



## CAST BIOS

**MILES PORTEK** (*Host*) Miles is a native Australian. Born in Sydney he's had a rambling journey through time and space. From improvised comedy, to stand up, Miles currently believes the best way to fix the world is through the inspiration and empowerment of children, because really, if we don't invest in that there's no point living. He's been an avid volunteer in 826NYC, a creative writing and homework support centre in Brooklyn New York, and at the Martian Embassy in Sydney. When he's not hosting fantastic dinosaur puppet shows he's normally working in a bar, a sound booth or swimming somewhere. Of course none of this matters, because there's no point unless we're inspiring children or helping them create something incredible, so stop reading this and get out and do that.

**JOE AHOLT** (*Puppeteer*) studied theatre arts performance at the University of Texas Arlington. He is excited to be part of his first tour with *Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live*. Other theatre credits include Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Fort Worth Theatre), Prince Philip in *The Lion in Winter* (Theatre Rocks!), Rhinoceros in *The Island of Doctor Moreau* (Hip Pocket Theatre), and Pee-Wee Reese in the Dallas Children's Theater's national tour of *Most Valuable Player: The Jackie Robinson Story*.

**BRENDAN MALAFRONT** (*Puppeteer*) After graduating from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, and completing an internship at the Puppet Kitchen in NYC, Brendan ended up with one foot in musical theatre and the other in puppetry. Puppetry credits include "Ludo's Broken Bride" (NYMF- outstanding performance award) "Losing it with John Stamos", *Rescue Rue* (NYMF world premier), the Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre, the 2014 Sesame Street Workshop and the national/ international tours of John Tartaglia's *ImaginOcean*, *Thomas and Friends Live! On Stage and Erth's Dinosaur Zoo*. Brendan is also a freelance puppet designer and builder. Thanks go out to his parents and Carl Rajotte! [www.brendanmalafronte.com](http://www.brendanmalafronte.com)

**ERYN MALAFRONTE** (*Puppeteer*) is thrilled to be performing in *Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live*, reuniting her love of puppets and dinosaurs again! Her most recent credits include: *Urinetown The Musical* (Pennywise), and Chamber Theater's national tours of 'Encore!!' and 'Eureka!' Wholehearted thanks to her parents, Miron, this company, Shane, and of course my brother Brendan and Kermit the frog for getting me interested in puppets in the first place!

**MIRON GUSSO** (*Puppeteer*) is extremely happy to be returning to *Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live* after previously performing it at the Dallas Zoo in the summer of 2015. He celebrates his 5th year as a T-Rex with the company. Miron is a third generation puppeteer based in Cleveland, Ohio. He is an alumnus of the University of Connecticut's Puppetry Arts Graduate Program, where he also designed & built puppets for Connecticut Repertory Theatre. Miron has also been seen as a dinosaur on Radiolab's live show "Apocolyptical" which toured in 2013, and at Field Station: Dinosaurs (NJ). Other favorite credits include The Center for Puppetry Arts (GA), and Doc Brown at Universal Studios Japan, Osaka. Thanks for coming.

## ALUMNIS

**SAM CRESS** (*Production Assistant*) An actor, puppeteer, and clown, Sam graduated from Hardin-Simmons University in 2014 with his B.F.A. in Acting. Whilst at college he was in many plays such as: *A Christmas Carol*, *The Seafarer*, *Birds On A Wire* (world premiere), *Twelfth Night*, *Sweeney Todd*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Spamalot*, and more. He has started his adventure through professional theatre in a debut at Dallas Shakespeare's 2014 season in *Much Ado About Nothing* and will be a part of Dallas Shakespeare's 2015 season in *Romeo and Juliet*. He recently was seen in Kitchen Dog Theater's premiere of *Wilde/Earnest*. He is honored to be a part of Red Tail Entertainment and *Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live!*

**JACKSON EATHER** (*Puppeteer*) was raised in Sydney, Australia, where he performed in community theatre in such shows as *Spring Awakening*, *West Side Story* and *Seussical*. He trained in acting, circus, and visual arts at Newtown High School of the Performing Arts. He moved to New York City and graduated from The American Musical and Dramatic Academy. He performed the role of 'Bub Hicks' in the Off-Broadway production of *Leave it to Jane* and at Field Station: Dinosaurs in New Jersey as 'The Dinosaur Wrangler' and as a puppeteer operating the T-Rex puppet built by Erth. He has toured in *Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live* national tours in the US and Australia.

