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STEPVA CAST SPOTLIGHT: TARRIN HOBAN AND PRESLEY LEVASSEUR

April 12, 2022 by Brigid O'Leary



FREDERICKSBURG, VA— Excitement is building for the STEPVA cast of Disney's *The Lion King, Kids!*, which debuts at the end of the month. STEPVA is a local 501(c)3 non-profit that “empower[s] people with

disabilities through creative expression and sensory exploration,” and the show is the biggest production yet for the organization.



Tarrin Hoban

Tarrin Hoban, who is now in her second year with STEPVA, auditioned for a role because she knew she wanted to dance on stage. She landed a supporting role as a zebra and, as a member of Cast A, has been putting in hours every week since the beginning of February to learn her part.

It's a lot of time and work to master the role, but Hoban isn't finding any of it difficult and is enjoying the process, especially the song "Circle of Life."

"I love The Lion King and my friends," she said.



Presley Levasseur

Hoban isn't the only one who picks "Circle of Life" as their favorite song in the show. It's also Presley Levasseur's favorite song. However Levasseur, who plays a dancing leopard, admits her favorite scene is "when Nala, Simba and Zazu are in the hyenas' cave and Mufasa saves them with his roar."

Having been involved with STEPVA for about five years, Levasseur auditioned for a role because she enjoys working in small groups and learning new dances, which she has been doing—and mastering—at nearly every rehearsal. Though she finds some of the faster songs challenging to sing, "singing and dancing with Noah Finch" (who serves as assistant director and a swing) has been the highlight of her experience so far.

Community members interested in seeing a leopard and a zebra having fun together can come watch Hoban, Levasseur, and the rest of the STEPVA cast perform Disney's *The Lion King, Kids!* on Saturday, April 30 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, May 1 at 3 p.m. Performances will take place at Fredericksburg Christian School, 9400 Thornton Rolling Rd., Fredericksburg, VA 22408. Tickets are \$10; children 5 and younger are free.

To purchase tickets click [HERE](#).

For more information or to donate, visit www.stepva.org.

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