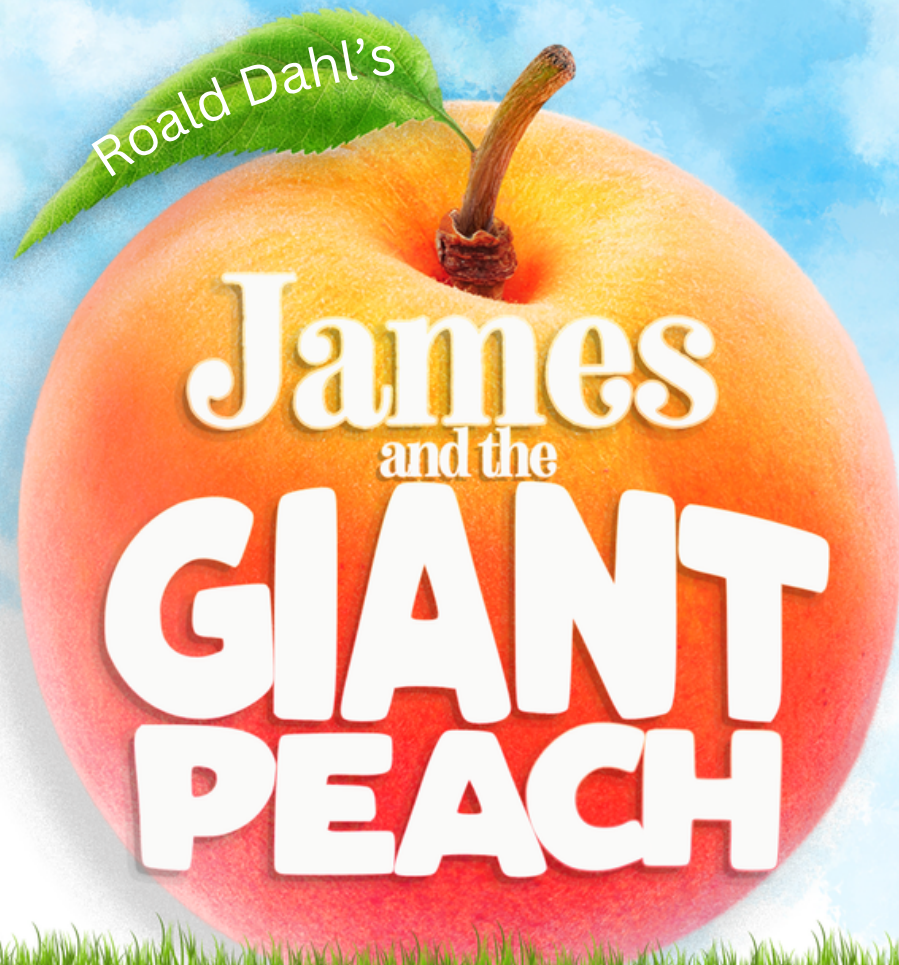


University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
Department of Theatre and Dance



Words and Music by
Benj Pasek & Justin Paul

Book by
Timothy Allen McDonald

Based on the book *James and the Giant Peach*
by Roald Dahl

Orchestrations by August Eriksmoen
Incidental Music by David Weinstein

Originally produced at Seattle Children's Theatre under the direction of Linda Hartzell.

April 5-6 & 11-13, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.
April 7 & 14, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.
Toland Theatre, Lowe Center for the Arts

Produced in special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized
performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.MTIshows.com

Creative Team

Director

Greg Parmeter

Music Director

Kathryn Moran

Choreographer

Ashley Dobrogosz

Stage Manager

Julia Milne*

Scenic Designers

Mandy Kolbe & Nate Mohlman

Lighting Designer

Brodyn Byington*

Sound Designer

Christopher Kurtz

Costume & Makeup Designer

Joe Anderson

Puppet Designers

Ozzy Glazer*

Elin Voegeli*

Technical Director

Nate Mohlman

Props Designer

Ellie Hemming*

Mandy Kolbe

Sound Engineer

Leo Chavolla*

Cast

James.....Emily Babcock

Ladahlord.....Sean Peterson

Spiker.....Paige Huling

Sponge.....Caroline Thompson

Spider.....Kenadi Tossing

Grasshopper.....Jake Gesteland

Ladybug.....Taylor Rammer

Earthworm.....Ryan Hustedt

Centipede.....Josh Kaiser

Ensemble 1.....Eddie Doerr

Mr. Trotter, Vagrant, Garden Chorus,
Garden Guild, Shark, Jake, etc.

