



# The Color of Us

**APRIL 2, 2017**

**Bengtson Auditorium**

The UNI Spectrum Project is a music, movement, drama  
and art project for children with different abilities.  
Free admission. Donations accepted.



*School of Music*  
University of Northern Iowa

# About the UNI Spectrum Project...

The Spectrum Project is a Saturday program that combines music, movement, drama and art for children with differing abilities. Activities use the performer's ideas with direction from UNI students.

The Spectrum Project performers come from the Cedar Valley and as far away as North Liberty. They range in age from 5 to 19 and meet each Saturday beginning in January.

The Spectrum Project Buddies are UNI, Allen College and Hawkeye Community College students who volunteer each weekend to work with our performers. Each performer is paired with a Spectrum Project Buddy for the duration of the project.

The Spectrum Project is a continuation of efforts to provide performing arts experience for children with differing abilities in the Cedar Valley. This effort began with Spectrum Theatre, founded by UNI Theatre Professor Gretta Berghammer in 2012. The Spectrum Project is modeled after the Ball State *Prism Project*, founded by Ryan and Amy Hourigan in 2010 at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

The Spectrum Project is supported through the UNI School of Music, the Max & Helen Guernsey Charitable Foundation and community supporters.

**2018 SPECTRUM PROJECT**  
First rehearsal  
**January 13, 2018**  
Register at [spectrumproject.org](http://spectrumproject.org)

Program

# The Color of Us

## **ACT I**

What a perfect day! Adia, Danielle, Emiliane & Isaiah  
*The Color of Us* movie Part I  
Trip to Colorland Gold Group  
Rainstorm Green Group  
*Here Comes the Sun* Kendall Maslak

## **ACT II**

*The Color of Us* movie Part 2  
Sing! Auditions Purple Group, Zoey  
Everything is Getting Pretty Weird Alisea, Emma, Cameron & Kendall  
Handshakes Red Group

## **ACT III**

*The Color of Us* movie Part 3  
Color Hunt Green Group  
*You've Got a Friend in Me* Joshua Kreger & Liz Riehle  
This is no fun! Javan, Nolan & Rylie  
*Over the Rainbow* Purple Group

## **ACT IV**

*Primary Colors* Gold Group  
Different Colors Rap Red Group  
*The Color of Us* movie Part 4  
*True Colors* Emma Hovanec

## **Curtain Calls**

Performer artwork will be available for pick-up in the lobby  
Please come to the dressing room to pick-up your performer.

Basement:  
GREEN - 068  
PURPLE - 078  
RED - 047

Ground Floor  
GOLD: 161

# Meet the Green Group



## Brittany Brand

Age: 7 Waterloo  
Brittany Brand is an enthusiastic and delightful girl with a brilliant mind. She is aware of and inspired by her surroundings. Brittany is creative, especially when it comes to music making and art. She loves running around the gym with the rainbow ribbon.  
Buddy: Claire Guderjahn



## Emiliane Burt

Age: 5 Waterloo  
Emiliane has such a contagious happiness whenever he comes to Spectrum! He is quiet at first but when we get to movement he lights up and cannot stop smiling. He is filled with kindness, joy, and creativity.  
Buddy: Lexy Kruse



## Garrett Decker

Age: 5 Cedar Falls  
Garrett lights up Green Group with his energy and cheerfulness. He's a star in the music room, whether he's drumming his own rhythms or dancing in the center of the circle. Movement is also a favorite station because of his love for dancing and trampolines!  
Buddy: Kelsey Chidley



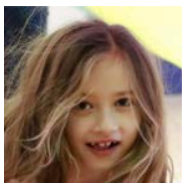
## Mike Ellis

Age: 8 Waterloo  
Mike is a fireball of energy, which is great because he loves hockey and being active! Before moving to the first area, Mike likes to create little obstacle courses in the gym. Mike also likes singing and drumming in music.  
Buddy: Wyatt Cheney



## Sam Harbaugh

Age: 8 Hudson  
Sam is the friendliest boy you'll ever meet. He loves to run around and play hide and seek with friends. He enjoys watching IPTV and acting out his favorite shows and movies. If you ever have a question about a show or a movie, Sam is your guy!  
Buddy: Megan Tomson



## Allie Kreger

Age: 7 Cedar Falls  
Allie is an energetic little girl with an infectious smile. Allie had LOTS of fun at the Spectrum Project last year so she made sure to come back again! Allie is very fond of pandas: both black/white and red. She really enjoys ice skating. Allie's favorite part about the Spectrum Project is art! She also likes playing "tag" with friends during Movement time!  
Buddy: Kaitlyn Robinson



