

Michele Dowling



Michele Dowling has been organizing kids into large musical numbers for as long as she can remember! As a competitive dancer from a young age, she did choreography for school productions starting in elementary school and continuing through college. Her summers while in college were spent directing musicals for a large community theater in Avalon, NJ. Her love of singing came about at age 11 when she signed up for the talent show on a cruise ship with a song she learned in her elementary school choir. The standing ovation received led to years of classical voice training and singing competitively in and out of school. She was hooked. With a BA in English and Marketing from King's College, Michele participated in theater productions throughout college and into adulthood. Favorite roles include Marion in the Music Man and Christine in Phantom of the Opera. It was her favorite role as "mom" that brought her back to working with kids in theater.

Michele took over directing shows for St. Agnes-Sacred Heart School (where her children attended school) in 2007 until the school closed in 2014. Michele worked for Michael Maurer of Southampton Music Company/Young Actor's Guild for more than 18 years when he passed away in August of 2018. She is Kindermusik certified and taught various music classes for kids age 6 months to 5yrs old for SMC. In 2008, she and Mike started offering camps after his talented wife, Erin, resigned from the job. The photos above are what is really important to know about Michele...the first is that she stands behind every child and believes that all children should have the chance to shine. The second is a good example of where our name comes from. It shows a collaboration of alumni, family and friends and a group of amazing kids who just had an awesome performance.



Jessica Dowling

Jessica Dowling is a New York based singer and actor who grew up in Perkasio, Pennsylvania. Jess is a 2014 graduate of Penridge High School and a 2018 graduate of Marymount Manhattan College with a BA in Theatre Performance and a minor in Musical Theatre. Jessica recently fulfilled a 3 month contract as a lead vocalist in "Mysterio, Magic Rocks the Night"....a pop/rock musical filled with illusions and magic tricks. Favorite roles include Gertrude McFuzz in Seussical the Musical, Little Red in Into the Woods and Evelyn in Evelyn the Musical. She also loves performing in cabarets/concerts. After many years working by her mom's side at camps, Jessica has been a great addition to YPC, running awesome workshops this year. When not performing, she spends her time working and auditioning for what she hopes to be her next great adventure!

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Kristen Dowling

Kristen is a 2018 graduate of Penridge high school and currently a Sophomore studying for her BFA in Musical Theater at the Hartt School in Hartford, CT. In addition to rigorous training in voice, acting and dance, Kristen finds work in stage management and loves to draw. Favorite roles include Annie in Annie, Eponine in Les Miserables, Alice in Alice in Wonderland and Wednesday in the Addams Family. She also loves singing in various cabarets/concerts. We were very proud of her work as the director of Cinderella Kids with YPC last summer. She aspires to travel and to follow in her sister's footsteps making a living doing what she loves!.



Jackie Toro

Jackie Toro graduated from the Hartt School of Music with a degree in Musical Theater. Some of her favorite roles were "The Narrator" from, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, "Reno Sweeney" from Anything Goes, and "Graziella" from West Side Story. She also starred as "Fanny Brice," on the US and Canadian tour of Funny Girl. Now She is the Lead of her beautiful family, starring as "MOM and WIFE" to Milo, Jamie and Leo and she is so excited to share with the kiddos her love, passion and dedication to theater.



Tom Lamphere

Tom Lamphere has been performing in and directing musicals for over 20 years in community theaters around the region. He has performed leading roles in numerous productions including *Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical* (Dr. Jekyll / Mr. Hyde), *Pippin* (Pippin), *Chess* (Anatoly), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour), *Shrek the Musical* (Shrek), and more! He has also performed in professional productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Midnight Productions) and numerous murder mysteries (Without a Cue Productions).

Off stage, Tom has directed productions of *Little Mermaid Jr*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical*, *Shrek the Musical* and numerous cabarets and fundraisers. He also has served as a vocal director for productions of *Annie* and *Meet Me in St. Louis* and has worked as a stage crew member, light operator and sound operator on multiple productions over the years.

Behind the scenes, Tom has been a respiratory therapist for 30 years and currently teaches at Gwynedd Mercy University. He is married to a very supportive and understanding wife, and has a 16 year old son and 19 year old daughter who LOVE performing in musical theater. They all have been part of our family for many years and YPC wouldn't be the same without them.