Ensemble 2.....Alyssa Meissner

Mrs. Trotter, Vagrant, Garden Chorus,
Reporter, Shark, New Yorker, etc.

Ensemble 3.....Anna Montgomery

Matron Nurse, Garden Chorus, Reporter,
Shark, New Yorker, etc.

Ensemble 4.....Sage Goetsch

Karl Creature, Vagrants, Garden Chorus,
Garden Guild, Shark, Joe, etc.

Ensemble 5.....Dawson Copley

Billy Cop, Male Spider, Reporter,
Seagull, New Yorker, etc.

Ensemble 6.....Anna Halvorsen

Bobby Cop, Garden Chorus, Garden Guild,
Seagull, New Yorker, etc.

Ensemble 7.....Ellie Hemming

Buzz, Vagrant, Garden Chorus,
Seagull, New Yorker, etc.

Ensemble 8.....Kaitlyn Pyburn

Vagrant, Garden Chorus, Hollywood Agent,
Seagull, Lucille Van Koogelstein, etc.

Ensemble 9.....Emma Cartwright

Vagrant, Garden Chorus, Hollywood Agent,
Seagull, Binny MacKenzie III, etc.

*Denotes student designer/stage manager

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Orchestra

Rehearsal Pianist.....Eddie Kim
 Cello.....Kathy Boarman
 Bass.....Paul Jewson
 Drums.....Aaron Frost
 Guitar.....Kyle Renfro
 Horn.....Bonny Fish
 Keys.....Vicki Riness
 Percussion.....Sue Retzlaff
 Piano.....Eddie Kim
 Reeds.....Stephanie Brookman,
 Stephen Mann, Kristin Renfro,
 Obi Chavolla
 Trombone.....Tom Jensen
 Bass Trombone....Marshall Dvorak
 Trumpet.....Bix Swerman,
 Michael Derhammer
 Viola.....Nathan Olson

Special Thanks

Stephen Mann
 Mary Tollefson
 UWL Department of Music



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 and Dance

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Musical Numbers

Act I

Prologue

Right Before Your Eyes.....Ladahlord,
Company

Scene 1

Painswick Orphanage, London, England

On Your Way Home.....James, Matron Nurse

Scene 2

A Boardwalk in Dover, England

Right Before Your Eyes (reprise).....Ladahlord,
Spiker, Sponge, Matron Nurse

Property of Spiker and Sponge.....Spiker, Sponge,
Vagrants, Billy Cop, Bobby Cop

Scene 3

Shake It Up.....Ladahlord, James, Garden Chorus,
Insects

Scene 4

Spiker & Sponge's Decrepit Garden The Next Morning

There's Money On That Tree.....James, Spiker,
Sponge, Reporters, Garden Guild,
Hollywood Agents

Scene 5

Spiker & Sponge's Decrepit Garden Many Weeks Later

Middle of a Moment.....James

Scene 6

Inside the Peach

Floating Along.....Grasshopper, Earthworm,
James, Ladybug, Spider, Centipede

~Intermission~

Act II

Scene 1

The Deck of the Peach

Have You Ever Begun to Wonder?.....Spider,
Centipede, Grasshopper, Ladybug, Earthworm

Scene 2

Spiker & Sponge's Decrepit Garden

A Getaway for Spiker and Sponge.....Spiker,
Sponge, Angry Crowd

Scene 3

The Deck of the Peach, Nighttime

Everywhere That You Are.....Ladybug,
Grasshopper, Insects, Earthworm, Spider

Scene 4

Lido Deck of the Jewel of the Seas Cruise Ship

I Got You.....Spiker, Sponge

Scene 5

Deck of the Peach

Plump and Juicy.....James, Earthworm, Spider,
Centipede, Earthworm, Ladybug,
Grasshopper, Seagulls

Empire State/The Attack.....Ladahlord,
New Yorkers, Spiker, Sponge,
Lucille Van Kooglestein, Bunny Mackenzie III

On Your Way Home.....James

Scene 6

Somewhere Over New York City

Welcome Home.....James, Ladybug, Centipede,
Earthworm, Spider, Grasshopper

Biographies

Joe Anderson (Costume & Makeup Designer)--Joe has been at UWL since 1991 and has served as the Costume/Makeup Design faculty that entire time. Additionally, he served as Chair of the department from 2011 to 2023. In his time here Joe has designed costumes and makeup for over 150 productions including productions for Shawn McConneloug and Her Orchestra and the American University in Cairo, Egypt among others. He's proud to say that his students have gone off to do great things within the world of theatre and within the world in general.

