

Disney

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

© Disney



altrincham
garrick
academy of
performing
arts



Wednesday 18 –
Sunday 22
March 2026

altrincham
garrick
playhouse



altrincham garrick academy of performing arts

The Garrick Academy of Performing Arts (**GAPA**) is a theatre company looking to welcome any young person, aged from 5 to 18, who is interested in any aspect of the theatre, or performing arts (on or off stage), and who wants to take part in a **FUN** activity!



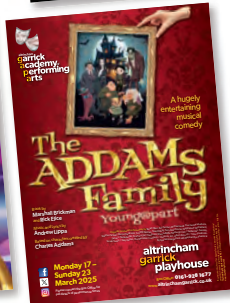
Every Saturday we run sessions for students, including workshops, exercises and rehearsals. We introduce our pupils to a range of stage skills that will enable them to take part in, and contribute to, our main productions.

Each student will learn, develop, gain confidence, and select the disciplines they wish to focus on. There are also other opportunities for students to perform at the Garrick Playhouse, and work behind the scenes.

If students want to pursue a career in the Performing Arts our trained, qualified staff can provide them with a solid foundation that they can build on in their theatrical future; if students want to have fun and meet their friends, then GAPA is also the perfect place to come, too!

Join us now by booking your place with our Box Office, or email us at

academy@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk



it's
great
amazing
positive
active



HELLO AND WELCOME

Welcome to the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse and GAPA's productions of Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr. As we celebrate GAPA's 23rd anniversary, we offer you 6 versions of this classic Disney family musical. We start the week with our two oldest casts, moving next to our two middle groups' performances and finishing off the week with our two youngest groups, supported by the Mini GAPA Students.

One of the reasons we chose to produce Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr was the fun and creativity it brought to the rehearsal room watching our GAPA students morph into classic animated Disney characters.



We would like to send a huge thank you to everyone who continues to support GAPA, our staff and students and all the people behind the scenes who make it possible to put on our productions. We hope you have a great night, and we look forward to seeing you again for our 2027 production. Please keep an eye on our new instagram for some exciting news coming soon.

Peter & Helen

Peter Birch & Helen Lawrence

Co-Principals, Garrick Academy of Performing Arts

Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with **Music Theatre International**. All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.co.uk

Music by **Alan Menken**

Lyrics by **Howard Ashman** and **Tim Rice**

Book by **Linda Woolverton**

Originally Directed by **Robert Jess Roth**

Originally Produced by
Disney Theatrical Productions



**altrincham
garrick
playhouse**

Barrington Rd, Altrincham WA14 1HZ
www.altrinchamgarrick.co.uk
Box Office Phone: 0161-928 1677



/AltrinchamGarrick



@AltrinchamG



@altrinchamgarrick_playhouse/

Board of Trustees:

Hugh Everett (Chair)
David Mazurkiewicz-Citrine April Millar
Trevor McKie Sudipta Moore
Louise Kershaw Nick Sample

Theatre Management Team:

Artistic Director Joseph Meighan
Operations Director Sarah Reilly

Front-of-House Management:

Front-of-House Manager Neill Walker
Deputy Front-of-House Manager /
Studio F-o-H Manager Eileen Smith

Theatre Administrators:

Finance Manager Siobhán Linnett
Diane White Patsy Newhouse
Judi Quirke Diane Ashton
Lauren Groves

Theatre Membership:

Secretary John Gibson

Productions:

Heads of Stage Mark McEwan
Paul Simpson
Head of Lighting James Merrington
Head of Sound Josh McMillan
Head of Wardrobe Mike Shaw
Head of Design Barry Purves
Head of Props Claire Eddleston-Rose
Workshop Manager and Maintenance Supervisor
Steve Cox
Scenic Artist Amanda Cooke

House Keepers:

Sandra Smith Janine Barratt
Kim Riley

Garrick Academy of Performing Arts:

Principal Peter Birch
Principal Helen Lawrence
Senior Tutor Dean Sumner
Assistant Tutor Olivia Walsh
Assistant Tutor Lottie Warburton
Assistant Tutor Tabitha Hughes

Altrincham Garrick Society Limited is a Registered Charity. Registered in England, No: 1034690
Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England, No. 2899281

A TALE AS OLD AS TIME

The story of a “beauty” and her “beast” has enchanted children and adults around the world for centuries. Rooted in legends from ancient Greece, India, and Africa, the “tale as old as time” has been interpreted in myriad cultures and periods, each version reflecting the hopes, fears, moral codes, and gender stereotypes of the society in which it was written.

The best-known version of “Beauty and the Beast” is unique among fairy tales, based on the literary work of two women, Madame Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve (1685-1755) and Madame Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont (1711-1780), rather than the famous male authors of the genre: Charles Perrault (1628-1703), the Brothers Grimm (Jacob: 1785-1863, Wilhelm: 1786-1859), and Hans Christian Andersen (1805-1875).

In 1740, Villeneuve published “*La Belle et la Bête*,” not as a platform for educating children or examining French society, but rather to entertain her salon friends with the romantic intertwined histories of a beauty and her beast. In 1756, Beaumont emigrated from France to England, becoming a tutor and author. She shortened Villeneuve’s version, leaving out the personal histories of Beauty and the Beast and ending the story with the Beast’s transformation. In the hands of two female authors, being well-read became a defining quality of this modern hero, who continues to attract fans over two centuries later.

A New Hero for the New Generation

In the late 1980s, Walt Disney Animation Studios looked back to its roots in using fairy tales as source material to inspire its next generation of films. With *The Little Mermaid* showing promise in production, company leaders saw in the tale of “*Beauty and the Beast*” a rich basis for a feature that could break new ground for the genre and its archetypal hero, yet still feel like a natural successor to Disney animated classics like *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (1937), *Cinderella* (1950), and *Sleeping Beauty* (1959).

In adapting this fairy tale for a new medium and the approaching millennium, writer Linda Woolverton, lyricist Howard Ashman, composer Alan Menken, producer Don Hahn, and directors Kirk Wise and Gary Trousdale undertook significant revisions to the Beaumont version, as she had done with her own adaptation. Their Belle would stand out as a hero for the 1990s – not just beautiful and virtuous, but also smart and strong-willed, unafraid to challenge the Beast. She would be tormented not by wicked sisters, as in the source story, but by an outwardly handsome suitor, Gaston, who was truly a beast inside. Instead of being left alone in the castle with the Beast, Belle would be entertained by staff who had been transformed into household objects by the same spell that cursed the Prince. A teapot-cook, clock-butler, candelabra-valet, and many others would sing, dance, and weave their own spell of fun and enchantment on this young woman who might relieve them of the curse – if the Beast could learn to love her, and she freely return that love.



