



# Interlochen

ARTS ACADEMY

Interlochen, Michigan  
136th, 137th, 138th, 139th Program of the 64th Year

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## **ROMEO AND JULIET**

Music by  
Sergei Prokofiev

Choreography by  
Joseph Morrissey

Music Recording: *Romeo and Juliet Op. 64* by Sergei Prokofiev  
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Costume Design by Amanda Lifvendahl  
Lighting Design by Nicklas Casella  
Set and Projection Designs by Stephanie Baugher

Dance Division Faculty: Katie Dorn, Rachel James, Jurijs Safonovs  
Ballet Rehearsal Pianists: Steve Larson and Derek Lim

Friday, February 13, 2026  
Saturday, February 14, 2026  
Saturday, February 14, 2026  
Sunday, February 15, 2026

7:30pm, Corson Auditorium  
2:00pm, Corson Auditorium  
7:30pm, Corson Auditorium  
2:00pm, Corson Auditorium

## CAST

(in order of first appearance)

### ACT I

Young Child .....	Aidan Mueller***
Romeo .....	Julian Cole (2/13, 12/14 evening) Rowan Barber (2/14 matinee, 2/15)
Mercutio.....	Vincent Farrehi
Benvolio.....	Danilo Soares
Tavern Ladies .....	Camrynn Lockwood, Leila White
Merchant.....	Alek Davis
Montagues .....	Marshall Bracey, Leon Estey, Jaiyana Frankson, Teresa Jurado, Emily Levenson, Camrynn Lockwood, Patrick Michaels, Bessie Stitzlein, Leila White
Capulets .....	Sofia Avila, Mason DeGarmo, Melissa Ferreira Mikaseyvas, Devon Hartstein, Ameyalli Hopkins-Zelada, Zeylia Jacobi, Debesh Marquardt, Helena Marques, Reese Martin, Ian Meadows*, Anna White
Tybalt.....	Rowan Barber (2/13, 12/14 evening) Julian Cole (2/14 matinee, 2/15)
Tybalt's Companions.....	Kadin Brown*, Gus Bye*, Ravi Mampara*, Ian Meadows*
Mother.....	Jessie Mitnick
Father.....	Gus Bye*
Duke of Verona .....	Matthew Lindstrom**
Friar Laurence.....	Dean Sontag*
Nanny.....	Rachel James**



Carnival Merry-makers (continued) ..... Reese Martin,  
 Ian Meadows\*,  
 Patrick Michaels,  
 Jessie Mitnick,  
 Taylor Rivenburgh,  
 Elliott Smucker,  
 Addi Southwood,  
 Bessie Stitzlein,  
 Anna White,  
 Leila White

Clowns..... Marshall Bracey,  
 Valentina Elizeire,  
 Julieta Normey

Hades ..... Gabriel Paoletti

Persephone ..... Elene Baratashvili

Mandolin Player..... Mason DeGarmo (2/13, 12/14 evening)  
 Leon Estey (2/14 matinee)  
 Patrick Michaels (2/15)

Bridesmaids..... Chia-Chen Liu,  
 Taylor Rivenburgh,  
 Lara Thompson,  
 Amelia Travelbee

Maid of Honor ..... Elliott Smucker

Funeral Attendants .....Kadin Brown\*,  
 Gus Bye\*,  
 Valentina Elizeire,  
 Ravi Mampara\*,  
 Ian Meadows\*,  
 Jessie Mitnick,  
 Julieta Normey,  
 Nina Zadvinskis

\* Denotes IAA theatre students  
 \*\* Denotes IAA faculty  
 \*\*\* Denotes local supporting cast

**—NO VISITORS BACKSTAGE—  
 Please greet cast members in the lobby.**

**The usage of flash photography is strictly prohibited,  
 as it is hazardous to the dancers.**

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# **ROMEO AND JULIET**

## **Synopsis**

Written by Joseph Morrissey adapted after the play  
Romeo & Juliet by William Shakespeare

## **ACT I**

### **A Marketplace in Verona, Italy**

A young child sweeps the street in preparation for the early morning markets of Verona. Romeo, a Montague, wanders the street as his close friends Mercutio and Benvolio stumble out with tavern ladies after a late night. Members of the Capulet and Montague families instantly begin quarreling before sword fighting ensues. The striking yet arrogant Tybalt of the Capulet family arrives at the market to present his mistress with an invitation to a masquerade ballet to be held the following evening. Tybalt attempts to instigate a fight with the charming Romeo only to be annoyed by Mercutio and Benvolio, causing further chaos and violence amongst the people. Caught in the midst of the fighting, the young child is tragically killed, which prompts the duke of Verona to demand a truce between the people of the city. Mercutio finds Tybalt's invitation left behind and mischievously suggests Benvolio, Romeo, and himself attend the Capulet's ball in disguise.