Emily Babcock (James)--Emily is honored to be in her final production at UWL. She will be graduating with a degree in Musical Theatre and a Dance minor. She has been in 6 previous shows at UWL including *Art In Motion*, *The Wolves (#14)*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (Jolene)*, *Last Train To Nibroc (May)*, *She Loves Me (Ensemble)*, and *It's A Wonderful Life (Violet Bick and Others)*. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Brodyn Byington (Lighting Designer)--Brodyn is a senior Design/Tech major who is grateful for all of the opportunities he has had working on productions for the department and is excited to be lighting his final production at UWL! Previous UWL credits include: *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (Sound Design), *A Christmas Carol* (Lighting Design), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Audio Engineer), *Dr. Faustus* (Technical Director) and *Art in Motion* (Lighting Designer/Stage Manager). He would like to thank his family, friends, and the Theatre faculty for their constant support.

Emma Cartwright (Ensemble 9)--Emma, a freshman at UW-La Crosse, is thrilled to be involved in her first show with the university. She would like to extend a thank you to everyone involved for creating such an amazing experience and to her family and friends for always showing her love and support.

Leo Chavolla (Sound Engineer)--Leo is a theatre and music artist specializing in sound design and engineering. Recent sound design credits include *Spirits Among Us* and *Dr. Faustus*. Leo would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Ben Golden, Dana Erickson, Chris Kurtz, Laurie Kinckman, Michelle Collyar, Krista Shulka, Justin Schmitz, Olivia Girdano, Josh Maszle, Mike Tracey, Micala Nuss, Reece Nunez, and his friends and family for their support during this project.

Michelle Collyar (Costume Shop Supervisor)--With an MFA in design, Michelle manages the costume shop and teaches costume technology. Having designed/constructed costumes and dancewear for regional and academic theatres, Michelle has also worked on two television series filmed in Canada: *Let's Get Physical* starring Jane Seymour and *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, a Canadian mock news series.

Biographies

Dawson Copley (Ensemble 5)--This is Dawson's second production at UWL. You may have seen him in recently as Kenny in *Fuddy Meers*. He is excited and honored to have been cast in this production.

Ashley Dobrogosz (Choreographer)--Ashley earned her MFA in Dance from the University of Arizona and now teaches the dance courses offered in the Department of Theatre and Dance here at UWL. In addition to teaching the dance courses, she is developing the new dance minor program. She danced professionally with Dancin' Unlimited Jazz Dance Company, Dance Art Theater, and Exhale Dance Tribe. In addition to her concert dance roots, Ashley has choreographed various musicals including *Chicago*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *Cinderella*.

Eddie Doerr (Ensemble 1)--Eddie is a senior Musical Theatre major, and this is his last performance at UWL before graduation. Eddie's previous credits include *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Secret In The Wings*, *Dr. Faustus*, and *A Christmas Carol*. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Jake Gesteland (Grasshopper)--Jake is proud to be in his 9th and final production at UWL. He would like to thank his friends and family for their never ending support. He's honored to have shared the stage and collaborated with so many amazing and talented people.

Ozzy Glazer (Puppet Designer)--Ozzy is thrilled to be a part of the spring musical! They are currently a second-year Theatre student focusing on design, specifically puppets! Ozzy's puppet work was last seen in UWL's production of *Fuddy Meers*, landing them a runner-up position at the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) in the Allied Crafts category. Ozzy would like to thank Elin for being a brilliant puppet partner during this show. Keep floatin' along!