Released in November 1991, Disney’s animated *Beauty and the Beast* garnered widespread acclaim. Critics praised its songs as worthy of a stage musical and observed that a Broadway sensibility also infused the film’s staging and characterisations. *Beauty and the Beast* received six Academy Award® nominations. In the era before the introduction of the Best Animated Feature category, *Beauty and the Beast* was the first animated feature to be nominated for Best Picture and the first film to be nominated for three songs: “*Belle*,” “*Be Our Guest*,” and “*Beauty and the Beast*.” The film took home Oscars® for Best Original Score and Best Original Song (“*Beauty and the Beast*”).

Coming home to the theatre

In 1992, theatre veteran Robert Jess Roth – who staged the original *Beauty and the Beast* live theme park show – approached Michael Eisner to discuss the idea of doing a Broadway version. Although the idea seemed absurd at the time, Eisner and his colleagues soon warmed to it and plans were quickly put in place to mount a live stage version in New York City.

Linda Woolverton, who is credited with the screenplay, was tapped to write the book for the Broadway production. The Oscar®-winning score by composer Alan Menken and the late lyricist Howard Ashman was expanded for the stage with seven new songs by Menken and lyricist Sir Tim Rice, including the ballads “*Home*” for Belle and “*If I Can’t Love Her*” for the Beast. In addition, “*Human Again*,” an unused full-ensemble song that

Ashman and Menken wrote for the film, found a suitable home in the musical's second act.

The moment of truth

After two years of creative development, the new stage musical was ready for an audience – the true test of what's working and what isn't. Like most musicals, *Beauty and the Beast* went "out of town" to allow time and distance from New York so the team could make improvements before a Broadway premiere. At the end of 1993, the show played 40 performances at the Theatre Under the Stars in Houston, Texas. On March 9, 1994, *Beauty and the Beast* began previews at New York City's iconic Palace Theatre. Its opening night on April 18 marked the official launch of Disney on Broadway.

Beauty and the Beast earned nine Tony Award® nominations, including Best Musical, Best Director (Rob Roth), Best Score (Alan Menken, Howard Ashman and Tim Rice), Best Book of Musical (Linda Woolverton), Best Lighting Design (Natasha Katz), Best Costume Design (Ann Hould-Ward), Best Actress (Susan Egan as Belle), Best Actor (Terrence Mann as the Beast), and Best Supporting Actor (Gary Beach as Lumiere).

Beauty and the Beast continued to gain recognition in the music world when the Original Broadway Cast Recording was nominated for a GRAMMY® Award. In order to be available for sale by first preview, the cast album was recorded on the second day of Broadway rehearsals, while the show was still evolving. As a result, the recording features lyrics and even an entire verse of "Home" that never made it to opening night.

A change in Beauty and the Beast

Unlike a movie's premiere, where the work of art is memorialised in final form, a living, breathing musical's Broadway opening is simply a milestone in a continuing journey of creative potential, including changes to the show itself. For example, Belle's current 11-o'clock number, "A Change in Me," was written by Menken and Rice when Toni Braxton joined the Broadway cast in 1998. The song was a hit, so it became a permanent part of the score. The song transformed yet again in 2005



when Ashley Brown, who had sung the song with a new ending in Disney's touring musical revue *On the Record*, brought this version to Broadway when she became the 15th Belle.

Beauty and the Beast's Broadway tale included five years at the Palace Theatre before a slightly reimagined production transferred to the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre. In total, the musical played 46 previews and 5,464 regular performances, making it the sixth longest-running Broadway show at that time.

Successful Broadway shows are often called to markets beyond the Great White Way, and *Beauty and the Beast*

was no exception. Around the world, Disney's production of *Beauty and the Beast* has played in over 100 cities in more than a dozen countries on every continent except Antarctica.

In late 2004, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* musical was released for licensing through Music Theatre International (MTI), ready for new artistic interpretations in local productions. Since

then, *Beauty and the Beast* – along with *Beauty and the Beast JR.*, a one-hour adaptation for younger performers released in 2008 – has been performed by tens of thousands of school, community, and professional theatre groups, as well as international theatre groups across the world.

Even after remarkable success, Disney's creative journey with *Beauty and the Beast* is far from over. As audiences were flocking to movie theatres for Walt Disney Studios' 2017 live-action remake, which featured new Menken/Rice songs, the stage musical team began meeting to discuss fresh ideas for reviving the Disney production. Like Belle with her favourite books, audiences and artists are eager to revisit the "tale as old as time" again and again.

Opposite page: The poster for Jean Cocteau's original movie of "La Belle et la Bête".

This page, top: The poster for Walt Disney's original cartoon movie of "Beauty and the Beast", and (left) the poster form the 2017 live-action remake with an amazing all-star cast.



THE PLOT

Once upon a time in a faraway land, an Enchantress turns a cruel, unfeeling Prince into a hideous Beast. To break the spell, the Beast must learn to love another and earn her love in return before the last petal falls from an enchanted rose.

Ten years later, in a small village far below the Beast's castle, a beautiful and intelligent young woman, Belle, yearns for adventure ("**Belle**"). On his way to show his invention at a fair, Belle's father, Maurice, gets lost and seeks shelter in the Beast's castle. Enchanted servants – Cogsworth, Lumiere, Babette, Mrs. Potts and Chip – try to make Maurice comfortable, but the Beast imprisons the intruder.

Meanwhile, back in town, Gaston, the village brute, proposes to Belle, to the dismay of Les Filles De La Ville, who fawn over him. Belle turns Gaston down ("**Belle - Reprise**"). When Belle notices Gaston's sidekick, LeFou, wearing her father's scarf, Belle runs off to search for him. Belle finds her missing father at the castle and offers herself in exchange for his freedom. The Beast agrees, sending Maurice back to the village, and then escorts Belle to her bedroom, where she considers what she has done ("**Home**"). Seeing their guest forlorn, Mrs. Potts and Madame de la Grande Bouche comfort Belle ("**Home - Tag**").

In the village tavern, Lefou and the Villagers try to lift Gaston's spirits ("**Gaston**"). When "crazy old" Maurice barges in claiming that he has seen a Beast, Gaston and Lefou form a plan to win Belle ("**Gaston - Reprise**").

