

DM YOUNG
ARTISTS
THEATRE

OCTOBER 8-17



Disney

DESCENDANTS

THE MUSICAL



THE STONER THEATER

DES MOINES YOUNG ARTISTS' THEATRE

PRESENTS



Disney
DESCENDANTS
THE MUSICAL

Book By

Nick Blaemire

Music Adaptation by

Madeline Smith

Vocal and Incidental Arrangements by

Madeline Smith

Additional Lyrics by

Nick Blaemire

Orchestrations by

Matthew Tishler

Music Produced by

Matthew Tishler

Songs by

Johan Alkenas, Adam Anders, Aristeidis Archontis, Antonina Armato, Howard Ashman, Peer Astrom, Stephen Mark Conley, Doug Davis, Charity Daw, Andrew C. Dodd, Josh Edmondson, Pipo Fernandez, Nikki Hassman, Samuel Hollander, Ben Hostetler, Tim James, Hanna Jones, Jack Kugell, Craig Lashley, Andrew Lippa, Jeannie Lurie, Alan Menken, Grant Phillip Michaels, Anthony Mirabella, Shayna Mordue, Chen Neeman, Susan Paroff, Shelly M. Peiken, Joacim Persson, James K. Petrie, Adam Schlesinger, Adam Schmalholz, Tyler Shamy, Jodie Shihadeh, Nikki Ann Sorrentino, Thomas Armato Sturges, Ali Dee Theodore, Matthew Wong, David Zippel

Based on the Disney Channel Original Movies written by Josann McGibbon and Sara Parriott

DES MOINES YOUNG ARTISTS' THEATRE

PRESENTS



Disney
DESCENDANTS
THE MUSICAL

Directors and Choreographers

Music Director

Stage Manager

Lighting Designer

Costume and Wig Designer

Assistant Music Director

Assistant Stage Manager

Assistant Lighting Designer

SAM MELZ & HALEY VANNESS

CHARISSA HAMEL

DC FELTON

TIM BLOUNT

ALEX LINDSLEY

SHERWOOD WILSON

LARS OREDSON

JAREN JORGENSON

DISNEY'S DESCENDANTS is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

WARNING: Strobe lights will be used during this production.



OUR MISSION

Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre is a nonprofit organization committed to:

- introducing students & their families to the transformative power of live theatre & the arts.
- training young performers in all areas of theatre: singing, acting, dancing, writing, design, directing, and stage management.
- nurturing the next generation of artists to be free-thinking, open-minded, risk-taking artists who use their awareness of their community, society, and world to create thought-provoking and challenging works of art to promote social change.

OUR VALUES

- Students are capable of far more than society assumes.
- Students are capable of teaching just as much as they are able to be taught.
- Every young person, regardless of background or experience, deserves the opportunity to participate on and off the stage.
- When they are with us, they are not kids. They are artists and students. Neither the quality of art nor the education standard should be sacrificed for the other's gain.
- Students and theatre can change the world and improve our community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CONTACT

4801 Franklin Avenue, Suite 1166 | Des Moines, Iowa 50310 | www.dmyat.org

CAST

Mal.....	DAWSON HUINKER
Evie.....	ADDYSON HALL*
Carlos.....	MILES BURRELL*
Jay.....	MAR FEITELSON
Maleficent.....	ALEX SIEGLE
Cruella De Vil.....	ME'LISA DUDLEY
Grimhilde.....	TATUM GLODEN
Jafar.....	GBOMI KAYODE
Ben.....	JJ MCLAUGHLIN*
Audrey.....	AVA BOLDT*
Chad.....	CAMDEN ENGEL
Doug.....	CHARLIE SHIPTON*
Jane.....	KEIRA JORGENSON*
Fairy Godmother.....	CAITLIN COMO
Beast.....	KALEB BEDWELL
Queen Belle.....	VAUGHN MCIVER
Royal Page.....	JOSIE HOUSTON
Maurice.....	FRANNY WINN*
Coach/Royal Guard.....	MAGGIE WISE
Snow White.....	VIVIAN COLEMAN*
Ensemble.....	DELANEY BOLDT* + MARYN ENGEL PENNY HOUSTON* FLYNN MCIVER AUDREY SULLIVAN* AUDREY VAUGHN* AVERIE VAUGHN*