Sage Goetsch (Ensemble 4)--Sage is beyond excited to be in his first-ever production as a performer! Sage is a Stage Management major with minors in Design/Tech and Performance. He most recently stage managed *Doctor Faustus*, and he was an assistant lighting designer for *Art In Motion*. He would like to thank his friends, family, and partners for their never ending support, and finally, he hopes you enjoy the show!

Anna Halvorsen (Ensemble 6)--Anna is honored to perform for the final time in her first-ever UWL musical! She is a senior graduating this spring with a Performance major and a Stage Management minor. Her previous acting credits throughout her four years at UWL include *Fuddy Meers* (Gertie), *Dragons Love Tacos* (The Boy), *A Christmas Carol* (Pound Notes), *Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (Nellie, The Watchman, Old Lady), *Severe Clear* (Actor 1), and *Squiggles* (Sammy). She is so grateful for the memories and opportunities UWL has let her pursue. She thanks her family, friends, and the Theatre faculty for their wonderful support. Enjoy the show!

Biographies

Ellie Hemming (Ensemble 7/Asst. Props Designer)--This will be Ellie's fifth production at UWL. She has previously performed in *A Christmas Carol*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and *The Wolves* and assistant stage managed *Doctor Faustus*. She looks forward to continuing her theatre education and experiences at UWL. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Paige Huling (Spiker)--Paige is so excited to be in her fifth production at UWL! Paige is a second year Theatre Performance and Communication Studies double major. Some past roles she has played are Heidi (*Fuddy Meers*) and Yellow Dragon (*Dragons Love Tacos*). She hopes you enjoy the show!

Ryan Hustedt (Earthworm)--Ryan is a graduating senior majoring in Musical Theatre. He has previously been seen in UWL's *Dr. Faustus*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Secret in the Wings*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *She Loves Me*. He enjoys hiking, cooking, writing, pickleball, working out, wasting time with friends, and being at Roncalli Newman Center, UWL's Catholic Campus Ministry.

Josh Kaiser (Centipede/Asst. Musical Director)--Josh is thrilled to be back on the Toland stage this semester! He was previously seen in UWL's first dance concert *Art In Motion* and as Mephistopheles in *Dr. Faustus*. He would like to give so much thanks to his parents for supporting him, his friends for uplifting him, and Greg for inspiring him to continue on this silly journey.

Eddie Kim (Rehearsal Pianist)--Eddie makes his UWL debut as rehearsal pianist and in the *Peach* pit. He was rehearsal pianist for *Legally Blonde*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Wizard of Oz*. Recent pit work includes *Rent*, *Fiddler*, and *Newsies*.

Laurie Kincman (Production Manager)--Laurie is Chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance where she teaches stage management, arts administration, dramaturgy, and serves as the Production Manager. She has worked professionally in theatre, dance, and opera. Laurie was co-author and projections designer for the department's world premiere of *Severe Clear- September 11 from Memory to History*. Other UWL credits include stage management of *26 Pebbles*, *Big Fish*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Spring Awakening*, and dramaturgy for *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Laramie Project*, and *Proof*. She is a member of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology, the Stage Managers Association, the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas, and Actors' Equity Association. Laurie is the author of *The Stage Manager's Toolkit*, published by Routledge Press.

Biographies

Mandy Kolbe (Scenic Designer)--Mandy earned her MFA in scenic and lighting design from Ohio State University. She has designed over 50 shows at UWL including *A Christmas Carol*, *Eleemosynary*, *26 Pebbles*, *Hair*, *Twelfth Night*, *Urinetown*, *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, and many more. She has also designed for the Ashland Theatre, Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre, The Brick, and the Hudson Guild.

Katie Krueger (Asst. Stage Manager)--Katie is so excited to be working on this production of *James and the Giant Peach*. She has previously worked as a stage manager and assistant lighting designer for *Art in Motion*, stage manager for *The Wolves*, and assistant stage manager for *Cinderella*, *Dragons Love Tacos*, and *A Christmas Carol*. Katie is graduating this spring with a major in Marketing and minor in Stage Management. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their support. Enjoy the show!