At the castle, the servants coach the Beast on how to act like a gentleman. When Belle refuses to accept the Beast's invitation to dinner, he loses his temper and tells her to starve. However, Lumiere and the servants offer Belle an extravagant feast anyway ("**Be Our Guest**"). After, Cogsworth gives Belle a tour of the castle and she wanders off into the forbidden west wing. The Beast discovers her there and loses his temper, which causes the frightened Belle to flee the castle.

In the forest, Belle is attacked by wolves. The Beast comes to her rescue, but is injured in the process. Having a change of heart, Belle helps the Beast back to the castle and dresses his wound. The servants recognize something different between Belle and the Beast ("**Something There**") and express their hope that the spell may soon be broken ("**Human Again**"). The Beast asks Belle to have dinner with him and they share a romantic evening together ("**Beauty and the Beast**").

Despite this new friendship, Belle longs to see her father. Using the Beast's magic mirror, Belle sees that Maurice is in trouble, so the Beast frees her. Belle finds Maurice in the forest and takes him home to the village, where Gaston has arranged for Monsieur D'Arque to take him away. Belle proves that her father is not crazy by showing the Beast in the magic mirror. Jealous of Belle's affection for someone else, Gaston whips the villagers into a frenzy. They storm the castle to kill the Beast ("**The Mob Song**"). While the servants defend the castle from the villagers' attack, Gaston confronts and stabs the Beast in the west wing. The Beast, while still much stronger than Gaston, refuses to kill him and Gaston runs away in shame. Belle arrives and tells the dying beast she loves him ("**Home - Reprise**"), which breaks the spell. The Beast transforms back into the Prince, the servants become human again, and they all live happily ever after.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

PROLOGUE

(Narrators, Beast Enchantress)

BELLE

(Belle, Gaston, Le Fou, Silly Girls, Villagers)

BELLE – REPRISE

(Silly Girls, Belle)

HOME

(Belle)

GASTON

(Gaston, LeFou, Villagers)

GASTON - REPRISE

(Gaston, LeFou, Villagers)

BE OUR GUEST

(Lumiere, Mrs. Potts, Castle Staff, Belle)

SOMETHING THERE

(Belle, Beast, Lumiere, Mrs. Potts, Chip, Cogsworth, Babette, Madame La Bouche)

HUMAN AGAIN

(Belle, Beast, Lumiere, Mrs. Potts, Chip, Cogsworth, Babette, Madame La Bouche, Castle Staff)

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

(Mrs. Potts, Belle, Beast)

MOB SONG

(Gaston, Villagers)

HOME - REPRISE

(Belle)

FINALE

(The Company)



THE GAPA TEAM



Peter Birch
Co-Principal & Tutor

I think I have had my name in show programmes about three hundred times in my many years of being involved in drama and I am never sure if anyone reads them, or how interesting they really are. So: I like cats, the animals, although the musical is okay, too. *Floccinaucinihilipilification* is one of my favourite words, alongside *facetious* (which has all five vowels in alphabetical order). My favourite play

is '*An Inspector Calls*'. My favourite musical is '*Guys and Dolls*', although '*Copacabana*' and '*West Side Story*' come close behind. Cheese is my favourite improvisation word. Coffee is my favourite drink. I love teaching drama, and I've been in, and directed, quite a few shows. This year is the twenty-first year of the GAPA, and it's still great fun, and... if you have half as much fun watching our production as I have had working with your kids, you'll be in for a treat. But more importantly, if your kids have had fun at the GAPA, job done! TTFN.



Dean Sumner
Tutor

Dean trained at Middlesex on a Performing Arts Course, then joined the famous Eccles Youth Theatre group as musician and composer before going on to create his own Theatre In Education company. He then spent the next ten years working with numerous theatre groups around the country, working on cruise ships, touring and recording with a rock band, and even did a stint as an

entertainer at a holiday camp! Having gained all these different experiences, Dean subsequently moved into teaching, running a number of Performing Arts Departments in various schools.

Several years ago Dean completed a revival of the Wilmslow Mystery Plays, bringing together five different theatre groups based around Wilmslow to present a cycle of Medieval Mystery Plays specially written for them.



Lottie Warburton
Assistant Tutor

Lottie has been a part of the Altrincham Garrick since she was 11 years old, starting out as a GAPA student herself and she then went on to perform in many main stage shows including *Peter Pan* where she played *Tinkerbell*!

Lottie studied Musical Theatre at The Hammond school, graduating in 2023, and has since worked as a professional actor on board P&O

cruise ships and also teaches private singing lessons. This is now Lottie's fourth year of working at GAPA. Lottie absolutely loves working here, and is so proud of the children and all the hard work and effort they have put into their performances!



Helen Lawrence
Co-Principal & Tutor

Helen was born in Leeds where she performed in a vast array of dance shows, pantomimes, musicals and plays from the age of four until going to study Theatre and Performance Studies at the University of Hull. In 2005 Helen was selected to perform at the 50th National Student Drama Festival in '*You have 10 Minutes*'.

She then went on to manage and co-ordinate the festival's team and venues from 2006 until 2009. Since moving to the area in 2008 Helen has run drama workshops for a variety of drama groups, holiday clubs, and has managed to find some time to tread the boards herself. Her previous acting credits include *Joseph, 9 to 5, Dick Whittington, White Christmas, Snow White, Sister Act, Oliver!, Jack and the Beanstalk, 4:48 Psychosis, Calamity Jane, Cabaret* and *Godspell* to name a few. Helen joined the GAPA team in 2009 as an Assistant Tutor, in 2012 she helped develop Mini GAPA, and has since worked her way up the ranks to become a Tutor and Principal.



Liv Walsh
Assistant Tutor

In 2011, at the age of 8, Liv started as a student at GAPA and continued to perform as part of the Academy up until 2019, performing roles such as *Little John* in the pantomime *Babes in the Wood*, *Mrs Potifar* in *Joseph* and many more. Liv originally started volunteering with the 5-8 year old class as part of her silver Duke of Edinburgh Award in 2019, with her first show as a junior assistant being

Annie. She has now become one of our full time assistant tutors, and this year Liv is the assistant working with the 8-11 year olds alongside the 5-8 year old class. Liv graduated in July 2024 with a B.A.(Hons) in Costume Design from the University of Salford. As part of her University work she took on many challenges, including Head Costume Designer for a dance company in 2023.