* First Production with DMYAT
+ Dance Captain

CREATIVE TEAM

Directors and Choreographers.....SAM MELZ & HALEY VANNESS
Music Director.....CHARISSA HAMEL*
Assistant Music Director.....SHERWOOD WILSON*
Stage Manager.....DC FELTON*
Assistant Stage Manager.....LARS OREDSON
Lighting Designer.....TIM BLOUNT*
Assistant Lighting Designer.....JAREN JORGENSON*
Costume and Wig Designer.....ALEX LINDSLEY

SPECIAL THANKS

STACY LINDSLEY, costume construction
ABI HOUSTON, backstage volunteer
ALL PARENT AND STUDENT VOLUNTEERS, for their support
throughout the production
ANONYMOUS DMYAT FAMILY, for donating cast masks
TIM AT FRANKLIN JR. HIGH, for his support
AMBER AND TYLER ROBINSON OF KRAVE GYM, volunteering their
truck for load in
MEGAN HELMERS AND JOSH VISNAPUU, for their continued support

THE ARTISTS



Kaleb Bedwell (King Beast) – is thrilled to be returning to the DMYAT stage! He is an 8th grade student at Urbandale Middle School and was last seen on stage as a Wickersham brother in DMYAT's Seussical Jr. Outside the theatre, Kaleb enjoys drawing, baseball, skateboarding, and football. He believes that this show can teach people that no matter where you come from, people can change for the better if given the opportunity!



Ava Bolt (Audrey) – is excited to be making her DMYAT debut! She is a freshman at Prairie View and is thrilled to be sharing her passion in Descendants! She is no stranger to the stage as she is active in dance and show choir. Through her experience in the show, she believes that being different can bring people together. Ava is a huge musical theatre enthusiast and is looking forward to sharing her passion with everyone in this production!



Delaney Boldt (Ensemble, Dance Captain) – is no stranger to the stage and was last seen performing with DMYAT in Summer Shorts! She is a freshman at Prairie View and enjoys running, drawing, art, reading, colorguard, and show choir. She has done numerous productions through her school, including Shakespeare Sonnets. She believes Descendants teaches people that no matter how different you are from others, you can accept people for who they are.



Miles Burrell (Carlos) – is excited to be making his DMYAT debut and is a 7th grade student at Waukee Middle School. Miles has performed at Des Moines Performing Arts, Drake University, and The Des Moines Playhouse. His credits include: Pippin, Press Start, The Grunch, Space Pirates, and Singing in the Rain. He likes food and enjoys playing the piano. Miles believes Descendants teaches a very important lesson: don't judge a book by its cover.



Vivian Coleman (Snow White) – is thrilled to be performing at DMYAT and was last seen doing DMYAT Sings Broadway 2021. She has been involved in numerous productions including: Peter Pan Jr (Small Brave Girl), Tales of the Fourth Grade Nothing (Jennie), Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Children's Choir), Elf the Musical (Ensemble), and Playhouse on the Air presents: Miracle on 34th Street. When not involved in theatre, Vivian likes to sing, dance, and act! She hopes everyone enjoys the show and that people will walk away knowing that everyone is going through their own battles and to always show kindness.



Caitlin Como (Fairy Godmother) – is a junior at Waukee High School and is no stranger to the stage at DMYAT! You may have seen her last in School of Rock (Maury) or in The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe (Susan.) Other credits include: The Little Mermaid Jr, Hairspray Jr , Six on Six: The Musical, Falling , and Shrek. She is actively involved in her school's varsity show choir, Millennium Varsity. An important lesson that she feels this show teaches it that everyone deserves a second chance, no matter what they did in the past.



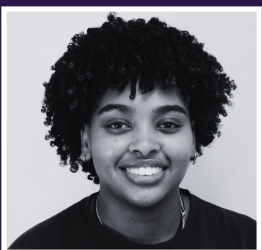
Melisa Dudley (Cruella DeVill) – is thrilled to be returning to DMYAT as Cruella DeVill! She is a senior at East High School and was last seen in DMYAT's production of School of Rock. Other credits include: Hairspray, RENT, Sister Act, and Unchurched. When not on stage, Melisa enjoys show choir, chamber choir, and theatre at her school. She wants to remind people to always get to know someone's story and to give them a chance!