## Tristan Kuhn

Age: 9 Cedar Falls  
"What did you have for breakfast?" is one of the first things you'll hear from Tristan as it's his way of saying hello to all. Tristan is a funny kid and is always smiling from the jokes he tells others. He LOVES laying under the rainbow parachute and dancing to Taylor Swift during "Dance Party" time. He does this all with his lovely service dog and sidekick, Tu.  
Buddies: Bailey Fitch & Megan Wellik



## Isaiah Martin

Age: 6 Cedar Falls  
Isaiah is one of the funniest kids you'll ever meet. He has a future in acting or stand-up comedy, especially after the drama class here at Spectrum! He loves being center stage. If you get a chance to talk to him, be sure to ask for a knock-knock joke - his jokes are top notch and will definitely bring a smile to your face!  
Buddy: Angie Scott



## Brady McGovern

Age: 6 Waterloo  
Brady keeps the staff on their toes as they are constantly running to keep up with him! He is such a wonderful performer to work with. Brady is full of energy and smiles. He communicates so well with others and it is great to see that in him.  
Buddy: Claire Tucheck



## Noah O'Conner

Age: 6 Cedar Falls  
Noah is the sweetest dinosaur-fanatic you'll ever meet! His favorite Spectrum Project activities are playing with the parachute and drawing dinos and puppies. He's a good friend to others and always does his best. His buddy Anna is so fortunate to get to hang out with him!  
Buddy: Anna Baughman



## Noah Putz

Age: 5 Waverly  
Noah never ceases to put a smile on my face every Saturday. His laugh and smile is contagious to everyone that is around him. Noah's favorite thing to do at Spectrum Project is movement and playing the drums in music.  
Buddies: Kelsey Ettleman & Ross Westemeyer



## Mia Raines

Age: 6 Cedar falls  
Mia is an enthusiastic girl. She's very active and loves to play and move around. She's a little girl with a big funny sunny personality!  
Buddy: Hannah Ackerman



## Paetra Sauer

Age: 7 Shell Rock  
Paetra is a very sweet girl who is always smiling and interacting with people. Her favorite thing to participate in is movement because she gets to go, go, go! She can put a smile on anyone's face and really loves getting her picture taken; she's so photogenic!  
Buddy: McKenzie Carra



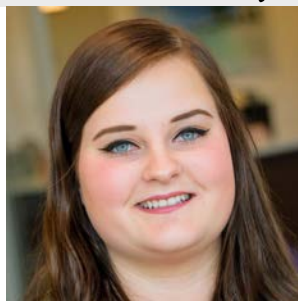
# 2017 Spectrum Project Green Group Buddies



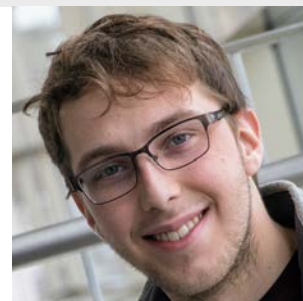
**Hannah Ackerman**  
Transfer program to UNI



**Anna Baughman**  
Leisure, Youth and Human  
Services



**McKenzie Carra**  
Instrumental music  
education



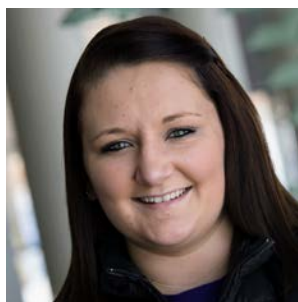
**Wyatt Cheney**  
Industrial Technology  
Education



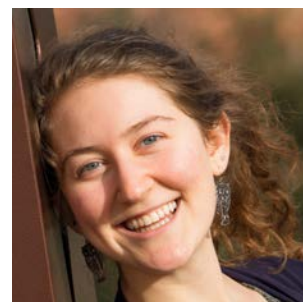
**Kelsey Chidley**  
Political science



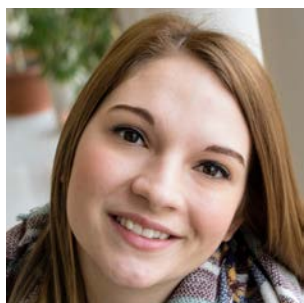
**Kelsey Ettleman**  
Elementary Education,  
Special Education Minor