Tabitha Hughes
Assistant Tutor

Tabitha was a student of GAPA from 2007 - 2015, and has been an Assistant Tutor for the Academy since 2013. Since then she has had the privilege of working on many productions with GAPA, including *Honk!*, *Annie*, *Babes in The Wood* and more. Aside from her work at GAPA, Tabitha is the Producing & Programming Co-ordinator at the Octagon Theatre Bolton, having

been a Producer on many productions including *The Book Thief* (World Premiere), *Little Shop of Horrors* (UK Tour), and more.



Wednesday 18 March at 7:30pm

Directed & Choreographed by
Helen Lawrence & Lottie Warburton

Narrator 1	Flo Gower
Narrator 2	Sophia Reynolds
Narrator 3	Flo Gower
Narrator 4	Sophia Reynolds
Prince / Beast	George Braddock
Old Woman / Enchantress	Malin Connolly
Belle	Ellen Thomas-Anderson
Gaston	Ollie Arora-O'Brien
Lefou	Jude Cullen
Silly Girls - La Fille 1	Ina Arora-O'Brien
Silly Girls - La Fille 2	Amber Paige Robinson
Silly Girls - La Fille 3	Flo Gower
Maurice	Robin James
Cogsworth	Charlie Jackson
Lumiere	George Humphrey
Babette	Malin Connolly
Mrs. Potts	Tildy Williams
Chip	Sandra Parr
Madame de la Grande Bouche	Elisa Waggitt
Monsieur D'Arqu	Jessica Cowley
Bookseller	George Braddock
Baker	George Braddock
Aristocratic Lady	Flo Gower
Lady with a Cane	Elisa Waggitt
Lady with a Baby	Malin Connolly
Sausage Curl Girl	Sophia Reynolds
Candle Seller	Jessica Cowley
Egg Seller	Malin Connolly
Fishmonger	Jessica Cowley
Milkmaid	Sandra Kathleen Parr
Shepherd Boy	Jessica Cowley
Hat Seller	Flo Gower
Butcher	Sophia Reynolds
<i>Vocal Captain</i>	George Braddock



Thursday 19 March at 7:30pm

Directed & Choreographed by
Helen Lawrence & Lottie Warburton

Narrator 1	Ash Keen
Narrator 2	Alice Heap
Narrator 3	Ash Keen
Narrator 4	Alice Heap
Prince / Beast	Theo Clempson
Old Woman / Enchantress	Phoebe Smith
Belle	Aoife Morrison
Gaston	Lachlan Swanborough
Lefou	Tristan Reilly
Silly Girls - La Fille 1	Angelica Papadia
Silly Girls - La Fille 2	Chloe Lindsay
Silly Girls - La Fille 3	Ava Curtis
Maurice	Massimo Zanetti
Cogsworth	Barney Magher
Lumiere	Nick Archer
Babette	Eleanor Zuk
Mrs. Potts	Emilia Paul
Chip	Violet Warburton
Madame de la Grande Bouche	Bonita Glass
Monsieur D'Arqu	Harvey Hannon
Bookseller	Theo Clempson
Baker	Aidan Finn
Aristocratic Lady	Ash Keen
Lady with a Cane	Alice Heap
Lady with a Baby	Alice Heap
Sausage Curl Girl	Chloe Lindsay
Candle Seller	Harv Hannon
Egg Seller	Eleanor Zuk
Fishmonger	Poppy Curwen
Milkmaid	Phoebe Smith
Shepherd Boy	Aidan Finn
Hat Seller	Ash Kate Keen
Butcher	Chloe Lindsay

Director's Note, Groups 3 & 6

It has been an absolute pleasure to work on Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr with two very different but equally talented casts. Both our casts have worked hard to prepare their characters, in their own unique way, and we have seen some amazing creativity from our oldest GAPA groups. We want to thank every member of the group for their commitment and dedication this year and hope that our advice and tips aid you going forward with your future performing career, may it be professionally or for pleasure, or even better both.

I personally wish to thank my wonderful assistant Lottie for all her hard

work and dedication to GAPA and the show. It has been an honour to work with you on this production but also to see how much love you have for GAPA. It has been joyous to see how you have grown as a performer and teacher since your days here as a student. Cheers Robin Hood xxx

On behalf of our cast, may we thank all the people behind the scenes at the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse for all their hard work in helping our productions make it to the stage. Break a leg Groups 3 & 6!

Helen



Friday 20 March at 7:30pm

Directed & Choreographed by
Peter Birch, Olivia Walsh & Hannah Birch

Narrator 1 Maggie Clair
Narrator 2 Samiyah Ibrahim
Narrator 3 Alia Shea
Narrator 4 Molly Timothy

Belle Yaana Juneja
Maurice Archie O'Toole
Beast Anais Allenby
Gaston Esmerelda Maleci
Lefou Harry Hodson
Lumiere Sophia Kunawicz
Cogsworth Megan Waugh
Mrs. Potts Florence Brown
Babette Sienna Janvier
Madame de la Grande Bouche Alice Lowes
Chip Francesca Reilly
Witch Eva McDonald
Monsieur D'Arque Hugh Swanborough
Les Filles 1 Olivia Sorg
Les Filles 2 Poppy Gerard
Les Filles 3 Lottie Winton

Bookseller Lottie Winton
Baker George Braddock
Aristocratic Lady Georgie Gower
Fishmonger Ilyas Ibrahim
Egg Man Nihal Bhalla
Sausage Curl Girl Jessica Williams
Baker Max Rusinova
Hat Seller Lucy Sumner
Milkmaid Abbie Fleig
Lady with a Cane Emily Tomczyk
Butcher Jake Roberts



Saturday 21 March at 7:30pm

Directed & Choreographed by
Peter Birch, Olivia Walsh & Hannah Birch

Narrator 1 Anjali Jethva
Narrator 2 Alex Holland
Narrator 3 Amelie Niederkorn
Narrator 4 Grace Marken

Belle Lily Crowe
Maurice Summer Harding
Beast Phoebe Mchale Williams
Gaston Payton Davis
Lefou Theo Davies
Lumiere Amelia Stewart-Blunt
Cogsworth Amber-Rai Gough
Mrs. Potts Saoirse Maguire
Babette Sofia Hussain
Madame de la Grande Bouche Sophia Smith
Chip Faith Lee
Witch Sophia Smith
Monsieur D'Arque Morten Massey-Pedersen
Les Filles 1 Savannah Orange
Les Filles 2 Georgia Wright
Les Filles 3 Ellie Whitehouse