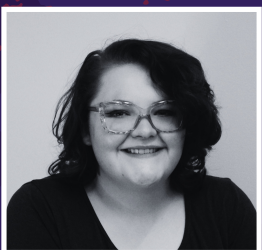
Camden Engel (Chad) – is excited to be returning to the DMYAT stage! He is a 7th grade student and he was last seen performing in DMYAT's Seussical Jr! Outside the theatre, Camden's other hobbies include: basketball, volleyball, building with Legos, reading,, and doing yo-yo tricks. He loves doing shows at DMYAT where he can meet new people. He believes that this show teaches us that people can change and come back together.



Maryn Engel (Ensemble) – is excited to be back with DMYAT performing in Descendants! Mayrn is a 5th grade student and was last seen on the DMYAT stage performing in Seussical Jr. While not on stage, Maryn enjoys playing piano, volleyball, crafts, gymnastics, and reading. After the performance, Maryn hopes that the audience will continue to be kind and compassionate. Maryn loves doing productions with DMYAT and is excited to share this story!



Mar Feitelson (Jay) – is thrilled to be returning to the stage at DMYAT! He is a sophomore at Valley High School and was last seen performing as Eddie in 13 the Musical. Mar is no stranger to the stage and other credits include: School of Rock (Madison), Hairspray (Judine), Fun Home (Small Allison), The Boy at the Edge of Everything (Simon), and Godspell (Mar.) Mar enjoys basketball, skateboarding, guitar, and playing drums. He also appeared in a Clean & Clear social media campaign and helped write & perform in "Nature of the Dream" film.



Tatum Gloden (Evil Queen) – is excited to be returning to the DMYAT stage and was last seen in Summer Shorts (Director.) Some of her credits include: She Kills Monsters (Vera) and Mary Poppins Jr (Von Hustler/Ensemble.) She enjoy singing, songwriting, playing instruments, sewing, painting, and playing video games. The message she wants people to take away from this production is that people can change and there is good in everyone.



Addyson Hall (Evie) – is making her DMYAT debut with Descendants! She is a 9th grade student at Timberline and is thrilled to be portraying the character of Evie. Her credits include: A Christmas Story (Ensemble,), The Greatest Showman (Bearded Lady), and Kids Working (Megean.) Addyson enjoys reading, singing, writing, and is a member of the Central Iowa Figure Skating Club. She is thrilled to be a part of Descendants and hopes that everyone will see that there is good in everyone and that you should accept people for who they really are.



Josie Houston (Royal Page) – is no stranger to the DMYAT stage and is a 6th grade student at St. Pius X. She were last seen in Seussical Jr. (Ensemble) and The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe (Mrs. Beaver). Some of Josie's hobbies include: Irish dancing, volleyball, tennis, art, and guitar. She believes that everyone should be themselves and accept their uniqueness! Josie has an older sister, younger sister, and a younger brother and likes spending time with her family.



Penny Houston (Ensemble) – is making her first ever theatre debut at DMYAT! Penny is a 3rd grade student at St Pius X and enjoys Irish dancing, soccer, reading, and bike rides. She loves to get to know others by spending time with them and believes a smile goes a long way in making friendships! Penny is excited to be a part of this production and is thrilled to be sharing the stage with her older sister, Josie!



Dawson Huinker (Mal) – was last seen in DMYAT'S Seussical Jr and is thrilled to be returning to the DMYAT stage in Descendants! She is currently a 6th grade student at South Middle School. Some of her past credits include: Seussical (JoJo), Alice in Wonderland (Mad Hatter), and 101 Dalmations (Cruella.) While not on stage, she is active in art, vocal lessons, band, choir, piano, and dance. She is thrilled to be sharing her talents and hopes that everyone can be brave and never be afraid to show your true self.



Keira Jorgenson (Jane) – is a seventh grader at Iowa Virtual Academy. This is the first show she has been involved in. Outside of theater she takes voice, guitar, and piano lessons. She is also an active member of City Voices in Des Moines. In her free time she also loves to create digital art and animations.



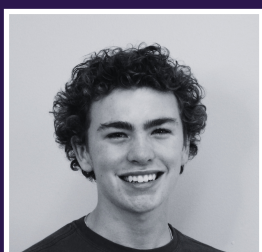
Gbomi Kayode (Jafar) – is a 8th grade student at McCombs and is excited to be returning to the DMYAT stage! You may have seen them last in DMYAT's You're a Goodman Charlie Brown (Shoreder) and Seussical Jr. (Yertle the Turtle.) Other credits include: James and the Giant Peach (Ensemble) with the Des Moines Playhouse and Annie (July) at Urbandale Community Theatre. When not on stage, Gbomi enjoys soccer, playing piano, playing guitar, and reading. Gbomi believes it is important not to prejudice people and that Descendants teaches this lesson.



