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CAST SPOTLIGHT: WARRICK COUTURE & JOEY GUYTON

April 21, 2022 by Noah King



FREDERICKSBURG, VA—The “Circle of Life” will continue this April with STEPVA’s performance of Disney’s show “The Lion King, KIDS!,” based on the 1997 Broadway show & 1994 film of the same name. STEPVA, a local 501(c)3 non-profit that is designed to “empower people with disabilities through creative expression and sensory exploration,” chose “Lion King” as their first licensed musical back in December, but it’s their second official musician since their performance of “A Special COVID-19 Musical” last April. Today’s cast spotlight is on Warrick Couture and Joey Guyton.



Warrick Couture

Warrick will play Timon in this year’s production of Disney’s “The Lion King KIDS!” after having portrayed Nathan, Tim Croakee’s friend, in Noah Finch’s play “A Special COVID-19 Musical.” Timon, alongside his friend, Pumbaa, help a young Simba realize that it’s OK to leave the past behind and start anew with their philosophy of “Hakuna Matata” (“no worries” in the African language of Swahili).

“It feels different because Timon is a major part in the show. Nate, you only get to see in the COVID show for a few seconds,” Warrick said of the difference between his experience in this year’s show, as opposed to last year’s. He believes that the best part of being in the show is performing “Hakuna Matata.”

“I really got to show more like the ‘Timon-ish side’ of me,” he remarked when asked what his favorite part of the rehearsal process was. Interestingly, Warrick is also a backing vocalist on Scar’s theme song, “Be Prepared.”

“I’ve never had the chance to sing a villain song before, so this is the perfect opportunity!”



Joey Guyton

But you can't have Timon without Pumbaa, who is now being played by Joey Guyton ("A Special COVID-19"'s Tim Croakee), who, being a funny, cheerful person himself, is perfect for the role! "Being funny is definitely the best part of acting," Guyton remarked when asked what the best part of the rehearsal process is. But not to worry, the audience is still getting the same character: "I try to make my singing voice similar to the original 'Lion King', so that way, nobody can get confused on which 'Lion King' it is."

Guyton will be joining the roster of the many people who have played Pumbaa over the years, including Ernie Sabella [1994], Tom Allan Robbins & Ben Jeffrey [the Broadway show], & Seth Rogen [2019].

You can see Warrick, Joey, and the rest of the cast from April 30 at 7pm to May 1 at 3pm at Fredericksburg Christian School, 9400 Thornton Rolling Road, Fredericksburg, VA.

To purchase tickets click [HERE](#).

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

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