Bookseller Anjali Jethva
Aristocratic Lady Elissa Haltof
Fishmonger Oliver Bennison
Egg Man Akaal Bhalla
Sausage Curl Girl Lyla Vickers
Baker Archie Baker
Hat Seller Emma Oakes
Milkmaid Izzy O'Brien
Lady with a Cane Sophia Holmes
Butcher Beth Higginbottom

Director's Note, Groups 2 & 5

Beauty and the Beast has been a great show to work on, although we have made it incredibly hard for ourselves (students and staff) by keeping the classes separate whilst providing the opportunity for more students to play character parts: Two shows, half the rehearsal time. At the time of writing these notes I have no idea if our gamble has paid off, but I do know that the students have had more to do, have been stretched more, and there have been more challenges for them to overcome – and the same for us. The process has been difficult, but I hope the results have warranted

the experiment. If I had to describe my two casts... very different! One has been a 'Beauty' and the other has been a 'Beast'! But that's show business. In all seriousness, they have both been great, and I look forward to working with them in the future. Special shout out to my co-Director and choreographer Olivia 'Liv' Walsh and to our second choreographer Hannah Birch: Without them this show would have been static! Have a great night and we'll see you guys and dolls next year!

Peter



Saturday 21 March at 2:30pm



mini**gapa**

Directed by **Dean Sumner**

Choreographed by

Grace Gonet & Dean Sumner

Assistant Directors

Grace Gonet & Tabitha Hughes

Narrator 1	Lily Opezio
Narrator 2	Era Maleci
Narrator 3	Alice Sorg
Narrator 4	Romy Giles
Belle	Olivia Jones
Maurice	Archie Cottrell
Beast	Indiana Hampson
Gaston	Leah Harrison
Lefou	Lilah Marsden
Silly Girl 1	Iris Wood
Silly Girl 2	Anna Hobman
Silly Girl 3	Chloe Rowley-Jones
Lumiere	Emily Barry
Cogsworth	Max Simpson
Mrs. Potts	Isabelle Paul
Babette	Fallon Bingel
Madame de la Grande Bouche	Isobel Castle
Chip	Darcy Norris
Monsieur D'Arque	Teddy Braddock
Old Beggar / Enchantress	Rosie Brookes

CHORUS

Aristocratic Lady / Villager	Rosie Brookes
Egg Seller / Milk Maid / Villager	Aura Advic
Sausage Curl Girl / Villager	Cora Norris
Fishmonger /	
Bookseller / Villager	Harriet Lenihan
Baker / Villager	Matilda McCarney
Lady with a Cane / Villager	Sylvie McConnell
Lady with a Baby / Villager	Harper Dunlevy
Candle Seller / Villager	Sky McQueen
Hat Seller / Villager	Margot Wilson
Shepherd Boy /	
Butcher / Villager	Teddy Braddock

Other parts are played by members of the cast

Directed by **Helen Lawrence & Liv Walsh**

MINI GAPA ENSEMBLE

Áine Maguire	Alice Morgan
Chloe Roberts	Cruz McBurney
George Atkinson	George Atkinson
Henry McPhee	Lily Mitic
Luca Heyes	Maeve Lloyd-Davies
Marcela Flanagan Perez	Mimi Mitic
Olivia McCarthy	Rafaella Gilbert
Rosie Barry	Scarlett Glendining
Tara Djurovic	Thomas Mindurski



Director's Note, Groups 1 & 4

It has been a great pleasure working with a young group of students, some of whom are taking their first steps towards performing in a major stage production. The energy and hard work has paid off (finally!) and we are looking forward to entertaining you all this evening. Particular mention must be paid to Grace Gonet who began with me in September, and with Tabitha Hughes, who took over from January. Both have worked tirelessly to whip the show into shape and without whom I would not have been able to...no, not complete the show, but rather without whom I would not have been able function at all at times! Thanks also to Annabel, who must have walked up and down those stairs more often than any other member of the Garrick over the last seven months supporting the groups!

Dean



Sunday 22 March at 2:30pm



miniGAPA

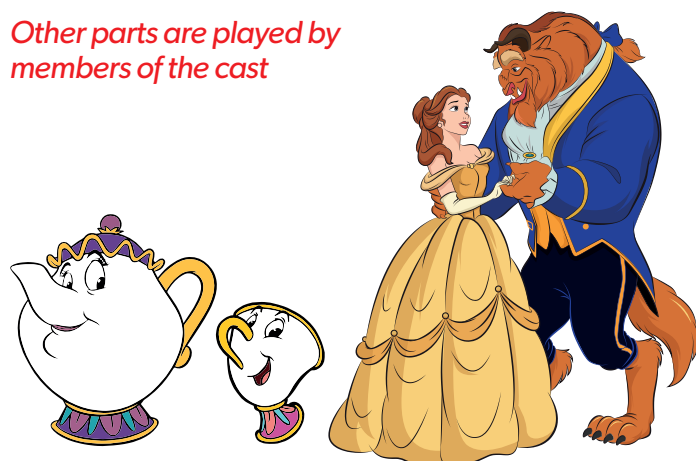
Directed & Choreographed by **Dean Sumner**

Narrator 1	Finley Lifford Shilling
Narrator 2	Erin Lifford Shilling
Belle	Edie Baker
Maurice	Dougie O'Toole
Beast	Darcie Weaver
Gaston	Matilda Maynard
Lefou	Ellie Shea
Silly Girl 1	Prisha Saxwna
Silly Girl 2	Alannah-Rose Neary
Silly Girl 3	Harriet Sharp
Lumiere	Violet Hatton
Cogsworth	Max Simpson
Mrs. Potts	Siana Bamrah
Babette	Emily Pearson
Madame de la Grande Bouche	Annabelle Rodgers
Chip	Evelyn Clee
Monsieur D'Arque	Finley Lifford Shilling
Old Beggar / Enchantress	Issy Gardner

CHORUS

Candle Seller / Hat Seller / Villager	Issy Gardner
Aristocratic Lady / Villager	Prisha Saxena
Egg Seller / Milk Maid	Alannah-Rose Neary
Sausage Curl Girl / Villager	Harriet Sharp
Fishmonger / Bookseller / Villager	Annabelle Rodgers
Baker / Villager	Emily Pearson
Lady with a Cane	Erin Lifford Shilling
Shepherd Boy / Villager	Finley Lifford Shilling

