

behind the CURTAINS

Stage tech member Omkar Perinkulam ('26) makes sure the show goes smoothly.



ON THE CONTROLS
Perinkulam monitors the light board.

Q Why is stage tech so important for a show?

"Stage tech isn't just lighting it's the makeup, costumes, sound design, set design, it's everything but the acting."

Q What is the hardest part being on stage crew?

"It's a lot of after school time, there are some weeks where you have to stay back until like 9:00 pm."

Q What is your role in stage tech?

"I normally help out with building the set and also doing other lighting things."

ACTORS unveiled

"Little Women" is full of complex characters with unique stories.



MARMEE MARCH
RORI ESCUDERO ('24)

"Marmee is the mom of four girls. She's very patient, compassionate and she spends a lot of time doing things for her girls. She faces her own struggles, but also tries to help her daughters through life. She's really strong for that."



PROFESSOR BHAER
BRENDAN GIANG ('26)

"Professor Bhaer is a German professor working in New York City. He is comfortable in his daily routines and is somewhat set in his beliefs... until he meets Jo March. It isn't long before their friendship and intellectual rivalry turns into romance."



AMY MARCH
AASHI AGARWAL ('26)

"Amy March is the youngest sister out of the four... Throughout the show she strives to become mature enough to follow her sisters and eventually develops into an artistic, ambitious young woman."



JO MARCH
ANNALISE KLENOW ('24)

"Jo March is very independent and gritty. She has grit, she's very ambitious and fearless. She is someone who feels restrained by the ideals of her time and wants to forge her way of life and create a future for herself."

AUDITION TO action

"Little Women" actors go through the process of auditioning, and practice their roles.

FIRST ROUNDS (left) In his first round of audition, Brendan Giang ('26) acts in character. "Our job as actors was to read the script, find out the context, and figure out what our characters would be like when we do those auditions... [we were being tested] for direct ability, memorization skills, and overall musical ability," Giang said.

A CALL TO ACT (middle) After auditioning, Aashi Agarwal ('26) goes through callbacks. "We are given three scenes throughout the whole callback process that we read with other people and that's where they kind of find our chemistry and how we work together as actors," Agarwal said.

FINALIZING THE CAST (right) To finalize the cast, Agarwal goes through the process of post-audition interviews with the cast director. "Ms. Therman conducts post audition interviews, where you're allowed to go in with her and talk about your entire audition process, from auditions to callbacks, and she'll break down every scene in what you could improve on and what you did well," Agarwal said. "It's so helpful so the next time you audition, you can improve."

1 audition



2 callback

3 post interview



The stage version of "Little Women" stars Annalise Klenow ('24) in the lead role as Jo March, alongside a stellar supporting cast.

All Photos Courtesy of Paly Theatre
Design by Lucy Zheng ('24)

sister experience

As the lights brighten, the spotlight shines on the many beloved student thespians performing at the Performing Arts Center.

The play "Little Women," stars Annalise Klenow ('24) as Jo March, one of the main characters.

"Once I'm on stage it comes to me," Klenow said. "I feel once you're around the props and in the costumes, that's when it all clicks."

"Little Women" is one of the many productions that the Theatre program produces each year. The work that goes into the fall play extends far beyond the theater class. Student thespians practice tirelessly for a flawless performance.

While the process of auditions

can be tough, student cast member Klenow is prepared for her role as Jo March in the play.

"There have been a lot of great portrayals of Jo March in film, and theater," Klenow said. "I was especially excited because I enjoyed the recent Greta Gerwig adaptation, and I recently read the book... I feel like I had a solid understanding of what the character was like, and I was excited."

Klenow is confident for her performance, and she channels that energy during the final play.

"I feel like just practicing the music and getting familiar with that, it allows you to interpret the subtext differently and just becoming more familiar with the piece," Klenow said. "That is how I would warm up and also go over my songs and make sure I feel confident."

Story by Arabella Guinle



CAUGHT IN ACTION (top) Actors Zoe Hayward ('24), Aashi Agarwal ('26), Sierra Rock ('24), Annalise Klenow ('24), and Matthew Arradaza ('24) play their parts "Having friends and getting to play as a family was a really cool experience to get to know people so intimately," Klenow said.

SERENADING WITH EMOTION (cutout) Acting with pride, Klenow portrays her lead role with dedication. "[Greta Gerwig] added things to [Little Women] that I believe help me look at the story with a different lens and have a deeper understanding of the characters and actors," Klenow said.

WITH HER FELLOW THESPIANS (right) Rori Escudero ('24), Sierra Rock ('24), Aashi Agarwal ('26), Annalise Klenow ('24), and Zoe Hayward ('24) stand together. "I relate to Amy in the way that I'm a younger sibling as well. So I understand her not always getting her voice heard and wanting to be a part of things," Agarwal said.