Flynn McIver (Ensemble) – was last seen in DMYAT'S *Seussical Jr.* (*Whoville Citizen*) and is excited to be back at DMYAT! Flynn enjoys writing stories, drawing, and reading. She believes that it's okay to be who you are and to push yourself to do things that you never thought you'd do!



Vaughn McIver (*Belle*) – is thrilled to be returning to the DMYAT stage and is a 7th grade student at Callanan. She has been involved in two productions at DMYAT, *Hairspray Jr.* and *Seussical Jr.* She has also performed at the Des Moines Metro Opera in their production of *La Boheme*. Her hobbies include choir, debate, and swimming.



JJ McLaughlin (*Ben*) – is no stranger to the DMYAT stage and was last seen doing *Summer Shorts*. He is a sophomore at Dowling Catholic High School and is active in cross country, weightlifting, show choir, and swim team. Some of his credits include *Pinnocchio* (*Lampiriele*), *Elf* (*Elf*), *Singing in the Rain* (*Simpson*), *Fiddler on the Roof* (*Perchile*), and *A Chance of Rain* (*Boy*.) He believes that this production proves that it's never too late to change and to not let your past define you.



Charlie Shipton (*Doug*) – is making his first-ever theatre debut with DMYAT! Charlie is a 7th grade student at Merrill and enjoys drawing, gymnastics, and karate. The greatest lesson he believes that *Descendants* teaches is to be your authentic self! He loves musicals and is thrilled to be sharing his passion in this production!



Alex Siegle (*Maleficent*) – is no stranger to the stage at DMYAT! You may have seen them last in *The Boy at the Edge of Everything* and is a sophomore at Waukee High School. While at Waukee she has performed in: *The Nifty-Fifties Malt Shop Murder* (*Caroline*) and *The Trial of the Wicked Witch* (*Denny*.) Outside the theatre, you will find Alex dancing and singing in the show choir and being a wrestling manager. She has enjoyed her experience with *Descendants* and believes that change can be a good thing.



Audrey Sullivan (*Ensemble*) – is thrilled to be making her DMYAT debut! Audrey is a 6th grade student at Summit Middle School. She has done numerous shows with Des Moines Performing Arts including: *The Grunch* (*Mrs. Grunch*) and *Space Pirates* (*Museum Guide/Spirizel the Alien*.) Outside of the theatre, she is involved with the Heartland Youth Choir, plays french horn, and piano. Audrey believes that teamwork is necessary to be successful and that everyone has a part to play. She has been grateful to have the opportunity to be on this team and hopes you enjoy the show!



Audrey Vaughn (Ensemble) – is making her DMYAT debut! Audrey is a 6th grade student at Indianola Middle School. She has been involved with the Missoula Children's Theatre where she portrayed a Camelotian in King Arthur's Quest. When not on stage, Audrey's hobbies include: dance, band, choir, and cooking! She is excited to be sharing her love of singing and dancing and hopes that you'll enjoy the show.



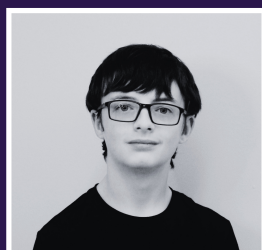
Averie Vaughn (Ensemble) – is making her DMYAT debut! Averie is a 6th grade student at Indianola High School and is excited to share her talents! She has been involved with Missoula's Children's Theatre where she portrayed Mini Guinevere in King Arthur's Quest. Outside the theatre, Averie is involved in acro dance, choir, drawing, and reading. She is so thankful for the opportunity to share her voice in DMYAT's production of Descendants!



Fanny Winn (Maurice) – is excited to be making their DMYAT debut and is a 7th grade student at Callanan Middle School. They have done numerous productions with the Des Moines Playhouse including: Celebrating of the Century (Emerging Artist), Game of Tiaras (King), Lion King Jr (Ed), and Alice in Wonderland (Knave of Hearts.) Outside the theatre, they are active with the synchronized swimming team, playing guitar, and playing piano. Fanny believes everyone should be given a chance, no matter what.