Other parts are played by members of the cast



Directed by **Helen Lawrence & Liv Walsh**

MINI GAPA Junior Assistants:

Charlie, Ollie, George, Malin & Thomas

MINI GAPA ENSEMBLE

Áine Maguire	Alice Morgan
Chloe Roberts	Cruz McBurney
George Atkinson	George Atkinson
Henry McPhee	Lily Mitic
Luca Heyes	Maeve Lloyd-Davies
Marcela Flanagan Perez	Mimi Mitic
Olivia McCarthy	Rafaella Gilbert
Rosie Barry	Scarlett Glendining
Tara Djurovic	Thomas Mindurski



Director's Note, Mini GAPA

The Mini GAPA ensemble are all very excited to be supporting the 8-11 year olds' production of Beauty and the Beast Jr. We are very proud of our Mini GAPA students for working really hard to learn their lyrics and movement for the show, making sure they are prepared to support the 8-11s with confidence and understanding required to perform live on stage. We hope all the Mini GAPA students have a wonderful time performing.

We would like to convey our gratitude to all the junior assistants and volunteers who have assisted with the smooth running of Mini GAPA. We are tremendously thankful for all your hard work and initiative; we simply couldn't have done it without you. It has been a real privilege to work with you all, and I hope to work with you again on future productions. And finally, a special thank you to Liv Walsh, Costume lady extraordinaire, who keeps Mini GAPA going whenever I am rushing around doing other duties. I simply could not do it without you xxx

Helen

Thank YOU

Isaac Williams Lighting

The whole GAPA Team would like to say a MASSIVE thankyou to Isaac Williams, our lighting expert extraordinaire. Isaac has worked with GAPA for the last few years and is a fabulous addition to our team, lighting up the stage in ways we could only dream about.



Have an amazing show week, Isaac!

Special Thanks to our very own theatre fairies, **Janine** and **Sandra** who look after us every Saturday, and to **Caitlin Hindley, Dave B & Owen Abraham** for their continued dedication to all things GAPA.

Without our incredibly dedicated, enthusiastic team of **VOLUNTEERS** and **STAFF**, whose sheer hard work often goes unnoticed, Altrincham Garrick Playhouse and GAPA would simply be unable to continue providing such a range of top quality productions for everyone to enjoy.

With their continuous commitment to excellence, we owe them all a huge debt of gratitude.
THANK YOU!



PRODUCTION PEOPLE

Directors & Choreographers	Peter Birch..... Dean Sumner
	Helen Lawrence..... Tabitha Hughes
	Liv Walsh..... Lottie Warburton
Heads of Stage	 Paul Simpson
	 Mark McEwan
Stage Managers	 The Directors
A.S.M.	 Annabel Burns
Lighting Design & Operation	 Isaac Williams
	 Geoff Scullard
	 James Merrington
Sound Design & Operation	 Josh McMillan
	 Owen Abraham
	 Lucy Collins
Properties	 Claire Eddleston-Rose
	 Christine Chrystal
	 Evie Tinsley
Costume Design	 Helen Lawrence
	 Olivia Walsh
	 Lottie Warburton
Costume Production	 Mike Shaw
Assisted by	Stella Blackburn..... Julie Shaw
	Lynne Saleh..... Betty Farmer
	Helen Phillips..... Catherine Phillips
	Noel Watson..... Sarah Steer
	Jen McAvoy..... Helen Lawrence
	Olivia Walsh..... Lottie Warburton
Production Carpenter	 Steve Cox
Technical Adviser	 Paul Simpson
Scenic Artist	 Mandy Cooke
Assisted by	Rob Robinson..... Barry Purves
	Jane Milner..... Charlotte Leigh
	Faith Edwards..... Ruth Hetherington
	Trevor McKie..... Holly Cooper
Set Construction	Paul Simpson..... Steve Cox
	Trevor McKie..... Alan Jones
	Barry Borgen..... Mark McEwan
	Nick McKie..... John Murphy
	Andy McHugh..... Alistair Duffy
	Cliff Mills..... Dave Bailey
	Bob Green..... Drew Lightfoot
Production Photography	 Martin Ogden
Publicity & Programme Design	 Nick Sample

*All information was believed to be correct at the time of going to press.
Some names or designations in the Creative Team may have since changed.*

THE WRITERS

Howard Ashman Lyrics



Howard Ashman (1950–1991) was a groundbreaking American playwright, lyricist, and stage director whose work transformed both Broadway and Hollywood musicals. Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Ashman showed a passion for storytelling and theatre from an early age. He studied at Boston University and later at Goddard College before earning a master's degree at Indiana University, where he honed his craft as a lyricist and librettist. His early years were spent in New York City, where he co-founded the off-Broadway theatre company WPA Theater, which became the launching pad for his most influential works.

Ashman first rose to prominence with *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater* (1979), an adaptation of Kurt Vonnegut's satirical novel. However, his true breakthrough came with *Little Shop of Horrors* (1982), a horror-comedy musical written with composer Alan Menken. The show was a critical and commercial sensation, running for five years off-Broadway and later adapted into a successful 1986 film. Ashman's witty, emotionally charged lyrics and flair for blending comedy with sincerity marked him as a unique voice in musical theatre.

In the late 1980s, Ashman brought his talents to Walt Disney Animation Studios, where his collaboration with Alan Menken revolutionised the Disney musical. Their first major project, *The Little Mermaid* (1989), revitalized Disney animation, with songs like "Part of Your World" and "Under the Sea" helping the film win two Academy Awards.

Despite declining health, Ashman continued working with Disney on *Beauty and the Beast* (1991) and *Aladdin* (1992). He passed away from complications related to AIDS in March 1991, just months before the release of *Beauty and the Beast*. The film was dedicated to his memory and went on to become the first animated movie nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture.

Alan Menken Music



Legendary composer Alan Menken has created some of the most beloved songs and musical scores of our time.

His unique voice, as a composer, a lyricist and a musical theatre dramatist has captured the imaginations of audiences for over 35 years.

Alan's stage musicals include *God Bless You Mr. Rosewater*, *Atina: Evil Queen of the Galaxy*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *A Christmas Carol*, *King David*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Sister Act*, *Leap of Faith* and *Newsies*.

His film musicals include *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Newsies*, *Aladdin* (1992 and the 2019 live-action remake), *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Hercules*, *Home on the Range*, *Enchanted* and *Tangled*.