Christopher Kurtz (Sound Designer)--Christopher is the Lighting and Sound Supervisor of the Department of Theatre and Dance where he teaches theatre appreciation. He has worked professionally for theatre, music, dance, and other live events. He designed sound for the Wisconsin Shakespeare Festival in Eau Claire, WI and designed lights for UW-Eau Claire's Confluence Dance Project and designed lights, sound, and projections for the Eau Claire Children's Theatre. He was the Sound Design/Composer for *Salome* with Scena Theatre in D.C., and Sound Designer for *Red Hot Patriot* with Lyric Stage in Boston, MA.

Alyssa Meissner (Ensemble 2/Dance Captain)--Alyssa is very excited to be performing in *James and the Giant Peach* alongside so many hardworking people! Alyssa is a junior with a Musical Theatre major and Dance minor. She was most recently seen onstage in UWL's *The Wolves* and *Art in Motion*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and professors for their support and guidance.

Amber Meyers (Asst. Props Designer)--Amber is a second year Design and Technical major with a Stage Management minor at UWL and is excited to be working on this production. Amber enjoys all aspects of theatre design, and has done work with lighting, sound, and makeup design while here. She would like to thank the people who helped get her here, as she is thankful for all of the new opportunities. She is excited for you all to watch, and hopes you enjoy the show!

Morgan Millard (Asst. Stage Manager)--Morgan is a freshman at UWL, majoring in Stage Management and minoring in Arts Administration. Recent credits include *Dr. Faustus* and *Anything Goes*. She also works with Sunset Playhouse in Elm Grove, WI. Morgan would like to thank her entire family for their endless support, and Aunt April. Enjoy!

Biographies

Jess Miller (Asst. Technical Director)--Jessica is a senior at UWL. She has worked many semesters in the paint and properties shop. Her previous scenic designs included *The Wolves and Last Train to Nibroc*. She would like to thank all those who have supported her and who have helped to make this production happen.

Julia Milne (Stage Manager)--Julia is a fourth-year student majoring in Stage Management and double minoring in Arts Administration and Design/Tech. This is her twelfth and final production at UWL. She is so excited to have had the opportunity to work on this show and looks forward to sharing it with you. Previous UWL productions she has worked on include *Severe Clear*, *The Secret in the Wings*, and *Dr. Faustus*. Julia would like to thank her friends, family, UWL professors, and her fiancé Josh for their continued love and support!

Nate Mohlman (Scenic Designer/Technical Director)--Nate joined the UWL Department of Theatre and Dance in fall 2023 as the Scene Shop Supervisor and Assistant Technical Director. He has worked for the Utah Shakespeare Festival, the McLeod Summer Playhouse, Theatre West Summer Repertory and the Eau Claire Children's Theatre. He has received the Excellence in Technical Production Award at SIU, the Bernard C. Tushaus Award for Technical Excellence, the Alpha Psi Omega Dr. Hal Shiffler Award, and the Scarlet Mask.

Anna Montgomery (Ensemble 3)--Anna is so excited to be in UWL's production of *James and the Giant Peach*. As a busy Musical Theatre major and Dance minor, she has performed in *Art in Motion: A Concert of Dance*, *Cinderella*, and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Thank you and enjoy the show!

Kathryn Moran (Musical Director)--This is Kathryn's thirteenth year at UW-L. With the Department of Theater and Dance, she serves as music director and teaches musical theater classes and private musical theater voice. She has performed with opera and theater companies nationwide and recently appeared in The Boston Lyric Opera's productions of *A Handmaid's Tale* and *Carmen*. She has her Bachelor of Music in vocal performance and musical theater from Northwestern University and her Master of Music from Boston University.

Greg Parmeter (Director)--Greg teaches voice, movement, and performance here at UWL. He earned his MFA in Acting from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and spent seasons with the Nebraska Rep, Virginia Shakespeare Festival, Hampstead Stage Company, and Northern Fort Repertory. Greg was the Artistic Director at La Crosse Community Theatre where he directed the regional premiers of *Les Miserables* and *Mary Poppins* as well as the national community theatre premier of *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Productions at UWL include *The Laramie Project*, *The Country Wife*, *Murder on the Orient Express*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. He also directed and co-wrote UWL's award-winning original production *Severe Clear: September 11 from Memory to History*.

Biographies

Sean Peterson (Ladahlord)--Sean is a first year student at UWL and has been performing in theatre since he was in elementary school. He loves learning from his directors and support team. He's always excited to learn new skills and techniques to help enhance his theatrical performance.