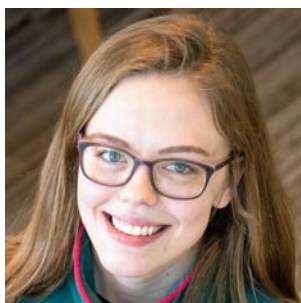
**Bailey Fitch**  
Elementary and Middle level  
dual major, Special  
Education Minor  
Lead Buddy



**Claire Guderjahn**  
Psychology and  
Communications



**Lexy Kruse**  
Psychology



**Kaitlyn Robinson**  
Art Education



**Angie Scott**  
Kinesiology, Speech-  
Language Pathology, MA



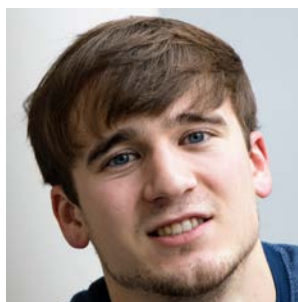
**Megan Tomson**  
Social Work  
Lead Buddy



**Claire Tucheck**  
Movement & Exercise  
Science



**Megan Wellik**  
Art Education



**Ross Westemeyer**  
Speech-Language Pathology

# Meet the Purple Group



## Steve Brand

Age: 9 Waterloo

Steve loves to draw. He loves to move to the music. He loves the stuffed tigers at the school.  
Buddy: Emily Wild



## John Ellis

Age: 10 Waterloo

John loves anything to do with moving. His favorite activities are playing basketball and jumping on the trampolines during movement. He enjoys music and has a creative mind for drama and art.  
Buddy: Meghan Hirsch



## Dayton Jensen

Age: 9 Cedar Falls

Dayton really enjoys playing tag and running. He also likes to play with his sister Maya. Dayton is an amazing dancer and artist.  
Buddy: Alena Thelen



## Maya Jensen

Age: 9 Cedar Falls

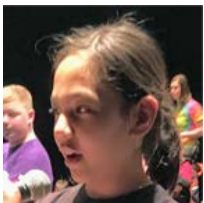
Miss Maya is full of energy and is always excited to dominate any task that is handed to her. She enjoys music, art, drama, and movement, however she enjoys being super silly during drama especially. Maya also loves drawing pictures for her parents during art. She hopes you enjoy the show!  
Buddy: Ashley Klein



## AJ Putz

Age: 11 Waverly

AJ is an amazing boy filled with lots of laughs and smiles. He loves listening to music and playing instruments. His smile can light up the room!  
Buddy: Jenna Willer



## Zoey Raines

Age: 9 Cedar falls

Zoey is an amazing girl. She is very passionate about singing, one of her favorite songs is "Can't Stop the Feeling" and she sings it every chance she gets. She is a very smart, and silly girl. She always comes every Saturday ready to perform!  
Buddy: Mackenzie Dohse



## Joshua Schmidt

Age: 10 Cedar Falls

Joshua is a joyful and spirited 10 year old who loves football, dogs, and jumping on the trampoline! He attends Southdale Elementary School. Joshua has really come out of his shell during Spectrum this year. He also enjoys dancing around, wiggling and trying on funny hats!  
Buddy: Emily Shinkle



## Timothy Ward

Age: 10 Cedar Falls

Tim is an exuberant boy with a joy for life! He finds pleasure in the little things and has the most contagious smile! He loves books, trampolines, music, being tickled, and hugs! Tim has a very big heart, he is not only fun loving, but also very caring towards those who have the honor of interacting with him, he is such a blessing!  
Buddy: Danae Wheeler



## Javan Wegener

Age: 10 Dike

Javan is super sassy, goofy, and full of energy. He is always willing to make friends and not afraid to be silly. He is so sweet and puts a smile on my face every week!  
Buddy: Rachel Green



## Riley Weidman

Age: 11 Cedar Falls

Riley is energetic and kind, and he has been a joy to work with! He is always encouraging his friends to do their best. He can tell you anything you want to know about Star Wars, and he loves singing and playing ukulele.  
Buddy: Emily Brumm



## Nolan Wightman

Age: 12 North Liberty

Nolan is an extremely polite, energetic, and bright young man. He is very passionate about performing. Nolan is quite independent and his fantastic personality shines-especially on stage! He enjoys dancing, singing, and especially acting. He has been an absolute blast to have as a buddy this year!  
Buddy: Abby Murphy