His songwriting collaborators have included Howard Ashman, Tim Rice, Stephen Schwartz, Lynn Ahrens, Glenn Slater and most recently Benj Pasek and Justin Paul for the 2019 live-action film remake of *Aladdin*.

Alan won the 2012 Tony and Drama Desk Awards for his score to *Newsies*. He currently has more Academy Awards than any other living individual, including four for Best Score and 4 for Best Song. He has earned 11 Grammy Awards, 7 Golden Globes, London's Evening Standard Award, the Olivier Award, the Outer Critics Circle Award, and the Drama Desk Award.

Other notable achievements include induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. In 2001 he received the distinction of being named a Disney Legend. He has also been awarded two doctorates in Fine Arts from New York University and the North Carolina School of the Arts. In 2010 he received his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Sir Tim Rice Lyrics



Internationally renowned lyricist, producer and author Tim Rice was born in Amersham in 1944, and was educated at Lancing College in Sussex.

Early in his eminent career he achieved worldwide acclaim for his hugely successful stage musical collaborations with Andrew Lloyd Webber creating *Evita*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. These musicals firmly established a new style of British musical which has dominated The West End and Broadway stages ever since the early 1970s. Other successful collaborations include *Chess* with Abba, *Blondel*, *Heathcliff*, *King David*, Disney's *The Lion King* and *Aida* with Elton John, *Beauty and The Beast* and *Aladdin* with Alan Menken.

Tim Rice was knighted in 1994 and has won numerous prestigious awards and accolades worldwide – including Oscars, Grammy Awards, Platinum and Gold Records, Ivor Novellos and Golden Globes – all for his lyrics in musicals, film scores and songs, on both sides of the Atlantic. Notably he won an Oscar for the songs *Can You Feel The Love Tonight* with Elton John in Disney's film of *The Lion King*, and a Golden Globe for *You Must Love Me* with Andrew Lloyd Webber for the film of *Evita*, starring Madonna. His Emmy for the much praised television adaptation of *Jesus Christ Superstar* placed him in the very rare EGOT club, one of only 8 living people who have won all four of these major awards. And only the second Englishman to enter the club, the first being Sir John Gielgud!

Sir Tim has consistently been one of the most acclaimed and loved members of our British show business personalities, and makes regular appearances on TV and radio broadcasts. He is also passionate about cricket (with his own cricket team – *The Heartaches Cricket Club*), and an active charity and arts supporter.

Linda Woolverton Book



Linda Woolverton is a playwright, novelist, and screenwriter. She holds a BA in Theatre Arts from California State University, Long Beach and an MA in Theatre from California State University, Fullerton. Woolverton notably became the first woman to write an animated feature for Disney with her screenplay of *Beauty and the Beast* (1991), the first animated film nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture®.

She also co-wrote the screenplay for the live-action feature film *Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey* (1993) and the animated feature film *The Lion King* (1994) before adapting *Beauty and the Beast* for Disney's first-ever Broadway production. For her efforts, she received a Tony Award® nomination for Best Book of a Musical and won the 1998 Olivier Award for Best New Musical. She also penned the book for Elton John and Tim Rice's Broadway musical *Aida*.

Her works include the screenplay of *Alice in Wonderland* (2010) – making her the first and only female screenwriter with a sole writing credit on a billion-dollar grossing film – its sequel *Alice Through the Looking Glass* (2016), *Maleficent* (2014), and *Maleficent: Mistress of Evil* (2019).

She has also written two young-adult novels, *Star-Wind* and *Running Before The Wind*.

Linda is currently involved in writing and producing film projects for Miramax and Revolution studios. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband Lee Flicker and daughter Keaton.

Two fantastic Family Musicals! Tickets on sale NOW!

Thurs 22 Oct – Sun 1 Nov 2026

**Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's
wonderfully entertaining
smash-hit family musical**

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT



Step into a world of vibrant colour, unforgettable music, and thrilling storytelling with **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**! This beloved musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice is a dazzling all-singing and all-dancing journey of dreams, resilience, and joy!

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is the enduring reimagining of the Bible story about Joseph, his family and the famous "coat of many colours".

Filled with catchy songs in a plentitude of styles, including the well-known hits "Any Dream Will Do" and "Close Every Door", and perfect for all ages, this family-friendly production combines humour, heart, and show-stopping songs in a way that's truly timeless.

Whether you're a lifelong fan or discovering it for the first time, Joseph is a theatrical treat not to be missed!

Evenings at 7.30pm, except Sundays 25 Oct & 1 Nov.
No performances, Mon 26 & Tues 27 Oct.
Matinée at 1:30pm and Evening at 6:30pm, Sunday 25 October.
Matinées at 2:30pm, Saturdays 24 & 31 October.
Matinée at 4:00pm, Sunday 1 November

Recommended Age: 6+
STRICTLY NO CHILDREN AGED 4 AND UNDER

Scan for Tickets



Thurs 17 – Sat 26 June 2027

Disney FROZEN THE WEST END MUSICAL

Music and Lyrics by **Kristen Andersen-Lopez** and **Robert Lopez**

Book by **Jennifer Lee**

Originally Directed on Broadway by **Michael Grandage**

Based on the Disney film written by **Jennifer Lee** and directed by **Chris Buck** and **Jennifer Lee**

Originally Produced on Broadway by **Disney Theatrical Productions**

Experience the musical phenomenon that has taken the world by storm! Based on the Academy Award-winning animated feature film, **Disney's Frozen** includes all of the film's beloved songs along with new music written exclusively for the stage.

In the beautiful mountainous kingdom of Arendelle, Princesses Anna and Elsa grow up sheltered inside their castle, isolated from the world and increasingly distant from each other. When Elsa is crowned queen, the magical powers she's desperately tried to conceal from her sister take control, and she flees into the mountains. As a ferocious winter descends on Arendelle, Anna sets off on an epic journey to find Elsa and bring her home – with the help of hardworking ice harvester Kristoff, his loyal reindeer Sven, and a happy-go-lucky snowman named Olaf.

Full of magic, humour, and a stunning musical score, Frozen is a powerful tale of sisterhood, acceptance, and finding the real meaning of true love.

Evenings at 7.30pm, except Sunday 20 June.
No performances, Mon 21 & Tues 22 June.
Matinées at 2:30pm, Saturdays 19 & 26 June.
Matinée at 4:00pm, Sunday 20 June.