### **The Capulet's Garden**

The young and vibrant Juliet teases her Nanny as she and her friends await the arrival of Lord and Lady Capulet and Count Paris, the man of whom she is to marry as decided by her parents. A dress is prepared for the evening's ball where her engagement to Paris will be announced. Juliet hesitates to wear the dress and looks in the mirror, realizing she is growing up. The handsome Paris arrives and Juliet apprehensively accepts his affections.

### **The Capulets' Ball**

Guests in masquerade arrive outside of the Capulets' home as Mercutio and Benvolio encourage the reluctant Romeo to sneak in to the ball with them. Dancing ensues before Juliet arrives in her new dress, being wooed by Count Paris before she catches eyes with Romeo. Tybalt soon becomes suspicious of the three masked guests and performs a dance, inadvertently highlighting Lady Capulet's preferred treatment to him. Juliet is intrigued by Romeo and desires to stay with him as the guests head to dinner. The two dance flirtatiously with each other before Juliet removes Romeo's mask, nervously revealing that he is a Montague before he quickly disguises himself again. Paris catches the end of their interaction and attempts to escort Juliet to dinner. Mercutio and Benvolio dance

and make fun of the smitten Romeo before Tybalt aggressively enters and reveals Romeo's identity to all of the guests. Lady Capulet returns and, more interested in Tybalt's affections, hastily dismisses Romeo from the ball, merely viewing him as an immature young boy. Romeo says goodnight to Juliet as the guests dance. He departs the ball with Mercutio and Benvolio drunkenly trailing behind.

### **Juliet's Balcony**

Juliet steps out on her bedroom balcony thinking about Romeo and her feelings for him. Romeo sneaks in below then hides as Tybalt arrives to check on Juliet before bed. Romeo reappears and expresses his love for Juliet before the pair passionately dance together, leaving each other lovestruck under the moonlight.

### **—15 MINUTE INTERMISSION—**

## **ACT II**

### **The Carnival**

It's the winter Carnival, an event where feuds are put aside and laughter and fun reign with costumes, performances, and dancing. Romeo appears, captivated by his love for Juliet. He is mocked by Mercutio, Benvolio, and their tavern maiden friends as they swiftly persuade him to relax and partake in the dancing and fun. Clowns with Hades and Persephone perform before Tybalt arrives seeking revenge on Romeo for intruding into the Capulet ball. Mercutio jokingly challenges Tybalt to a duel. Annoyed, Tybalt fights with Mercutio until Tybalt is slightly harmed. In return, Tybalt slays Mercutio from behind. Mercutio comically puts on an act, insisting he is fine until he dies in Romeo's arms. Enraged, Romeo seeks vengeance on Tybalt and in turn kills him. An emotionally distraught and furious Lady Capulet arrives and finds her beloved Tybalt dead.

### **Juliet's Bedroom**

Banned from Verona for the murder of Tybalt, Romeo awakes the following morning next to Juliet and hides as Lord and Lady Capulet arrive with Count Paris. Lord and Lady Capulet remind Juliet that she is to marry Paris later that day. Juliet refuses with stern insistence from Lady Capulet that she has no choice in the matter. With resistance, Juliet agrees to marry Paris later that day and is left alone as Romeo reappears and tries to convince her to go away with him forever. Juliet resists and the couple bid each other farewell, leaving Juliet alone with her thoughts. The distraught Juliet goes to Friar Laurence seeking help and he gives her a potion that will put her in a temporary sleep-like death to fool her family into believing she is dead. Friar Laurence informs her that he will get a

message to Romeo that the death is staged so he can find her in the family crypt and they can then flee together in happiness.

Returning to her bedroom, Juliet has a ghostly vision of the dead Tybalt and Mercutio, both of whom give her conflicting messages toward taking the potion. She sides with Tybalt and drinks the potion, putting her to sleep, appearing dead. Bridesmaids and a musician arrive to begin preparing for the wedding before the Nanny attempts to wake Juliet. Realizing Juliet is apparently dead, she summons the Capulet family and Count Paris.

### **The Crypt**

Mourners and the Capulets arrive to pay their respects to Juliet as she lay seemingly dead in the family crypt. Having not received the message from Friar Laurence, the despondent Romeo arrives at the crypt, believing Juliet to be dead. In agony, Romeo takes his life and lays next to her. Soon after, Juliet awakens confused to find herself in the crypt next to Romeo. She tries to wake him until she sees the bloody dagger and realizes he has taken his life for her. Heartbroken, Juliet stabs herself and again has a vision of Tybalt and Mercutio, much friendlier and happier together as friends in death. Juliet takes Romeo's hand and dies as they find each other together in true love.

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### **LOCAL SUPPORTING CAST**

Aidan Mueller

### **SUPPORTING CAST FROM THE INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY THEATRE DIVISION**

Kadin Brown, Ottawa Hills, Ohio

Gus Bye, Traverse City, Mich.