## Rose Wolff

Age: 11 Waterloo

Rose is one cute little girl! Just like many of our performers, she can be shy with others but has opened up at Spectrum Project to how sweet and loving she truly is. She loves talking about horses and the Iowa Hawkeyes! Her favorite part about spectrum is art.  
Buddy: Ellie Even



## Thomas Young

Age: 10 Waterloo

Thomas will no doubt light up the room with his glowing smile and friendly personality! Thomas and his buddy bond over their absolute favorite color: GREEN :) He is a rockstar who loves to dance, sing, and play "air instruments"! It has been a joy to see him grow, try new things, and be excited to participate in Spectrum Project again this year!  
Buddy: Paige Cowing



# 2017 Spectrum Project Purple Group Buddies



**Emily Brumm**  
Choral Music Education



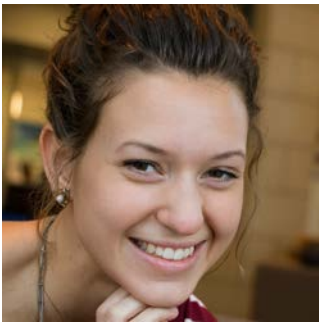
**Paige Cowing**  
Communication Studies &  
Leisure, Youth, and Human  
Services



**Mackenzie Dohse**  
Communication Science and  
Disorders



**Ellie Even**  
Social Work



**Rachel Green**  
Exercise Science  
Lead Buddy



**Meghan Hirsch**  
Biology-PreMed, Chemistry



**Ashley Klein**  
Exercise Science



**Abby Murphy**  
Communication Sciences  
and Disorders



**Emily Shinkle**  
Elementary Education,  
Special Education Minor



**Alena Thelen**  
Elementary Education  
Lead Buddy



**Danae Wheeler**  
Music



**Emily Wild**  
General Studies



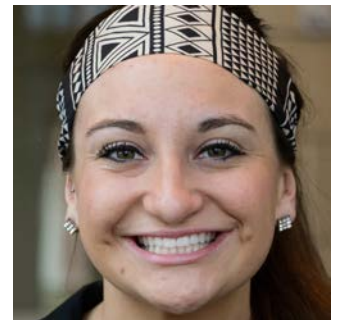
**Jenna Willer**  
Communications Science  
and Disorders



**Drea Goedert**  
Communications Science  
and Disorders



**Anna Pancratz**  
Communications Science  
and Disorders



**Gabby Woods**  
Leisure, Youth and Human  
Services

# Meet the Gold Group

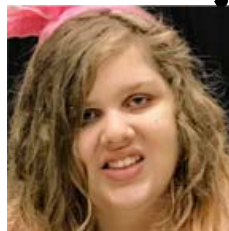


## Shelby Blake

Age: 9 Cedar Falls

Shelby is full of joy and eager to participate with others. She loves to pretend! Always be on the look out for Shelby the scary ghost! She will pull you in to her scene.

Buddy: Stephanie Morrison



## Adia Mortl

Age: 13 Cedar Falls

Adia is a fun, intelligent, and creative performer. Her memory is amazing, especially when it comes to her lines in the play. Adia is looking forward to more Spectrum seasons.

Buddy: Taylor Hulsing



## Gabe Castings

Age: 12 Cedar Falls

Gabe can always be found chillin' with the Gold Group with a book and iPad in hand, and enjoys flipping through ABC books and dictionaries. He likes jumping on trampolines and waving ribbons in movement and drumming in music. He also loves creating masterpieces with paint in art.

Buddy: Hannah Gaffney



## Catie Polok

Age: 13 Waterloo

Every Saturday, Catie brings smiles and giggles and shares them with everyone at Spectrum.

Catie is the best hugger on the entire planet! Her love for others is something to admire.

Buddy: Hannah Tiffany

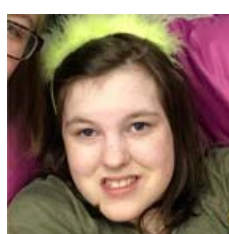


## Devin Delp

Age: 12 Waterloo

Devin shares his love of life through is captivating smile. His favorite activities at Spectrum are creating music, jumping on the trampoline, waving a flag, and being under the parachute. He also loves to get behind the Buddies to make a choo-choo train and/or play hide-and-seek!

Buddy: Maddy Miller



## Danielle Shimp

Age: 12 Washburn

Danielle is the kind of girl that will make you smile and laugh until your side aches. She is full of life and energy and will dance the Hokey Pokey like no other. Danielle loves all the activities in Spectrum but particularly enjoys music and movement. She is certainly a star that will always burn bright!