**HALLIE GOODMAN** (*Hero Puppeteer*) Hallie is happy to be a part of this amazing production. She is native to New York having graduated from LaGuardia High School for Drama and recently re-located to the Boston area. She has been seen most recently in Kidville Wellesley's *Rockin' Railroad* and in *Spencer*, an independent feature film that won 'Best U.S. Feature' at the New York International Film Festival 2013. Hallie has also been seen in *Don Ardin's JUBILEE* at the Bally's Hotel in Las Vegas as a Bluebell, at Merry-Go-Round Playhouse in ensemble and understudy roles for *The Producers*, *High School Musical*, *No No Nannette*, *A Chorus Line* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. When Hallie's not performing, she studies Improv at The Improv Asylum in Boston's North end and is a Massage Therapist at Boston Sports Clubs. Thanks to her family and Nate, without who, she couldn't be as awesome.

**JEREMIAH JOHNSON** (*Puppeteer*) Jeremiah is thrilled to be working with this amazing company. He is a BFA graduate of Hardin-Simmons University and most recently appeared in *18 Holes* (Rover Dramawerks), *Annie Get Your Gun* (Lyric Stage), and *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer the Musical* (National Tour). Some of his favorite credits include *Sweeney Todd* (Sweeney Todd), *Young Frankenstein* (Dr. Fredrick Frankenstein), *Red* (Mark Rothko), *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* (EKO), and *Birds on a Wire* (Itzak Rozitsky), National Premiere and the International Premiere at The Festival Fringe Edinburgh.

**LOGAN KIMES** (*Stage Manager*) Born and raised in show business, Logan is the son of one of the most comical animal trainers of our time and one of the greatest vocalists of all time. At age 3, Logan began performing in the circus alongside his father, Les Kimes, the originator of the *Pork Chop Revue* (Comedy Performing Pig Show) as well as his mother, renowned vocalist Rebecca Monroe. The *Pork Chop Revue* has toured nationally since 1956, making appearances on TV shows and movies such as *Laugh-In*, the *Tonight Show*, *Ed Sullivan*, *Pet Star*, *Winter People*, *Smokey and the Bandit III* and many more. Logan didn't stop at pigs though, he went on to work with pretty much every animal that walks, jumps, flies, or slithers. But comedy and animal training aren't Logan's only talents. At the age of 10 Logan became interested in the literary arts. It wasn't long before Logan a graphic novel and a fantasy trilogy under his belt. At about the age of 15 Logan developed a passion for acting and would be a part of projects such as Charles Ludlam's award winning play *The Mystery of Irma Vep*.

**AIMEE LOUISANNE** (*Host*) Aimee Louisanne is a multicultural (Mauritian/Scottish) Actor and Musician from Perth, Western Australia. In 2013 she permanently moved to New York to further

her career, and in her short time has worked with Oscar nominated director Darren Aronofsky, and booked two lead roles in independent feature films which have premiered in festivals around the US. She is currently working with world renowned acting coach Susan Batson, and trains three times a week in combat/stunts and various styles of martial arts for film. Aimee's skills extend beyond her acting craft; She has an honor degree in Aviation, a Commercial Pilot's License (AU) and is fluent in French and Italian. In the near future, Aimee will be releasing her first EP. Aimee has a passion for working with children and spent a year performing shows for young audiences around the world at HIV orphanages. She has worked hands-on with children with cerebral palsy and other disabilities, and is part of a non-profit organization Kissabilites which promotes disability awareness and integration in primary schools. Aimee wishes to thank her agent Lisa Price at The Price Group.

**ANTHONY OREFICE** (*Hero Puppeteer*) A native of Long Island, NY and graduate of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, with a degree in psychology. Anthony recently appeared at Field Station: Dinosaurs in New Jersey where he operated various hand puppets and the T-rex hero puppet. He discovered his love of full body puppetry when freshly out of college, he took a job as 'Penny the Bowling Pin' mascot for Bowlmor Lanes in Times Square. Since then, he has integrated his knowledge of psychology and puppetry with his childhood dinosaur fixation. Anthony can't wait to tour North America and beyond in the Dinosaur Zoo Live.

**KELLEY SELZNICK** (*Puppeteer*) Kelley Selznick is a New York based puppeteer and textile artist. She is a recent graduate from Cal State Northridge where she studied puppetry and costume construction. She apprenticed with shadow puppeteer Maria Bodmann and after moving to New York interned with Jessica Scott. Recent puppeteering credits include the short film *The Never Bell* (Emily Lobsenz), *La Divina Caricatura* (Mabou Mines), *Sirens of the Lambs* (Banksy), *Tiger Tales* and *Chang-Er* (Chinese Theatre Works), *Big Annie*, *Tobias Turkey* and *Lumpy Bumpy Pumpkin* (Shadow Box Theatre). She has designed puppets for Independent Shakespeare Co.'s *Winter's Tale* and puppet costumes for *The Never Bell*. She is also known for her Elizabethan ruffs which have been used in art projects and shows all over the world. She would like to thank Jessica Scott for all the help and guidance and her friends and family for their overbearing support. Go Dinosaurs! More info at [kelleyselznick.com](http://kelleyselznick.com).