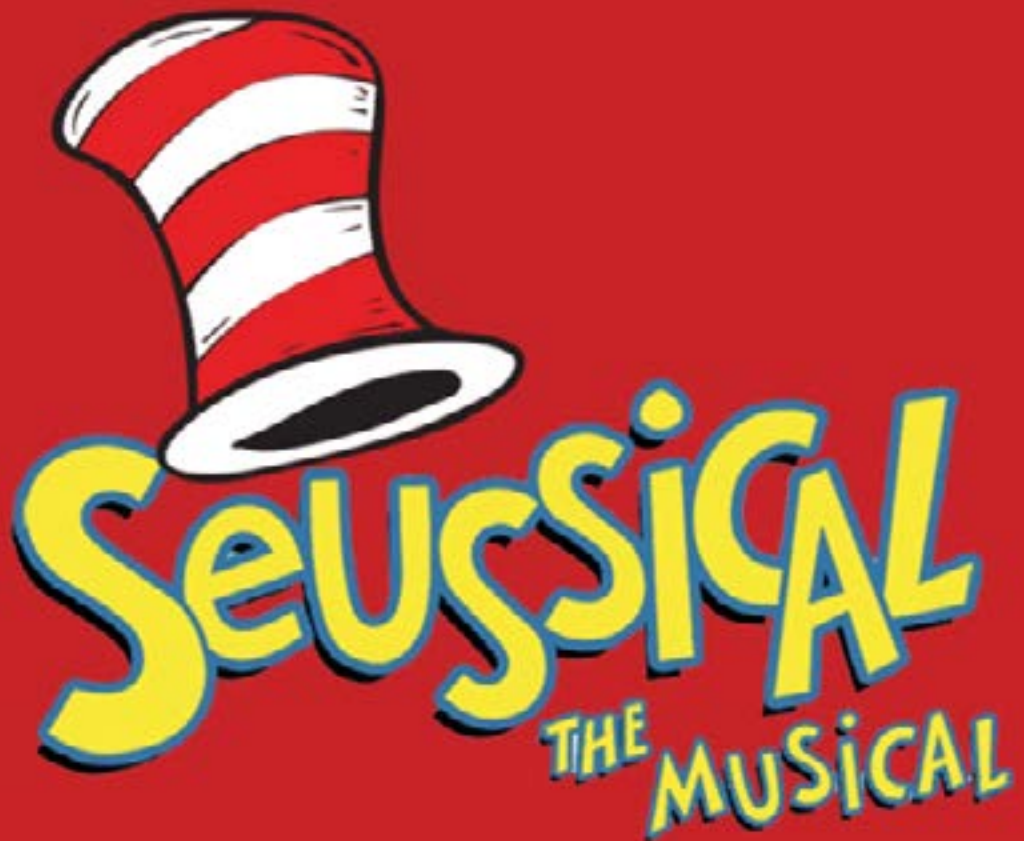


PLAYBILL

Temple Beth Sholom



Saturday, March 14 7:00 pm
Sunday, March 15 2:00 pm

Who's In The Cast

Dean Rotbart (*Grinch, Yertle the Turtle, Vlad Vladikoff, Ensemble*) Dean Rotbart's dedication to acting is without bounds, and he does not let things like homework or bedtime get in the way of his art. Dean loves all things Temple Beth Sholom including JLab, Shalom Rockers, any event catered by Michael Meltzer, and of course working with Vanessa and the Seussical cast.

Dean made his theatrical debut as Potiphar in the 2024 TBS production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." When he's not at temple, Dean attends North Beach Elementary School, where he sings in the choir, plays guitar, and participates in the Jump Rope Club. During the summer, Dean attends URJ Camp Coleman, where he proudly serves on the Camper Council.

Helena Kristol (*Mayzie La Bird*) is delighted to join the cast of Seussical. Her last appearance in a Temple Beth Sholom musical was over 20 years ago in productions of "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Milk and Honey". A longtime member of the TBS community, she can often be found singing with her mother and Vanessa Ressler during the High Holiday services. She hopes this return to the stage inspires her sons, Austin and Jordan, to one day participate in musical productions of their own.

Sharon Ellis (*Ensemble*) is delighted to return to the stage in her second performance with Temple Beth Sholom's acting troupe in "Seussical the Musical." Sharon made her debut performance where she played Zebulun in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" in 2024. She danced tap, jazz, and ballet from age four through college, performed at the World's Fair in Seville, Spain in 1992, and in On Tap dance group at Cornell University. In high school she performed in Guys and Dolls and Crazy for You, both of which won the Florida State Thespian competition for the entire state of Florida! Sharon has a degree in communications from Cornell University and a law degree from the University of Florida. She is a commercial real estate broker and an intellectual property attorney. Sharon is most excited to be in Seussical with her two children, Lily and Jacob Palmer.