Ravi Mampara, Washington, D.C.

Ian Meadows, Atlanta, Ga.

Dean Sontag, Bedford Hills, N.Y.

## **INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY DANCE DIVISION**

Sofia Avila, Winston Salem, N.C.  
Elene Baratashvili, Batumi, Georgia  
Rowan Barber, Hanover, Pa.  
Marshall Brace, Ivins, Utah  
Nami Chung Vastine, Miami, Fla.  
Julian Cole, Sioux Falls, S.D.  
Alek Davis, Chevy Chase, Md.  
Mason DeGarmo, Ishpeming, Mich.  
Valentina Elizeire, Florida, Uruguay  
Leon Estey, Fairfield, Iowa  
Vincent Farrehi, Troy, Mich.  
Melissa Ferreira Mikaseyvas, São Paulo, Brazil  
Jaiyana Frankson, Atlanta, Ga.  
Olivia Handler, Glen Ridge, N.J.  
Devon Hartstein, Sag Harbor, N.Y.  
Ameyalli Hopkins-Zelada, Haiku, Hawaii  
Zeylia Jacobi, Steamboat Springs, Colo.  
Shania Jeyarajasingham, Versailles, Ky.  
Teresa Jurado, Evansville, Ind.  
Emily Levenson, Eugene, Ore.  
Chia-Chen Liu, Taipei City, Taiwan  
Camrynn Lockwood, Norwich, Vt.  
Debesh Marquardt, Kalamazoo, Mich.  
Helena Marques, Occoquan, Va.  
Reese Martin, Ann Arbor, Mich.  
Patrick Michaels, Traverse City, Mich.  
Jessie Mitnick, New York, N.Y.  
Julieta Normey, 25 de Mayo, Florida, Uruguay  
Gabriel Paoletti, Doberdò del Lago, Italy  
Taylor Rivenburgh, Bloomfield Hills, Mich.  
Lindy Sloan, Portola Valley, Calif.  
Elliott Smucker, Portage, Mich.  
Danilo Soares, São Paulo, Brazil  
Addi Southwood, Thousand Oaks, Calif.  
Bessie Stitzlein, Nashville, Tenn.  
Avery Strong, Chapel Hill, N.C.  
Lara Thompson, Ragogna, Italy  
Amelia Travelbee, Traverse City, Mich.  
Anna White, Old Greenwich, Conn.  
Leila White, Old Greenwich, Conn.  
Nina Zadvinskis, Saline, Mich.

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For Interlochen Arts Academy faculty bios, please visit our website at [interlochen.org/directory/faculty](http://interlochen.org/directory/faculty) or scan the QR code with your phone’s camera.



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### PRODUCTION CREDITS

Director of Dance .....	Joseph Morrissey
Dance Division Faculty .....	Katie Dorn, Rachel James, Jurijs Safonovs
Dance Division Music Coordinator .....	Steve Larson
Dance Division Music Intern .....	Derek Lim
Dance Department Administrative Assistant .....	Hannah Woodruff
Director of Theatre .....	William Church
Executive Director, Interlochen Presents.....	Brent Wrobel
Assistant Director, Interlochen Presents–Production .....	Jennifer Apple
Associate Director of Presents .....	Jeffery Block
Production Supervisor .....	Robert Cracknell
Assistant Technical Director .....	Christian Ward
Stage Manager & Community Service Organizer. ....	Heather Kaatz
Recorded Audio Engineer.....	Michael Culler
Webcast Director/Projections Engineer .....	Savanna Stark
Camera Operator .....	Nathan Daywalt
Properties Master .....	Eva Berger
Carpenter.....	Juliet Quinn
Scene Shop Volunteer.....	Philip Ayers
Master Electrician .....	Ari Heff
Q-Lab Operator.....	Noah Dorsey, Ohio
Light Board Operator .....	Riley Dungan, Mich.
Spotlight Operators .....	Romeo Caterino, Mich.; Arthur Hurvitz, D.C.
Head Deck Crew.....	Eva Berger, Juliet Quinn
Stage Crew .....	Wilson Camp, Mich.; Sarah Ibel, Ohio Charlie Lombardo, N.Y.; Connor Reed, Fla. Bob Wang, China; Evan Yao, N.Y.
Costume Shop Supervisor .....	Amanda Lifvendahl
Costume Cutter/Draper .....	Eleanor Mueller
Costume Technicians .....	Caitlin Eldred, Cory John
Stitcher.....	Karis Ayers
Costume Technician in Residence/Wardrobe Supervisor .....	Alexandria Szcotka
Student Assistant Costume Designer.....	Shania Jeyarajasingham, Ky.
Wardrobe Crew .....	Peregrine Schulz, Ill. Alena Tokareva, Russia Violeta Vilchis, Ill.