Buddy: Anna Kircher

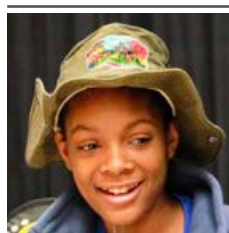


## Joseph Elser

Age: 14 Cedar Falls

Joey is an amazing young man who especially loves expressing himself through his art. He's got quite a talent! He is also exceptional at coming up with rhymes on the fly. He NEVER ceases to amaze me!

Buddy: Abbie Greene

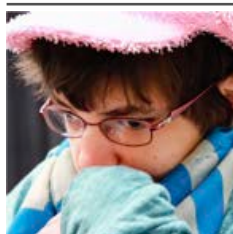


## Aleah Wegener

Age: 12 Dike

Aleah is a very entergetic and enthusiastic young lady. She loves to sing and is a great basketball player. She also has an amazing talent where she can name each one of the my little pony characters.

Buddy: Akeili Hawkins



## Ada Enshayan

Age: 17 Cedar Falls

Ada is such a fun loving girl! She is always so excited when she comes to Spectrum Project. She always has the most beautiful scarfs on too. It's such a great honor to get to work with her! Buddies: Nichole Wollmuth & Jennifer Logan-Lorenz



## Elijah Williams

Age: 14 Waterloo

Elijah is a goofy guy with a love for all people. He loves to run, create sculptures, and play the drums. His overall favorite activities at Spectrum have been being active and jumping on the trampoline.

Buddy: Nicole Tryon



## Zoe Faaberg

Age: 15 Waterloo

Zoe loves to play. She also loves to draw and paint. She even will spell your name. Zoe's favorite part of Spectrum is dressing up: both her and her buddy.

Buddy: Ashley McMullin



## Anthony Wright

Age: 14 Waverly

Anthony loves getting to be around his peers. He enjoys scalp massages and holding his buddy hand. Anthony enjoys playing soothing music on the skoog and zooming around the gym during movement. Anthony has two younger brothers who are also apart of Spectrum and a younger sister.

Buddies: Audrey Klunenberg & Allie Marchesano



# 2017 Spectrum Project Gold Group Buddies



**Hannah Gaffney**  
Leisure, Youth and Human  
Services



**Abbie Greene**  
Music Education



**Akeili Hawkins**  
Early Childhood Education



**Taylor Hulsing**  
Leisure, Youth and Human  
Services



**Anna Kircher**  
Elementary Education,  
Special Education Minor  
Lead Buddy



**Audrey Klunenberg**  
Art Education and  
Elementary Education



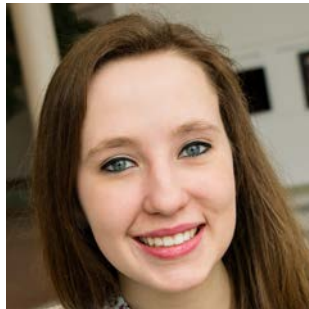
**Jennifer Logan-Lorenz**  
EdS School Psychology



**Allie Marchesano**  
English Education



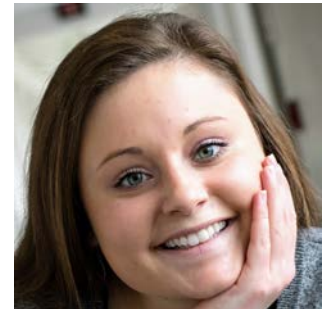
**Ashley McMullin**  
Music Education, Secondary  
Math Education



**Maddy Miller**  
Communication Sciences &  
Disorders



**Stephanie Morrison**  
Communication Sciences  
and Disorders



**Hannah Tiffany**  
Communication Sciences  
and Disorders



**Nicole Tryon**  
MA Speech-Language  
Pathology  
Lead Buddy



**Nichole Wollmuth**  
Music Education

# Meet the Red Group



**Taryn Ackerman**

Age: 19 Cedar Falls

Taryn has such a big heart and is so loving and kind to everyone she meets. In all she does Taryn is a hard worker. From singing a song to making a clay sculpture, she wants to do her absolute best. She is known for her clapping handshakes, good manors and always smiling for the camera.

