

GIRLS
SUPPORT
GIRLS



THREE CANADIAN GIRLS FROM THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, TALENTED TEENS, AND FRIENDS PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR ARTS, THIS IS WHO THEY ARE: ARIANNA GRACE GOARLEY, ANDREA MATEI AND ANNA GOLDSMITH.



POWER OF TRIPLE A

Throughout the pandemic, in and out of lockdowns, being forced out of schools and extracurriculars, these passionate and talented teens turned to the arts to help them cope; and to their friendship for mutual support. It is their love for the arts and dedication to their craft that brought to life the short film *“Sara Snow and the Seven Dancers”*, produced by With Grace Productions and codirected by Lineen Doung and fourteen-year-old screenwriter Arianna Grace Goarley.

Sara Snow and the Seven Dancers addresses the core challenges faced by today’s teens including bullying, peer pressure, and self-identity, all framed through the lens of dance.

In the true spirit of collaboration, the film includes an original song written and created by Anna Goldsmith. A local songwriter, who is also 14, Anna has released the movie’s theme song, *“Shine”*, as a single and is in the process of producing an album. After penning the song at the age of 13, the Barrie artist worked with fellow songwriter Jennifer Simpson and Juno-winning producer, musician, and composer Chris Birkett (Sinead O’Connor, Sting, Buffy Sainte-Marie) to bring the song to life. She was inspired to write this song as a tribute to all the talented youth who continue to work hard in the pursuit of their dreams, despite everyday fears and obstacles.

The concept of the film began to percolate during the production of *“A Dance for Cinderella”*, an award-winning short film written by Arianna and her first collaboration with Andrea. “My goal is to create a trilogy of revamped fairy tales with modern problems because today’s teens can’t really relate to the challenges that faced Cinderella and Snow White,” said Arianna.



"I wrote "Shine" for Sara Snow and the Seven Dancers because I know there are a lot of kids around the world who are excluded and bullied, and I want them to stay positive when life gets rough" says Anna. Bursting with messages of hope, solidarity, support, and camaraderie, "Shine" spotlights the singer-songwriter's vocal range and relatable style and serves as encouragement and motivation for today's youth to believe in yourself and shine, fitting perfectly with the story of the short film.

So, they had the idea: Arianna was already writing the script; the theme song: Anna was finalizing her single "Shine", and all they needed was the budget for their dream short film production, and this is where Andrea started to come in. A competitively trained dancer, having attended many dance workshops herself, as well as numerous zoom classes with industry professionals, she came up with the Fundraising Dance Workshop idea, which the girls held under the With Grace umbrella. The response from the dance industry to donate dance classes for the workshop was humbling and inspiring, as was the generosity of local photographers who donated photoshoot awards to show their support for these young ambitious artists. The workshop fundraising laid the financial grounds to produce "*Sara Snow and the Seven Dancers*".

The film stars Andrea Matei as a ballerina kicked out of ballet school and follows her journey to rediscover herself and find true passion with the help of 7 street dancers. The image of the strict ballerina is a metaphor for confining yourself to a certain mindset and style while the girls believe it is so important to allow your true self to shine. The film is about growth and redefining yourself by letting go of strict rules and standards and trusting the artistic spirit to guide the way. The role of Sara Snow suits Andrea perfectly, as the character's story much resembles that of Andrea's own dance journey, having trained within the rigours of a competitive dance studio, and looking for opportunities to explore other artistic and performance avenues outside of the competitive stage.



Andrea Matei

Anna Goldsmith

Claire Johnson



Classically trained ballerina, Sara Snow's unjust dismissal from her studio sets her on a path of reinvention and empowerment.

Written by Arianna Goarley
Co-Directed by Arianna Goarley & Lineen Doung

OFFICIAL SELECTION **Dallas Shorts** 2022

Award Winner **Cuckoo International Film Awards** 2022

OFFICIAL SELECTION **Cuckoo International Film Awards** 2022

OFFICIAL SELECTION **KIDS FIRST! Film Festival** 2022

S A R A S N O W





The premiere of the short film was held on November 13, 2021 at the Circle Theatre in Alliston, Ontario, where cast, crew and their families and friends gathered for an intimate red carpet event to celebrate the creativity and hard work of all involved and watch the film together for the first time. Arianna's hopes that the audience will both fall in love with the beauty of dance and carry forward the belief that you don't need to compromise your own dreams to fit the needs of others was embraced fully at the event and beyond. "Sara Snow and the Seven Dancers" is currently immersed in the festival circuit and has already collected several recognitions and awards, such as Official Selection of Kids First Film Festival, Semi Finalist of the Dallas Shorts, and Cuckoo International Film Awards Winner for Best Student Film, Critics Choice, and Best Song!!!


The film has also been nominated at the Nova Star Awards as an ensemble, as well as got Andrea and Anna an actor nomination in their age categories, and Arianna a youth director nomination.

But above all else, working together and combining their talents was an incredible experience for these three girls, and namely:

Arianna loves that "I get to share my thoughts and feelings while educating others. It is interesting to take important topics like bullying and tell a story that will help engage others. By making it entertaining and interesting its a nicer way to learn more about the implications it has and how you can find strength in yourself to overcome those challenges.

Anna had a "very fun time working together. It was so interesting to learn new things while being around friends with similar interests. It was fun to be able to spend so much time together as well as helping each other reach our goals."

Andrea loves that she "could contribute to this project from the beginning till the end, from the fundraiser and advertising it to my dance friends, to reviewing the script with Arianna and running lines with Anna, to the anticipation and emotion of seeing it premiere on the big screen and sharing this moment with the cast and crew".

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Photo Credits:
Hair and Make Up: Jordan Ashley, Ryan
Styling: Andrea, Anna and Arianna
Photographer: Noah Hollinstead
BTS pics - Sara McDonald
Premiere pic - Stephan Potopnyk
Film Poster - Trinette Goarley