River Podjasek (Asst. Technical Director)--River is thrilled to be working on *James and the Giant Peach* as the Assistant Technical Director. His previous credits include *A Christmas Carol* (Run Crew), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Light Board Operator), *Doctor Faustus* (Assistant Stage Manager), and *The Wolves* (Assistant Technical Director). He thoroughly enjoyed working on this show and is looking forward to future opportunities in the UWL Department of Theatre and Dance. Enjoy the show!

Kaitlyn Pyburn (Ensemble 8)--Kaitlyn is in her third year at UWL with a Theatre Performance major and a Dance minor. During her time here Kaitlyn has been involved in two plays, one dance concert, and now two musicals. She has loved being in this department and cannot wait for you to see everyone's hard work!

Taylor Rammer (Ladybug)--Taylor is jazzed to be in UWL's production of *James and the Giant Peach*. She was last seen in UWL's award-winning cast of *The Wolves*. Other previous credits include *Into The Woods* (Cinderella), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Ensemble), and *A Christmas Carol* (Belle). She's incredibly grateful to her family and friends for their support! Enjoy the show!

Caroline Thompson (Sponge)--Caroline plays the ridiculously evil Aunt Sponge who is the counterpart to Aunt Spiker. She is currently a sophomore at UWL and a double major in Musical Theatre and Psychology. She was previously seen on the UWL stage as Lean in *A Christmas Carol* and Ensemble in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*.

Kenadi Tossing (Spider)--Kenadi is overjoyed to be playing Spider in her final UWL production, *James and the Giant Peach*! Her previous UWL credits include *Severe Clear*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *She Loves Me*, and *A Christmas Carol*, and she was last seen as Dorothy in LCT's production of *The Wizard of Oz*. She wants to thank her family, friends, and the UWL theatre faculty for their support and belief in her from the beginning. Au revoir!

Elin Voegeli (Puppet Designer)--Elin is a 2nd year student majoring in Theater Design and Technology. Their theatre credits include *Fuddy Meers* (Costume Designer), *Dragons Love Tacos* (Assistant Costume Designer), *A Christmas Carol* (Run Crew Head), and 40 other productions over the past 10 years.

Production Team

Asst. Stage Manger.....Katie Krueger,
Morgan Millard
Dance Captain.....Alyssa Meissner
Asst. Musical Director.....Josh Kaiser
Scenic Artists.....Stella Hayward,
Hailey Kluck, Magdalena Stauffer
Light/Sound Supervisor.....Christopher Kurtz
Scene Shop Supervisor.....Nate Mohlman
Costume Shop
Supervisor.....Michelle Collyar
Production Manager.....Laurie Kinckman
Light Board Op.....Coleman Breedlove
Master Electrician.....Christopher Kurtz
Costume Shop Staff.....Ella Dummer,
Julia Maynard, Elin Voegeli
Costume Shop Crew.....Mallory Arrowood,
Alyssa Cvikots, Lainey Horn, Lydia Pratt,
Felicia Ritzke, Hailey Schock, Kayla Sheehan,
Abbey Vick, Katie Waukau, Kara Wolfs
Costume Run Crew.....Natalie Giddings,
Morgan Kern, Madeline Krieger,
Makenna Trumm, Elin Voegeli
Light Shop Staff.....Brodyn Byington,
Leo Chavolla, Amber Meyers
Light Crew.....Nathaniel Gibbs,
Gwen Hinz, Kendall Hopkins,
Easton Jones, Cole Linder,
Erik Mikkelson, Ryan Raymond,
Sadie Steines, Mya Van Iperen
Sound Shop Staff.....Leo Chavolla
Run Crew.....Liana Daniels,
Isaac Gonzales, Julia Hartig, Joshua Wines
Publicity.....Emma Buschmann,
Abbey Mutch, Camille Stanczak