Costume Shop Student Volunteers..... Noah Adler, AE; Cates Asleson, Ind.  
 Annie Bye, Mich.; Valentina Elizeire, Uruguay  
 Jaiyana Frankson, Ga.; Mati Held-Piedrahita, Colombia  
 Peregrine Schulz, Ill.; Eva Sluszny, Mich.  
 Alena Tokareva, Russia; Violeta Vilchis, Ill.;  
 Leila White, Conn.

Costume Shop Volunteers..... Margaret Bennett, Claudia Bruce,  
 Tracy Hankins, Erika Hepler, Bradley Roswell,  
 Cherryll Salenski, Tamar Sluszny, Ann Snyder,  
 Anne Stull, Melanie Taylor, Sally Jo Winek

Assistant Director of Interlochen Presents, Patron Services ..... Sonja Baker  
 Patron Services Coordinator..... Jack Ensign  
 Patron Services Associate ..... Antoinette Haddock  
 House Managers..... Tom Berg, Kim Elston,  
 Alix MacDonald, Barbara Wunsch

Box Office ..... Lee Elston, Kathy Shimunek  
 Director of Volunteer Services ..... Jennifer Richards  
 Environmental Services ..... Michael Shrum

Special thanks to Halyna Krasovska and the Le Soleil Costume Shop,  
 Olena Nalyvaiko and the Plainfield Dance Academy, Bill Wilson and Theatrical  
 Rentals and our volunteer ushers.

*Special thanks to the Foster Family for supporting this performance through  
 the Foster Family Costume and Set Production Fund.*

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## UPCOMING SIGNATURE SERIES HIGHLIGHTS

### **Be Like Blippi Tour!**

**Sunday, Feb. 22 | Corson Auditorium**

Get ready to see the world more curiously, because Blippi is coming to your hometown in the all-new *Be Like Blippi Tour!* Join Blippi and Meekah live on stage for a one-of-a-kind interactive adventure that inspires kids to move like, play like, and explore just like Blippi! This brand-new show is packed with high-energy music and surprises, featuring fan-favorite songs like “The Excavator Song,” “Monster Truck,” “Dino Dance,” and “Curious Like Me.” With Blippi’s signature mix of play, learning, and exploration, families can get curious together while singing, laughing, and dancing along during this unforgettable adventure full of fun and discovery.

## **Peppa Pig: My First Concert**

**Wednesday, March 18 | Corson Auditorium**

Peppa Pig, along with Mummy Pig, Daddy Pig, George, and new baby sister Evie, are coming to Interlochen for PEPPA PIG: MY FIRST CONCERT—a fun, interactive introduction to a live orchestra for ages 18 months and older. Join Peppa and George to learn all about the different sounds that instruments make. Enjoy some of your favorite music from the show played by a live orchestra and discover some other exciting orchestral pieces perfect for children. Plus, some little piggies can join Peppa and her family to make music of their own!

## ***The Who's Tommy***

**Music & Lyrics by Pete Townshend**

**Book by Des McAnuff & Pete Townshend**

**Additional Music & Lyrics by John Entwistle & Keith Moon**

**Friday, May 8-Sunday, May 10 | Corson Auditorium**

Experience the electrifying rock opera *The Who's Tommy*, a groundbreaking musical that follows the journey of Tommy Walker, a young boy who becomes deaf, dumb, and blind after witnessing a traumatic event. As he grows, Tommy discovers an extraordinary talent for pinball, propelling him to fame and spiritual awakening. With iconic songs like "Pinball Wizard" and "See Me, Feel Me," this production delves into themes of trauma, resilience, and the search for meaning.

**For information and tickets, visit [tickets.interlochen.org](https://tickets.interlochen.org)**

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You can ensure the next promising young artist has the opportunity to come to Interlochen by supporting student scholarships. Make your gift to the Interlochen Annual Fund by visiting [www.interlochen.org/giveonline](https://www.interlochen.org/giveonline).

Many of our venues are equipped with induction loop systems for the hearing impaired. Please ask one of our ushers if you need assistance connecting to the system. Support for recent upgrades to these systems provided by Michigan Arts and Culture Council; the NEA; Rotary Charities of Traverse City; the Les and Anne Biederman Foundation, Inc.; the Oleson Foundation; and Robert W. Anderson.

In consideration of the performing artists and other patrons, the use of flash photography is not permitted. Federal copyright and licensing rules prohibit the use of video cameras and other recording equipment.

In order to provide a safe and healthy environment, Interlochen maintains a smoke-free and alcohol-free campus. Michigan law prohibits any weapons, including concealed weapons, on Interlochen property because we are an educational campus. Thank you for your cooperation.

**[www.interlochen.org](https://www.interlochen.org)**