



## December 6-29, 2024

**Spotlight: Literacy** is a Playhouse program with original funding provided by Joanne and Milt Brown.



# **Getting to Know You:**

## The Cast of Disney's Beauty & the Beast

We asked the cast of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* the following question: "Each of the castle staff has been turned into an enchanted object that represents something about their human selves. If you were to turn into an enchanted object, what would it be?" Here is what they had to say.



**Nicholas Amundson** (*Director*) I'd be a toaster so I can be little and brave.



Ethan Fonseca (Ensemble) I would definitely be a broom because they are always reliable!



**Steve Betz** (Cogsworth) I would be a deck of cards because I like to play games!



Adam Jackson (Ensemble)
I would be a deck of cards
because I've always got a game
to play!



**Aurora Navarro Cancel** (Une Fille de la Ville) I would be a bottle of coconut cream because I love to style my hair with it!



Meta Lobben (Une Fille de la Ville) I would be a mug because I love a cup of coffee.



Calvin Clark (Gaston) I would become a television because I love TV shows!



Alexander Lopez-Djukic (Ensemble) I would become a saxophone because I love jazz.



**Erin Davison-Rippey** (Mrs. Potts) I would be a tree because I love to be out in nature.



Natalie Jo Lourens (Ensemble)
I would be a lightbulb because
I always hope to brighten
someone's day!



Henry Davison-Rippey (Ensemble) I would be a book because I love to read!



Cami Marquart (Babette) I would turn into a bottle of nail polish – preferably pink! – because I love to paint my nails.



Whit Ellsworth (Monsieur D'arque) I should like to be a bookcase so I'd always be no more than a story away from my latest adventure!



**Katy Merriman** (*Music Director*) I would turn into a grand piano because it is musical, noisy, and usually in the middle of a room, and I like to be a part of the action.



**Aubrey Falter** (*Une Fille de la Ville*) I would become a makeup brush because I love to do my makeup!



**Greg Millar** (*Maurice*) I would be a mixing bowl because I love to make cookies and other goodies.



Maggie Miller (Ensemble) I would be a passport so I could travel all over the world!



Andrew Smalley (Ensemble)
I would become a bed because I like to sleep.



Chandler Nye (Ensemble)
I would be a chess board
because I enjoy playing board
games with my family.



Reese Taggart (Ensemble)
I would be a microphone
because I love to sing!



**Charlotte Proctor** (*Belle*) I would be a coffee pot because I love coffee!



Abbey Tauchen (Ensemble)
I would be a feather quill pen
because I love to write magical
stories!



**Gavin Runles** (Ensemble) I would be a television because at times I can be very distracting but also quite entertaining.



**Devon TeKolste** (Ensemble)
I would be a lamppost because I'm tall and like to spread light to everyone.



**Evan Schettler** (*Beast*) I would turn into a spoon because I love food!



Josie Thompson (Ensemble)
I would become a blanket
because I love to be warm and
cozy!



**Knox Schupbach** (Chip) I would be a book, so I can live in peace while being admired.



Dane Van Brocklin (Lumiere)
I would be a spoon, because I like
cooking and being helpful, and I
also enjoy eating.



Alicia Kodá Scott (Madame de la Grand Bouche) I would become a bed because I love to sleep!



Stella Webster (Ensemble)
I would be a window because I
love to look outside, watch all the
seasons change, and spread all
the light I can!!



Jake Skarin (*LeFou*) I would become a puppy because they are a bundle of joy and have endless energy.

What about YOU? What enchanted object would you turn into? Why?

WHAT'S IN A NAME? Many of the names in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* describe things about their appearance or personality. What do you think these names tell us about each of these people?

Lefou (The Fool) Belle (Beauty) Lumiere Cogsworth Mrs. Potts Monsieur D'Arque

Madam de la Grande Bouche (Madam of the Large Mouth)

## A Tale of Three Women

The following three women are chiefly responsible for the story that you are seeing, which has evolved quite a bit over the years!



#### Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve (b. 1685-d. 1755)

Gabrielle wrote the original story, La Belle et la Bête (Beauty and the Beast) in 1740. It drew heavily from fairy tales and included fairy kings and queens, and was intended for an older, more adult audience. The story was a social commentary that women had very few rights before, during, and after their marriage.



Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont (b. 1711- d. 1780)
Jeanne-Marie adapted La Belle et la Bête in 1756 into the story
people are familiar with today. She had worked as a governess
for wealthy families and wrote the story as a way to teach
morals to children. In her version, Belle is the character who must
look beyond surface appearances. Jeanne-Marie also wrote
some of the very first educational journals for children, parents,
and teachers. A trailblazer in her own right, she also wrote and

urged reform for the roles of women in politics and society of that time.



### Linda Woolverton (b. 1952)

Linda is the first woman to have written an animated feature film, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, which is also the first animated film to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture. In addition, she adapted her own screenplay into the book for the Broadway musical. She also wrote both recent Maleficent movies and co-wrote *Disney's The Lion King*.

Fun facts: Linda began acting in local children's theatre as a child, has a Master's degree in theatre for children, and is a former theatre teacher!

"You have to forge your own path. You can't go down anybody else's road. It's your dream; it's your life. You don't have to be told by other people what to make of yourself. You decide."

### **Discussion Questions**

What makes Belle different than the rest of the townspeople? Why do they think she's odd?

"Beauty is only skin deep" and "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder" are two common sayings. What do you think they mean?

Belle loves to read and is excited to learn there is a large library in the Beast's castle. If you had a whole library in your house, what books would you put in it?

The townspeople become very angry and fearful when they learn about the beast. **Why are they afraid?** What are they afraid of?

## **Be Our Guest Word Search**

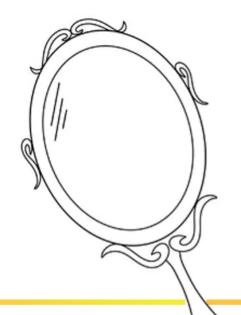
The words listed below all appear in the song "Be Our Guest." Words may appear forwards, or backwards, horizontally, vertically or diagonally in the grid. See if you can find them all!

0 U N J 7 Т D D G Υ 0 S 0 U D U 0 R U K Н Ε Ρ U S F R U Т Ν N N G K 0 D 0 0 O Ν S Ε R L I Α P K Ν C 0 U R G N Υ Δ S М Ε K C K M В S Ε X U Δ D Ε E Т Н F M E U C S F Υ Α O R Ε Ε U C W Ε E F U R S M Α D U 0 S I Δ S П X D Т F F F F M Κ S W Ν R Υ Ν F J U E Р G 7 P C Н F F S F S O U F F П F B B R Ε Α D R Α L R Ε D F 0 Т X ı K E F Т Α Υ S D Z S C Α N G Н Т R 0 X D В Т S F U G R U Ε В ı S U W U



BEEF RAGOUT BE OUR GUEST BREAD CANDLELIGHT CHEESE SOUFFLE COURSE CROUTONS DESSERT DISHES
FLATWARE
GLASS
GREY STUFF
NAPKIN
PIE
PUDDING
SOUP DU JOUR

The Beast owns a magic mirror that will show him anything he wishes to see. Imagine that you own a magic mirror. What person, place, or thing would you ask it to show you? Draw it here.



### Try the Grey Stuff; it's delicious!

Don't believe us, ask the dishes! Get a grownup to help you, and make your own grey stuff, straight out of Mrs. Potts' kitchen.

#### **Ingredients**

One 3.4 oz box of instant vanilla pudding mix 1-1/2 cups milk 15 Oreos 8 oz whipped topping 2 Tablespoons chocolate pudding mix

#### Instructions

Sprinkles

- In a medium bowl, combine pudding mix and milk. Whisk well and refrigerate for 10 minutes.
- Place Oreos in a food processor and blend until they become crumbs. You can also double bag them in two gallon-sized Ziploc bags and gently crush them with a rolling pin.
- Mix the crushed Oreos in with the pudding mixture and mix well.
- Fold in whipped topping and chocolate pudding mix until well combined and refrigerate for one hour before serving.
- When ready to serve, place "grey stuff" in a piping bag and spiral it onto a plate. Top with sprinkles or other decorative edibles.
- 6. ENJOY!



photo © Kristyn Merkle

### **Creation Station**

Belle's father, Maurice, is an inventor. His imagination is always working to come up with creative ways to solve problems. Some of his inventions work, while others don't quite manage to do what they're supposed to do.

Many inventors have to go through a lot of failures to end up with a successful invention. Have you heard of the saying, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try, again?" Successful inventors are those who do not give up!

Famous inventor Thomas Edison said, "The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

Think of a problem you would like to solve. Then, think of an invention that would solve your problem. Draw a picture of your invention here. What does your invention do? What would you use to build it? How big is it? Can you carry it in your pocket, or do you need a crane to move it?