Recommended Age: 6+
STRICTLY NO CHILDREN AGED 4 AND UNDER

Scan for Tickets



WORKSHOPS

HALF-TERM AND EASTER HOLIDAY CLUBS

Easter Eggstravaganza (5 days) : 13th - 17th April 2026

May-Hem - May Half-Term (4 days) : 26th – 29th May 2026

Join us during the holidays to enjoy theatrical fun: combining music, movement, monologues and much much more! (NB: You can sign up to half-term holidays for a day or for the full week.)

GAPA's half-term workshops encourage the participants to explore their creative side and promote teamwork, in a safe and friendly environment.

Our aim is to deliver exciting drama workshops for students aged 6-18, where they can learn drama skills, gain confidence and above all have fun.

Classes run 10am - 4pm and cost £35 per day, or book the full 5 days and receive a £25 discount.

SUMMER HOLIDAY COURSES

Summer School Week 1 (full 5 days) : 27th - 31st July 2026

Summer School Week 2 (full 5 days) : 3rd - 7th August 2026

WEEK 1: Open to ages 6-18 years old, this fun-filled week will focus on musical theatre. Throughout the week we work intensively towards a performance of a musical, whilst we introduce the participants to a range of stage skills.

WEEK 2: Open to ages 6-18 years old, throughout the week we will enter the magical world of the musicals, working on group numbers and solos from a selection of West End and Broadway Musicals; looking at how stories are transformed through music. The students will get the chance to enhance their solo and group performance skills during this feel good week of Musical Theatre.

- ◆ Workshops start each day at 10.00am and finish at 4.00pm.

- ◆ Attendees are required to bring their own refreshments to see them through the day.
- ◆ Attendees are also requested to wear clothes suitable for movement and appropriate footwear, which will enable them to engage in all of the daily activities.
- ◆ Students will be required to read text unaided.

If you need a fun-filled week in a high energy, performance based environment, then we'd love for you to join us at the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse!

Sign up for the full week, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.
Cost £185 per week.

More information: boxoffice@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk



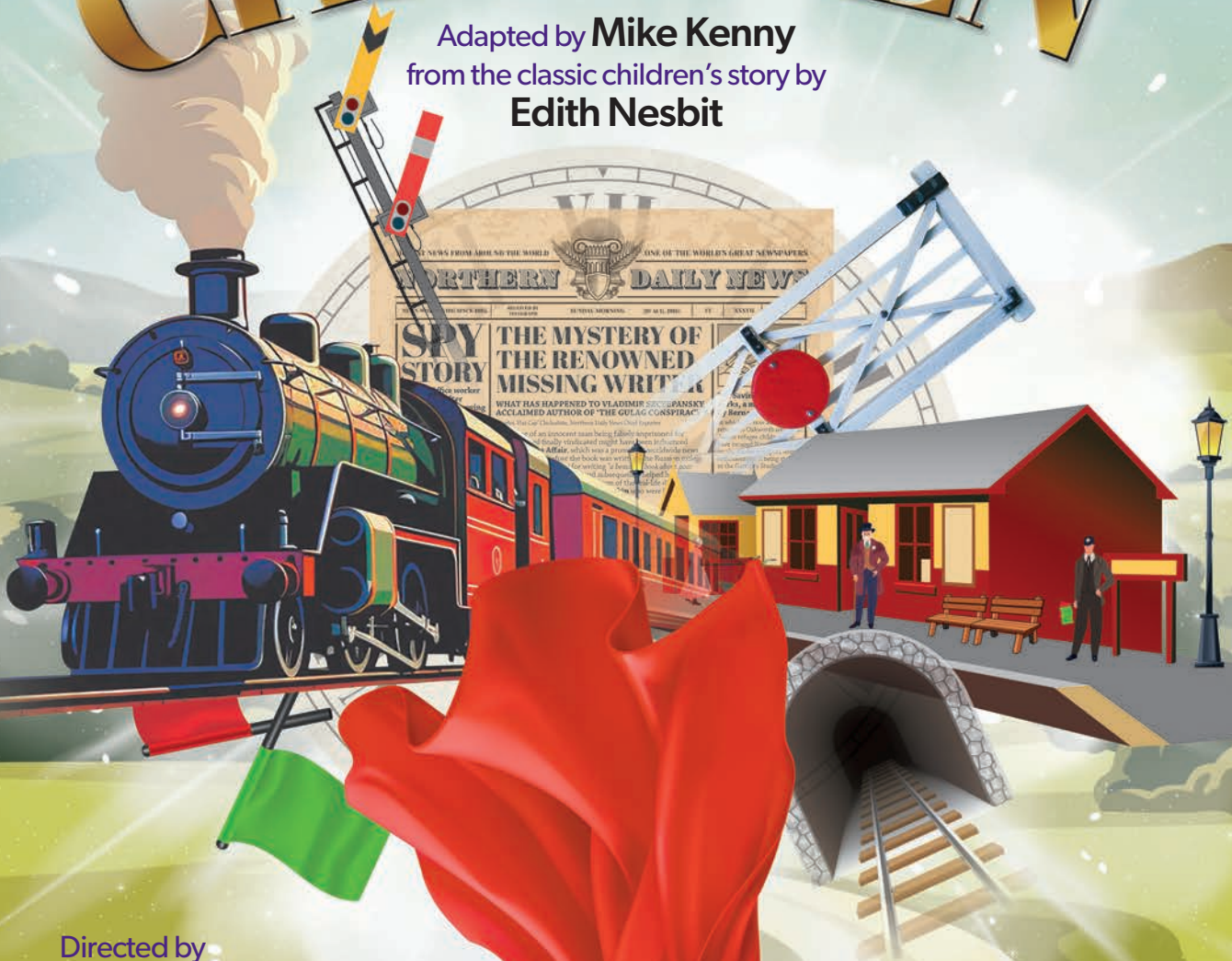
altrincham
garrick
academy of
performing
arts

it's
great
amazing
positive
active

A heart-warming story of THE family, adventure & trains!

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

Adapted by **Mike Kenny**
from the classic children's story by
Edith Nesbit



Directed by
Jonathan Barker

**Weds 8 – Sun 12 &
Weds 15 – Sun 19
April 2026**



Evenings at 7:30pm,
Wednesday – Friday only
Matinées at 1:30pm & 5:30pm,
Saturday 11 & Saturday 18 April
Matinées at 3:00pm,
Sunday 12 & Sunday 19 April.

**altrincham
garrick
playhouse**

Box Office: 0161-928 1677
www.altrinchamgarrick.co.uk