Lily Palmer (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be part of the cast of "Seussical the Musical" at Temple Beth Sholom. Lily loves music and performed for the first time in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at TBS in 2024. She carries a perfect tune, can remember a melody she hears once and repeat it perfectly, and has always loved to sing. Lily has been active in the temple since the moment she was born,

and participated in Tot Shabbat, Shalom Rockers, and now JLab. She is passionate about Reform Judaism, plays sports, like to swim, cook, do art projects, and attends Camp Ramah New England in Palmer, Massachusetts. Lily cares deeply for others and has a huge heart. She won the Kindness Award in elementary school, and was the Nautilus Shark of the week during her first year of middle school. Lily looks forward to learning the prayers and the melodies as she prepares for her Bat Mitzvah in February of 2027.

Jacob Palmer (*Wickersham Brother*) Jacob Palmer will be hamming it up in his second theatrical production at Temple Beth Sholom appearing in "Seussical the Musical" after his debut performance in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" in 2024. Jacob is a natural performer with a great voice and stage presence. He enjoys singing and acting and has truly appreciated all the aspects of his exposure to Judaism, having participated in Tot Shabbat, Shalom Rockers, and JLab. He is a chess champion and a sports athlete and team leader. He plays baseball, football, basketball, pickleball and has a knack for geography! He is very social and enjoys attending sleep away camp at Camp Ramah New England in Palmer, Massachusetts.

Carly Alacqua (*Bird Girl*) is a sweet and energetic 9 year old attending Ruth K Broad at Bay Harbor Island. She lives in Surfside with her parents, sister Norah, and her cats Hazel and Lucy Grey. She loves reading graphic novels and all things theater! She is very excited to take part in Seussical as a Bird Girl.

Nili Ressler (*JoJo*) is thrilled to be back on the TBS stage as JoJo after making her debut as the Narrator in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" in 2024. A 6th grader at the Cushman School, Nili practices aerial silks, is passionate about sewing and design, and has been a Shalom Rocker for as long as she can remember. She is grateful to be a part of this fun team!

Greg Horowitz (*Horton*) This is Greg's second appearance in a TBS production – having previously played Reuben in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" – but his first with both of his sons. Earlier roles: "Sweet Charity," "Bye Bye, Birdie" and "On the Razzle." Thanks to the uber-talented cast as well as all the people working behind the scenes to bring this production to life. And eternal gratitude to his wife, Aimee. Greg is dedicating this performance to the most talented performer he has ever known, his cousin, Daniel Granof.

Andrew Horowitz (*Blue Fish, Ensemble*) is a 5th grader at The Cushman School making his musical theater debut at TBS. He has previously appeared in “Willy Wonka,” “The Wizard of Oz,” and “Beauty and the Beast,” and has sung with Sholom Rockers. Andrew’s favorite part of being in a play is “Acting!” and his favorite song in Seussical is “The People vs. Horton the Elephant.” He would like to thank Vanessa, his parents, and his brother for all their support.

Oleva Benrey (*Mrs. Mayor*) is excited to be part of the cast of “Seussical.” This is her debut performance. She is a long time member of TBS and attended Hebrew School there. Her children, Andrew and Jennifer Benrey, also grew up at the Temple. Oleva is a retired elementary and preschool teacher, and also taught Shabbat School (and Hebrew School) at Temple Beth Sholom for 19 years. Oleva loves to sing and sings with the Civic Chorale of Greater Miami, as well as the TBS Choir. She thanks her husband, Jose Benrey, for his support, and dedicates this performance to her grandchildren, “Jojo” (Jonas) and Natalia Benrey.

Zoey Burk (*Ensemble*) is appearing in her third production here at Temple Beth Sholom. Her first role was as Queen Esther in last year’s Purim Play. Her second was in this year’s Purim Shpiel and now on stage in “Seussical the Musical!” Zoey loves sketching, drawing and gymnastics. Thank you to her mom, dad and brother for their support. “Be cute, or go home!”

Matthews Bial (*Wickersham Brother*) has been a proud member of Temple Beth Sholom for over a decade. After a long hiatus from the stage, he returned in 2024 as Joseph in “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.” Now, he’s thrilled to monkey around as a Wickersham Brother in “Seussical the Musical.” What makes this show especially meaningful is sharing the stage with his daughters, Jordan and Dylan—Dylan’s debut! For Matthew, performing is a joyful outlet, a break from his professional life in healthcare technology, and a chance to bond with family and fellow performers alike.

Alyssa Frankel (*Bird Girl*) has most recently played the ocean as part of the ensemble in “Moana Jr.” which was performed at Camp Coleman in the summer of 2025. She is a musical theater enthusiast and names Hamilton as her favorite show. Alyssa also loves art and animals and her friends.