Cast Photos/Poster Design.....Joe Anderson
Lobby Display.....Val Fish, Dawn Havican
House Manager.....Will Nysse
Front of House.....Sierra Arneman,
Kiersten Bakalars, Paige Draak,
Ryllei Rederly, Alex Hamel,
Anne Hayward, Jack Kern,
Chance Lange, Avery Nigbor,
Morgan Wiercinski
Scene Paint Staff.....Natalie Giddings,
Sage Goetsch, Amber Meyers,
Jess Miller, Julia Milne
Scene Shop Staff.....Brodyn Byington,
August Jennings, Sam Kallis,
Hailey Kluck, Brevin Kruse,
River Podjasek, Sean Rufenacht
Scene Shop Crew.....Rachel Addis,
Derek Adler, Cole Andren, Logan Behnken,
Jacob Biewer, Ava Bilotti, Naya Blanz,
Katie Christensen, Caleb Conniff,
Zach Donkers, Raj Flannery,
Amanda Fogelberg, Aailyah Fox,
Isabelle Halverson, Parker Heintz,
Brookelyn Hohl, Julia Holst,
Danielle Hurley, Aaron Jones,
Jenna Krause, Nathaniel Krull,
Drew Lavold, Devon McCune,
Colin Mies, Brandon Mudler,
Sanya Mujkanovic, Emerson Orth,
Ellie Paulson, Caroline Peplinski,
Caden Prentice, Aidan Putnam,
Evelyn Scheffen, Nina Schmidt,
Colin Schuster, Abbie Stangl,
Coen Thompson, Adam Trautsch,
Travis Underwood, Henry Watson,
Maddie Weber, Joseph Wieh



Started in 1969 by Roger L. Stevens, the Kennedy Center's founding chairman, the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) is a national theater program involving 18,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide which has served as a catalyst in improving the quality of college theater in the United States. The KCACTF has grown into a network of more than 600 academic institutions throughout the country, where theater departments and student artists showcase their work and receive outside assessment by KCACTF respondents.

The goals of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival are: to encourage, recognize, and celebrate the finest and most diverse work produced in university and college theater programs; to provide opportunities for participants to develop their theater skills and insight; and achieve professionalism; to improve the quality of college and university theater in America; to encourage colleges and universities to give distinguished productions of new plays, especially those written by students; the classics, revitalized or newly conceived; and experimental works.

Through state, regional, and national festivals, KCACTF participants celebrate the creative process, see one another's work, and share experiences and insights within the community of theater artists. The KCACTF honors excellence of overall production and offers student artists individual recognition through awards and scholarships in playwriting, acting, criticism, directing, and design.

The KCACTF is a year-round program in eight geographic regions in the United States. Regional activities are coordinated through eight KCACTF regional chairs and eight KCACTF playwriting awards chairs. With funding and administrative support from the Kennedy Center, the regional chair coordinates with the Co-Managers of KCACTF all aspects of the adjudication of productions on the local and regional level and supervises regional-level KCACTF award competitions. The playwriting chair works with schools that have entered new and student-written plays by providing expertise in the development of new scripts--assessment specifically designed for a developing play--and by providing information on the numerous playwriting awards offered.

In January and February of each year, regional festivals showcase the finest of each region's entered productions and offer a variety of activities, including workshops, symposia, and regional-level award programs. Regional festival productions are judged by a panel of three judges selected by the Kennedy Center and the KCACTF national committee. These judges in consultation with the Artistic Director select four to six of the best and most diverse regional festival productions to be showcased in the spring at the annual noncompetitive national festival at the Kennedy Center, all expenses paid.

Since its inception, KCACTF has given more than 400,000 college theater students the opportunity to have their work critiqued, improve their dramatic skills and receive national recognition for excellence. More than 16 million theatergoers have attended approximately 10,000 festival productions nationwide.

Upcoming Visual & Performing Arts Events

UWL All Student Juried Art Exhibition

March 22 - April 12, 2024

Art Gallery, Lowe Center for the Arts

Senior Art Student Exhibition

April 19 - May 12, 2024

Art Gallery, Lowe Center for the Arts

UWL Music Honors Recital

April 7, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Annett Recital Hall, Lowe Center for the Arts

UWL Jazz Concert

April 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Toland Theatre, Lowe Center for the Arts

Chamber Music Concert

April 21 at 4:00 p.m.

Annett Recital Hall, Lowe Center for the Arts

Orlando

April 25-27 at 7:30 p.m.

April 27-28 at 2:00 p.m.

Frederick Theatre, Morris Hall

An Evening of Improv

May 3 at 5:30 p.m.

Frederick Theatre, Morris Hall