Buddy: Hannah Sanderman



**Jake Brustkern**

Age: 18 CEDAR FALLS

Jake is a great rapper, art lover and all around cool cat. He is a hard worker as he works all week and comes to spectrum on the weekend to have fun. He is a joy to be around and fun to hangout with.

Buddy: Jasmine McMillen



**Kayla Craun**

Age: 17 Waterloo

This is Kayla's third year in the Spectrum Project; she is also involved in activities such as Special Olympics and Sturgis Youth Theatre. Kayla enjoys animals (especially horses), the color purple, biking, singing, writing, and painting her nails. Kayla will graduate from East High School later this spring. Congratulations from all of us here at Spectrum, Kayla!!!

Buddy: Beth Kosmicki



**Kylie Elser**

Age: 15 Cedar Falls

Kylie is such an inspiring young lady! She loves music, especially when we get to use the drums. Kylie loves pink and each Saturday, she will be wearing something that has pink on it! She always has a postivie attitude and never fails to put a smile on everyone's face :)

Buddies: Kelly Pancratz & Lorena Leal



**John Glascock**

Age: 16 Cedar Falls

John is currently a student at Cedar Falls High School. He loves handshakes and has a different one memorized for every person he meets! He's also a big fan of some home appliances - especially vacuums!

Buddy: Nate Bringleson



**Emma Hovanec**

Age: 16 Cedar Falls

Emma is a ray of sunshine in the project. She is beyond talented and so fun to work with! She brings so much creativity and joy into each rehearsal. Spending time with Danielle at a Spectrum rehearsal brightens anyone's day.

Buddy: Danielle Anderson



**Joshua Kreger**

Age: 11 Cedar Falls

Joshua is a fifth grade student at Orchard Elementary. In his free time, he likes to watch movies and tv, draw, and play the recorder. Look out for Joshua as an animator for Pixar in the future!

Buddy: Liz Riehle



**Kendall Maslak**

Age: 15 Cedar Falls

Kendall is an amazing young lady who loves to sing and help others! Kendall is a great friend and a great listener, she loves to participate and help out in all activities! Kendall enjoys the music of Justin Bieber and takes singing lessons with current students from UNI! Kendall is truly an amazing leader and friend!

Buddy: Michelle Meadows



**Cameron Peters-Sharp**

Age: 13 Cedar Falls

Cameron is a fun loving guy who loves Power Rangers, especially Red Ranger! Whenever Cameron is around everyone has a huge smile on their face. Cameron brings a sense of joy and happiness to the group, he shows us all how to be silly and have fun!

Buddy: Liz Yetmar



**Alisea Roby**

Age: 14 Waterloo

Ally is fun, enthusiastic, and has a positive our look on everything. She loves to share her creativeness with everyone around her and her smile radiates the whole room. One of the best things about Ally is her love for her friends. Ally is such a beautiful person inside and out!

Buddy: Aja Baskerville



**Isaac Rouw**

Age: 15 Cedar Falls

Isaac is an amazing helper and performer in Spectrum Project. During our practices at Lincoln, he announces transition times over the intercom and the Red Group listens to a great selection of country music that Isaac provides. Isaac is always excited to participate during practices and loves playing basketball before and after each day.

Buddy: Samantha Steffensmeier



**Annabeth Volz**

Age: 12 Waterloo

Annabeth is a sweet and thoughtful middle school student. She is very talented and passionate about the arts! Every time she goes to the art room, she is ready to create with whatever is given to her. She loves cats, her goofy Puggle, and is one of the most clever people you'll meet!

Buddy: Mary Pat Lawler



# 2017 Spectrum Project Red Group Buddies



**Danielle Anderson**  
Music



**Aja Baskerville**  
Choral Music Education



**Nate Bringleson**  
Finance



**Beth Kosmicki**  
Speech-Language Pathology,  
MS



**Mary Pat Lawler**  
Art Education



**Jasmine McMillen**  
Earth Science Education,  
Special Education Minor



**Michelle Meadows**  
Music Education and Flute  
Performance  
Lead Buddy



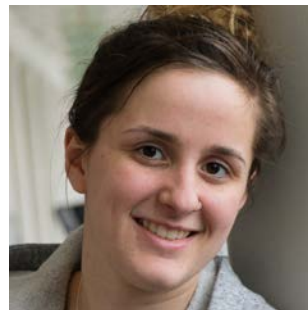
**Kelly Pancratz**  
Communication Sciences  
and Disorders