Noemi Cortes (*Sour Kangaroo*) is thrilled to make her theatrical debut in this production. Born in Chile and raised in Miami, she trained in her younger years in singing, piano, guitar, ballet, and gymnastics. Other work includes performing at a diplomatic reception for the Ambassador

of France, singing on television, and recording background vocals for a children’s music album. As a Leo, drama comes naturally! Special thanks to her nephew Benjamin, whose imagination, magic, and joy inspire her every day—this performance is for him.

Teddy Lubin (*Ensemble*) is a first grade at TBS and while he is mostly seen on various sports fields scoring a touchdown or defending a goal, he also carries his mother’s love for music and performing. This is his very first time on stage and most definitely won’t be his last. Extra special thank you to his Nana who always makes sure he gets to practice when mommy is stuck at work.

Katie Kirby (*Gertrude McFuzz*) grew up in the theatre, performing her very first role when she was just 8 years old. After studying theatre intensely through college, she decided to take a break from the industry and pursue other interests. This is the first time she has stepped on the stage in over 22 years. All this is due to the love and support of her son Teddy. He is and always will be her why. Love to Mom and Susan too.

Ethan Horowitz (*Cat in the Hat*) Fresh from a breathtaking performance as the star (not really) of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” Ethan Horowitz is incredibly loquacious, verbose, and humble. With him as the Cat in the Hat, this will surely be a fantastic performance. Wait, are there other characters in this show? No one told me that!

Gary Ressler (*Mr. Mayor*) Gary is excited to return to TBS’s stage as Mayor in “Suessical!”

Prior TBS participation includes the role of ‘Pharaoh’ in “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” and “Supportive Husband” in the fully-immersive Life of a Temple President. He is the proud father of Orli, Micah and Nili. Gary serves on the Board of Directors of Tectonic Theater Project in New York City and appreciates the opportunity to sing and dance with friends and family here at home!

Vanessa Ressler (*Director/Choreographer*) Vanessa Ressler (Director/Choreographer), is thrilled to stage her second show with TBS after the 2024 production of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.” She is a marketer by trade, Cantorial Soloist, director of the Sholom Rockers Children’s Choir, immediate Past President of TBS and current board chair of Jewish Community Services. She believes that building community takes many different forms, and cannot believe her luck in being able to work with this fun group!

Who's In The Cast continued...

Jordan Bial (*Bird Girl*), 10 years old, is thrilled to take the stage in her second Temple Beth Sholom musical! After debuting in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," Jordan is excited to expand her role as one of the Bird Girls in "Seussical the Musical." She's especially happy to be performing alongside her younger sister, Dylan, for the first time. Beyond theater, Jordan balances her passion for art, her love of swimming, and being a dedicated student.

Dylan Bial (*Baby Kangaroo*), 7 years old, is making her Temple Beth Sholom stage debut in "Seussical the Musical!" Though this is her first full production, she's no stranger to the stage, having dipped her toes in theater at North Beach Elementary. After tagging along to many rehearsals of the last show, Dylan is overjoyed to finally perform alongside her family. A natural performer, she loves being on stage and sharing the joy of singing!

Beatrice Wood (*Ensemble*) is 7 years old and already shines like a star! She absolutely loves to perform and truly lights up whenever she steps onto a stage. Beatrice adores her school, her wonderful teachers, and her amazing friends. When she's not performing, you can find her dancing, practicing gymnastics, or enjoying sunny days at the beach. She also loves getting creative with arts and crafts.

Jonah Rubin (*Ensemble*) is so excited to make his debut at Temple Beth Sholom! He just turned 11 and couldn't be happier to bring his energy and heart onto the stage. He especially loves a comedic script and any chance to make people laugh. A proud member of JLAB and a 5th grader at the Cushman School, Jonah enjoys spending time with his family, building Legos, swimming, gymnastics, singing, acting, and his dogs Percy and Bennie.

Alan Caves (*Musical Director*)

Musical Numbers

• **Oh, The Thinks You Can Think!**
Horton Hears A Who
Biggest Blame Fool
Biggest Blame Fool Playoff, etc.
Here On Who
Meet JoJo the Who
How To Raise A Child
Oh, The Thinks You Can Think! (reprise)
It's Possible 1 and 2
Alone In The Universe
The One Feather Tail Of Miss Gertrude McFuzz/
amazing Mayzie
Amazing Gertrude Part 1
Amazing Gertrude Part 2
Monkey Around/chasing The Whos
Notice Me, Horton
How Lucky You Are
Mayzie's Exit/horton Sits On The Egg/dilemma/
hunters
Egg, Nest, And Tree
Sold/mayzie In Palm Beach
Mayzie at the Circus
Amazing Horton
Alone In The Universe (reprise)
Solla Solew
Gertrude Espionage Part 1
Gertrude Espionage Part 2
All For You
The Whos Return/the People Versus Horton The
Elephant (pt. 1 & 2)
Yopp!
Alone In The Universe (reprise)
Oh, The Thinks You Can Think! (finale)
Green Eggs And Ham (finale bows)

Thank You