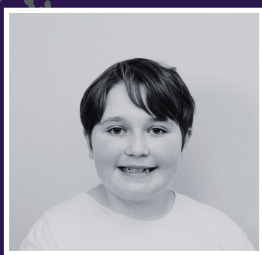
Maggie Wise (Coach/Royal Guard) – is excited to be back at DMYAT for Descendants! Maggie is currently a freshman at Roosevelt High School and was last seen in Summer Shorts (Director) and She Kills Monsters (Agnes). Other credits include The Grunch (Grunch) and Pippi Longstocking (Ensemble.) Maggie enjoys reading, choir, writing, and painting. She hopes that the audience will remember that everyone can be accepted, no matter their past or background.



Jaren Jorgenson (Assistant Lighting Designer) – is making his designing debut in Descendants. Outside of theater he also enjoys building Legos, playing Game Builder Garage and other video games, and reading. He also takes voice and guitar lessons and is a member of City Voices. He hopes the audience will walk away remembering to let people feel involved.



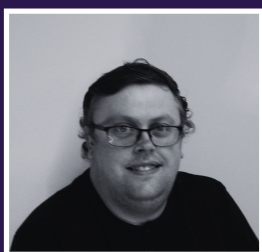
Lars Oredson (Assistant Stage Manager) – is a freshman at Roosevelt High School, and is excited to make their debut behind the scenes. They are no stranger to performing on stage with credits including Seussical Jr (Vlad Vladikoff), Game of Tiaras (ensemble), The Boy at the Edge of Everything (The Boy), and She Kills Monsters (Farrah). Outside of theater they enjoy playing Game Design and participating in show choir.



Sherwood Wilson (Assistant Music Director) – is excited to be participating in her first production with DMYAT. She is a fourth grader at Irving Elementary School. Outside of theater she enjoys art, shot put, and javelin. She wants the audience to walk out of the show remembering to let people feel included.



Tim Blount (Lighting Designer) – is enjoying his first experience with DMYAT, but he is no stranger to the lighting board. He has been shining bright lights in peoples eyes for four decades at Newton Community Theatre. Credits at NCT include Proof, The Glass Menagerie, Les Miserables, The Producers, Mary Poppins, and most recently Dinner with Friends. He retired from Wheeler Consolidated, Inc. in 2019 and now enjoys traveling and continuing theater work with wife Wanda .



DC Felton (Stage Manager) – is excited to make his DMYAT stage managing debut with "Descendants: The Musical. He last appeared onstage in Open Door Rep's production of "The Manic Monologues." Before joining this production, DC spent most of his time with Carousel Theatre in Indianola, where he appeared in multiple shows, and directed multiple productions. Some of his favorite Carousel productions have included "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!" "The Giver", as well as the Iowa Premiers of "Average Family" and "Gathering Blue". When not performing or stage managing, DC enjoys serving as an adjudicator for the Iowa High School Musical Theatre Awards, and serving as both a coach and a judge for the Iowa High School Speech Association. He hopes after watching this show, everyone remembers to embrace what is unique about you. Like the characters in the show, when the embraced who they each uniquely were, and worked together, there was no magic powerful enough to stop them.



Charissa Hamel (Music Director) – is a local director/designer/actor. She is the current board president for DMYAT and has also been involved with many other local theaters. Professional directing credits include: An Evening with Sondheim (Tallgrass), Velveteen Rabbit (Des Moines Playhouse), Kiss Me Kate and 25th Annual Putnam (Ankeny Community Theatre), Hair (Out of the Box Theatre) Revels (Santa Barbara Chapter) and Urinetown the Musical & Cabaret (Graceland University). Design credits include: Tinkerbell (Des Moines Playhouse), Frankenstein and A Few Good Men (Ankeny Community Theatre), Animal Farm, Chekhov One Acts and Importance of Being Earnest (Westmont College) and Suessical the Musical, Oliver and Evil Dead the Musical (Santa Barbara, CA). Charissa has a degree in vocal performance from Graceland University and obtained a specialty in vocal jazz under the tutelage of Ken Ryals in Santa Barbara, CA.



Alex Lindsley (Costume / Wig Designer) - is excited to be taking part in his first production with Des Moines Young Artist Theatre. He has had a wonderful time working with this talented group of students and wonderful directing team. Alex is a board member for Carousel Theatre of Indianola, and has been apart of local theatre for well over 15 years. He studied vocal music at Central College in Pella Iowa, and graphic design at DMACC, and is a the Graphic Design Specialist for the Science Center of Iowa. He hopes you enjoy the show!



