

# THE PENGUIN PROJECT

The Penguin Project © was conceived by Dr. Andrew Morgan, a developmental pediatrician, to give children with special needs an opportunity to participate in the performing arts. He created The Penguin Project © recognizing that theater not only provides children with a valuable recreational experience and an opportunity to display their creative talents, but also enhances social interaction, communication skills, assertiveness, and self-esteem.



**"Our Penguins may not be able to fly  
but that doesn't keep their spirits from soaring!"**

**What is The Penguin Project?** The Penguin Project is a musical theater production that casts children and young adults with disabilities in all roles. Those individuals (Artists) will get assistance from on-stage peers (Mentors).

### Participants

#### **Young Artists with Disabilities**

The Penguin Project is open to any individual age 10 and up with a disability. This includes (but is not limited to) Down Syndrome, cerebral palsy, autism, intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, visual impairment, hearing impairment and neurological disorders.

#### **Peer Mentors**

The Penguin Project utilizes a "peer mentor" system, linking each young artists with an age level peer who does not have a disability. The peer-mentors work side by side with their partners, assisting them throughout the entire rehearsal process and on stage.



#### **What show are you doing?**



**When is the production?** June 12-14, 2020. Rehearsals will begin in February 2020 and be twice a week and increase in frequency as the show approaches.

**The Golden Isles Penguin Project will kick off with an organizational meeting in October, date and location to be determined**

Golden Isles Arts & Humanities is coordinating the project. We have a team of theatre professionals and special education professionals to ensure that this is a fun, safe and memorable experience for everyone involved. For more information or to get involved please contact us at [artsed@goldenisesarts.org](mailto:artsed@goldenisesarts.org) or call 912.262.6934



In 2017, we launched the Golden Isles Penguin Project with 21 Artists and 24 Mentors who performed to sold out audiences in Annie, Jr. Since then, our Penguins have wowed audiences with Peter Pan, Jr and Shrek the Musical, Jr!

The Penguin Project demonstrates that individuals with special needs are fully capable of participating in community activities with the same dedication and enthusiasm as others, if given the opportunity and support.

For more information about the original Penguin Project visit [www.penguinproject.org](http://www.penguinproject.org). To become a participant or volunteer for the Golden Isles Penguin Project, contact us at

[info@goldenisesarts.org](mailto:info@goldenisesarts.org) or call 912.262.6394.