**Liz Riehle**  
Elementary Education  
Lead Buddy



**Hannah Sanderman**  
Communication Studies



**Samantha Steffensmeier**  
Leisure, Youth and Human  
Services



**Lorena Leal**  
Elementary Education



**Liz Yetmar**  
Elementary Education,  
Special Education Minor



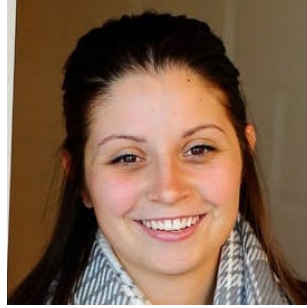
# 2017 Spectrum Project Staff



**KK Conn**  
Movement Director  
MA Speech-Language  
Pathology



**Allison Corbin**  
Support Services  
Occupational Therapy, MS



**Tarissa Hagenow**  
Support Services  
Occupational Therapy, MS



**Taylor Hansen**  
Asst. Art Director  
Art Education



**Maureen Hart**  
Asst. Movement Director  
Elementary Education,  
Special Education Minor



**Morgan Howie**  
Art Director  
Art Education



**Breann Kragt**  
Drama Director  
Social Work



**Michaela Lensing**  
Support Services Director  
Occupational Therapy, MS



**Kathleen Marston**  
Asst. Music Director  
Instrumental Music  
Education



**Callie Matthews**  
Support Services  
Occupational Therapy, MS



**Jotham Polashek**  
Music Director  
Instrumental Music  
Education



**Tiara Van Gerpen**  
Asst. Drama Director  
Leisure, Youth, and Human  
Services



**Jari Sherburne**  
Special Education  
AEA 267



**Sarah Quesnell**  
Program Administrator  
MM Music Education



**Michelle Droe**  
Music  
Cedar Falls CS



**Kevin Droe**  
Project Coordinator  
UNI School of Music

# Get Involved...yes, YOU!

Are you passionate about helping others with special needs? Are you passionate about helping others to have a wonderful experience in the arts? Are you interested in becoming a Spectrum Project Buddy for the 2017 Spectrum Project season?

Here's your chance! The 2018 Spectrum Project programs need dedicated, passionate, enthusiastic and excited future professionals to make next year's Spectrum Project better than ever!

Most of the Spectrum Project Buddies involved with this year's program began with little or no experience teaching children with special needs. Buddies come from UNI, Allen College and Hawkeye Community College. Spectrum Buddies can be any majors. This year our buddies are majoring in Social Work, Psychology, Art Education, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Elementary Education, Music Education, English education, Occupational Therapy, Exercise Science, Earth Science, and Communication Studies to just name a few.

As buddies, students learn to apply motivational and instructional struggles, which improve their ability and willingness to teach, work, and empathize with children with special needs. Better yet, they get to know a wonderful kid!

For more information about getting involved in the UNI Spectrum Project, go to [spectrumproject.org](http://spectrumproject.org) or email Kevin Droe at [kevin.droe@uni.edu](mailto:kevin.droe@uni.edu)

**2018 SPECTRUM PROJECT**  
First rehearsal  
**January 13, 2018**  
Apply at [spectrumproject.org](http://spectrumproject.org)



**United Dance Company**  
is recruiting for the  
2017/2018 school year!

**Who:** Students grades K – 12

**When:** Starting September 10, 2017

Sunday evenings from 6:00 – 7:00pm in the UNI Wellness and Recreation Center Room 165/167

**United Dance Company** is an inclusive dance company at the University of Northern Iowa. This means that our company is made up of individuals both with and without disabilities. Students grades K-12 from the community are each paired with a UNI college student buddy who will be their partner throughout the whole school year. Together, we have weekly dance classes and perform at different events. Some of these events include UNI basketball games and different events that take place around campus. We have also been featured on the PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center's website. Our major emphasis is inclusion. We want people to know that having a disability does not define who you are. Everyone is able to come together for a common purpose - and for us that is dancing!

All your student will need is to purchase black jazz shoes. There will also be a time in late September where we will all order t-shirts. Other than that, there are not any costs to being a part of the company! It's a year-long commitment. If you are interested in joining, email Bethany Piotter at [piotterb@uni.edu](mailto:piotterb@uni.edu). It's first come, first serve, and we have limited spots. Hope to hear from you soon!