Sam Melz (Director / Choreographer) - is thrilled to be directing and choreographing her first show. Previously with DMYAT she has stage managed under her sister, Haley, for Seussical Jr and Legally Blonde Jr. Even though she is the older sister, Sam has learned so much from Haley and is honored to follow in her sister's footsteps. Outside of theater Sam loves to ride horses, read, and spend time with her dog, Gob. After growing up dancing and jumping into theatre in high school, Sam is passionate about sharing her love of the performing arts with as many students as possible and recently joined the DMYAT Board of Directors.



Haley Vanness (Director / Choreographer) - is thrilled to be returning to live theater with Descendants! Haley has been choreographing for seven years, including recent DMYAT productions of Seussical Jr, 13, and Legally Blonde Jr. She was the assistant choreographer for School of Rock and assistant choreographer/cheer coach for Bring It On. Haley choreographs for various cheerleading and dance teams, and works with groups for IHSSA. Outside of the theatre, Haley coaches cheerleading at Valley High School, and enjoys spending time with her husband, Zach, and French Bulldog, Cosmo. Born and raised in West Des Moines, Haley accredits the amazing theatre department at Valley High School, and her older sister, Samantha, for introducing her to the life changing world of the dramatic arts.

DONORS

We extend our warmest thanks to the following people who have made financial and significant in-kind donations to Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. We cannot succeed without their help. To consider making a tax-deductible gift to our nonprofit organization, we invite you to visit www.dmyat.org for more information.

This list includes the most recent gifts made by our many generous supporters between January 2020 and October 1, 2021.

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(AND LOOK GOOD DOING IT)

Take part of our new DMYAT Apparel Sale and support our mission and productions. We've partnered with Bonfire to create DMYAT apparel that gives 100% of the profit right back to us! We have a number of different shirt styles available, including youth sizes. Click the links below to order yours.



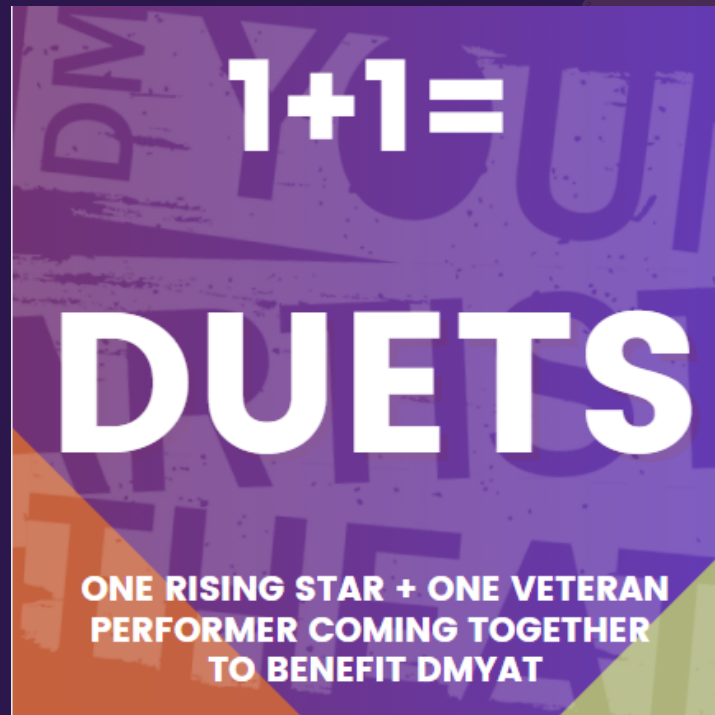
For shirts with a black and white logo
[CLICK HERE](#)



For shirts with a color logo
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The campaigns will end October 25 and orders should ship the first week of November.

WHAT'S NEXT AT DMYAT?



DUETS

December 1, 2021 | Franklin Jr. High

Today's local legends. Tomorrow's brightest stars. Join us for an intimate night of celebration and entertainment as some of DMYAT's rising stars join forces with Des Moines' local veterans. These extraordinary voices are working together to benefit DMYAT and work towards securing our lasting legacy.

AUDITIONS: October 23 from noon to 4

Please prepare 16-32 bars of your favorite song. If needed an accompanist will be provided. You can also sing with tracks or acapella.

Auditions are open to young artists aged 8-18.

[More information at dmyat.org](http://dmyat.org)