giving him the opportunity to be as silly as possible and get paid for it, and Mom (Pat), Dad (Ron), and Sissy (Alex) for their continued support.



**Sara Ann Meinhofer** (Ensemble) is a graduating senior at VCU earning a degree in education and English. This is Sara's first show with Virginia Rep and she is very excited to be in the cast! Previous credits include: Hairspray (Amber Von Tussle), Les Miserables (Cosette), and Legally Blonde the Musical (Elle Woods). After graduation, Sara hopes to perform at Disney World or become an elementary school teacher. She would like to dedicate this show to her number one fans; Mom, Dad, Greg, Grandma, and Storm.

**Todd Patterson** (Ensemble) is returning to the stage after having just appeared in *Harriet Tubman and The Underground Railroad* on the Virginia Repertory Stage. Other Virginia Repertory shows include *A Year With Frog and Toad* and *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales*. His other Richmond credits include *Hairspray* (TheatreVCU); *Before It Hits Home* (Sycamore Rouge/Richmond Triangle Players); *Dessa Rose, A Gender-Reversed Exploration of Hamlet* (Firehouse Theater); *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Richmond Shakespeare); *Trojans* (TheatreLAB). Other credits - *The Pillowman, Topdog/Underdog, Bare: A Pop Opera, Christmas.To.Come., The Brothers Grimm* (Know Theatre of Cincinnati). *Guys and Dolls, Henry IV, Complete History of America Abridged* (Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival). *Ain't Misbehavin', Sylvia, Urinetown* (LiveArts). Education: BA Drama, University of Virginia.



# Production\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Robin Arthur** (Director/Choreographer) is a proud native of Richmond, is thrilled and honored to work as an actor, choreographer, director and teacher in her hometown! Credits include: *Honky Tonk Angels, Death of a Salesman, Dirty* *Rotten Scoundrels* (performance), and *Honk!, A Christmas Survival Guide*, and *Beauty and the Beast* (direction and choreography). Robin dedicates this production to all of the fabulous freaks in her life. You know who you are!

**Brian C. Barker** (Set Designer) is a Production Director specializing in entertainment design and owns and operates Barker Designs, a small design firm based in Richmond, VA. He teaches Computerized Drafting and Rendering at VCU. He has designed productions for Network Television, National Marketing Events, and Trade shows as well as Regional Theatre. Notable projects include the American Express Experience at the 2012 & 2011 US Open, “Verizon Studios” in the Mets CitiField, and the design of many elements for Nickelodeon’s Worldwide Day of Play in 2011 and 2013. He earned an MFA from the University of Tennessee. His theatre work was exhibited at the 2007 Prague Quadrennial, the theatre community’s most prestigious design exhibition. Favorite theatre designs include *The Pillowman* at Cadence Theatre Company, *The Velveteen Rabbit, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (2011 RTCC award winner), Spring Awakening* at Virginia Rep, *Born Yesterday*, and *Big River* at The Clarence Brown Theatre (LORT D). He would like to extend many thanks to all his friends and family and especially to his wife Nicole; your support means the world. See more of his work at BrianCBarker.com.

**Lynne M. Hartman** (Lighting Designer) is delighted to collaborate on *Shrek!* Recent VA Rep designs include *Tartuffe, To Kill A Mockingbird*, *The Music Man*, *The Magic Flute*, *Madeline’s Christmas*, *Seussical, Honk!,* *The* *Producers, Spring Awakening, Legacy of Light* (2011 RTCC Award) and *The Sound of Music* (2010 RTCC Award). Lynne has also received 8 other RTCC nominations for Outstanding Lighting Design. Now a resident of Norfolk, Lynne has designed in Richmond for Carol Piersol (*Breast In Show)*, TheatreVirginia, CenterStage, Richmond Ballet, Theatre VCU, The Carpenter Science Theatre Co. and Dogwood Dell among others. Regional design credits include Virginia Stage Company, *The Lost Colony*, McCarter Theatre, Auburn University, Kings Dominion, and Porthouse Theatre. Member: USA, Local 829. Love to David & their kids!

**Elizabeth Weiss Hopper** (Costume Designer) is an Emeritus Professor of Theatre at the School of the Arts, Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. where she served as costume designer for 32 years. Professionally she has designed costumes for over 250 productions in theatre, dance, and opera including the Company of Fools, Id; Theatre VCU, Virginia Repertory Theatre, the Production Company, the University of Richmond, James River Chamber Opera, Richmond Shakespeare, Cadence Theatre and the Confederation Center of the Arts, Canada. Among the shows she has designed for Virginia Rep are *Quilters, The Full Monty, James Joyce’s The Dead, 1940s Radio Hour, The Trip to Bountiful, Olympus on My Mind, the Diviners, Of Mice and Men, The Little Foxes, Sideways Stories* and *Well.* She is an expert on 1920 and 1930 women’s clothing having co-authored two current books: *Women’s Wear of the 1920s*: with complete patterns and *Women’s Wear of the 1930s*: with complete patterns published by Player’s Press.

**Sandy Dacus** (Music Director) has been involved with theater for over 30 years, and has worked with many of Richmond's finest theater companies including Swift Creek Mill Playhouse, Stage 1, Henrico Theatre Company, The Firehouse Theatre Project and Dogwood Dell.  She has been involved with many shows at Virginia Rep, including *Guys and Dolls* (RTCC award: music direction 2008), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (2009), *The Sound of Music* (RTCC award: best musical 2010) *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (RTCC award: music direction 2011) *Madeline's Christmas* (2012) and *Spring Awakening* (RTCC award: best musical 2012).  Sandy also teaches music at Kersey Creek Elementary School, and is the worship leader at All Souls Episcopal Church. She would like to thank her teenagers for being awesome and letting her play with the fairy tale freaks!

**Wendy Vandergrift** (Stage Management) A graduate of New York’s American Musical and Dramatic Academy, Wendy has been a denizen of the theatre world for far too many years to count (and it’s polite not to ask). One would be hard pressed to find something that she hasn’t done related to the stage…well, she can’t play the violin, but she can fill in for the drummer in a pinch! Her dream role: Kate, Shakespeare’s *The Taming of the Shrew.* Until then, she’ll keep busy as Production Manager/Assistant Technical Director for Virginia Repertory Theatre.