# Special Thanks!

**Stephanie Altof**

Xpressions Screenprinting and Embroidery

**Tom Barry**

Audio Engineer, UNI School of Music

**Lynsie Maynard**

Art Educator, Lincoln Elementary School CFCS

**Gretta Berghammer**

UNI Department of Theatre

**Dan Breitbach**

UNI Foundation

**Ralph Bryant**

Principal, Lincoln Elementary School, CFCS

**Beth Bruns**

UNI University Relations

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**Carrie Elser**

University of Northern Iowa

**Caroline Francis**

Marketing Manager, UNI School of Music

**John Fritch**

Dean, College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences

**Max & Helen Guernsey Charitable  
Foundation**

**Lisa and Mike Hovanec**

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Skoogmusic, Inc. Scotland, UK

**John Vallentine**

Director of the UNI School of Music

**Mike Michalicek, John Thomson, Sandy  
Nordahl and Steve Mark**

Checker & The Bluetones

**West Music**

**All Spectrum-licious Buddies and Staff, Past & Present**





In its first year (2015), the project enrolled 18 performers and 20 volunteer college buddies. By the second year, the size of the program doubled with 34 performers and 44 volunteer college buddies. The 2017 Spectrum Project has 50 performers, 66 volunteers and a 16 member staff serving 42 families from the Cedar Valley and as far away as North Liberty. The Spectrum Project is an opportunity for children with differing abilities to be valued for who they are. They get to have fun, be successful and enjoy working with other people on something creative.

"Before Spectrum Project, Joshua did not have opportunities to engage with other kids because of his communication deficits. Spectrum Project allowed Josh to find his voice and embrace his uniqueness building his self-efficacy in making friends. Through Spectrum Project, Joshua has the confidence to initiate conversations and now participates in extracurricular activities. Yesterday, he was invited for the first time to a birthday party." - Margo Kreger, Parent of Spectrum Project performer

The program employs eight student directors, 5 support personnel, one special education specialist and one administrative assistant. Student directors use the performers' idea, interests and enthusiasms to design the show. Special education specialists provide support to buddies and directors when working with performers with special needs.

"Volunteering for the Spectrum Project was one of the greatest decisions I have ever made and one of the best experiences of my college career. The child I got the opportunity to work with has made the greatest impact on me that I could ever imagine. There is nothing better than getting the chance to spend my Saturdays with a child that has an unending positivity, happiness, and optimism. I came in to Spectrum thinking I would teach my Spectrum buddy, but he ended up teaching me more than I could imagine." - Maureen Hart, Elementary Education, 2017 Asst. Movement Director

The 2017 operating budget of the Spectrum Project is \$18,600. This includes: (1) employment of student directors, special educators, support specialists and administrative assistant, (2) supplies, (3) adaptive devices and instrument, (4) t-shirts, (4) promotional costs and (5) building rental.

The initial funding for this project is running out and with the growth we've experienced, additional support is needed. On this front, we have some exciting news to report. The Spectrum Project recently was awarded a \$7,500 grant for its 2017 spring session from the Max & Helen Guernsey Charitable Foundation. On the heels of that gift, Mike and Lisa Hovanec, have generously pledged \$7,500/yr for 4 years with the hope that others involved with the program will collectively match that total. With these two gifts, we have an opportunity to put this program on solid financial footing for the next several years, but we need your support.

Please consider making a multi-year pledge to help us match Mike and Lisa's commitment for the next four years. A pledge form is enclosed for your use. Gifts can be made by check or credit card and can also be made online at [spectrumproject.org](http://spectrumproject.org)

**“It was life-changing for my son and me.”**

*Suzanne, MD*

**Join**  
*us*

**June 22-23**

**2017 Midwest Summer  
Institute: Inclusion and  
Communication for ALL**

**University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls**

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Details:

- \$250 for both days (plus \$50 discount if you register by May 1)
- Scholarships and group discounts are available
- Children and adults with disabilities are welcome

Details and registration available at:

**[InclusionAndCommunicationForAll.com](http://InclusionAndCommunicationForAll.com)**

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“The Midwest Summer Institute 2015 was life-changing for my son and me. Although I had an understanding and appreciation for facilitated communication prior to attending the conference, I never quite understood how it might benefit my son who has autism and a fair amount of (but limited) verbal communication. Upon hearing that this technique bypasses the verbal pathway in the brain and uses a motor pathway instead, it suddenly clicked for me. In a tear-filled moment at the Institute, I witnessed my son communicate words, ideas and emotions I never imagined he could conceptualize. We are so fortunate to have this internationally-acclaimed expertise being brought to the mid-west! “

— Suzanne, MD

