

**2021
22**
S E A S O N

14 YEARS OF THEATRE

P L A Y B I L L 2021-2022 ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



THE ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS A PROGRAM OF EXCEL TECC

The Academy for the Performing Arts is a college preparatory program of Excel TECC, serving the 10 school districts in the Mayfield Consortium. Excel TECC offers college preparatory programs within the high school curriculum that keep constant pace with business and industry. The program prepares students for professional employment or continued higher education.

ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS MISSION

To provide talented high school juniors and seniors with a joyful, challenging and inspiring training experience in the theatre; an educational and performance experience that builds confidence, courage and mastery in creative self-expression preparing students for high-level college and professional opportunities.

The training students encounter at the Academy will challenge them to know themselves as creative and imaginative individuals. The discoveries and procedures essential to creativity on the stage, are equally vital to all human beings in their daily lives. The courage to create, the confidence to stand calmly before others in stressful situations, the facility to be expressive, the sense of play that makes one young at heart, the wisdom to see the big picture, the rare and essential skill to communicate clearly, the sensitivity to find meaning in relationships and the

business of life - these are all real-world benefits of the training at the Academy. At the Academy, we believe creativity in itself is an end. Because by mastering it, the student develops an expansiveness of self and a thriving confidence that can affect and change the world.

2021-2022 marks the fourteenth year of the program. During this season each student will study a wide range of performing arts courses for a half day (morning and afternoon) at the Chagrin Fall High School Performing Arts Center.

ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS GOALS

To Provide a comprehensive pre-professional course of study in all aspects of theatre, from literature, technique and history to actual performance.

To create challenging performance opportunities for students to demonstrate acquired skills in the new Performing Arts Center and drama wing. The Academy mounts 8 theatrical plays each year including plays from many styles of the world theatre - from classical, restoration, modern European theatre, American theatre and Musical Theatre.

To provide professional, visionary leadership by prominent performing arts educators and professionals who have strong ties to the regional theatre, university system and other professional performing arts venues.

To employ professional artists/teachers and outstanding, highly credentialed faculty.

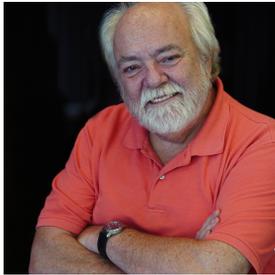
To prepare students for post-secondary education in the performing arts and related subjects; assisting with audition, contact, interview support and professional guidance in selecting educational and career opportunities.

MAKE IT BELIEVEABLE COURSE LIST

The Actor has three primary concerns; Mind, Will and Sense. If all three are properly engaged, we will develop imaginary circumstances that have been built solely from the imagination. Even in the joyous, larger-than-life Musical or the grand soulful world of Shakespeare or the naturalistic milieu of Chekhov.

We begin with sense; teaching the body to respond to imaginary circumstances that have been build solely from the imagination.

Sensory Experiencing (First Semester I)
 Action (First Semester II)
 Action II (Second Semester & II)
 Characterization (Third Semester I)
 Technique (Third Semester II)
 Voice for the Stage (Integrated into all Semesters)
 Movement for the Stage (Integrated into all Semesters)
 Audition Technique
 Production Practicum
 Acting: Shakespeare I
 Acting: Shakespeare II
 Acting Chekhov
 Acting: Period Styles
 Acting: Musical Theatre I
 Acting: Musical Theatre II
 Acting: For the Camera
 Directing: For the Stage
 Stage Combat
 Dance for the Theatre
 Technical Theatre Workshops
 Production Management
 Designing Lighting for the Stage
 Designing Sets for the Stage



THOMAS Q. FULTON, JR
ACADEMY DIRECTOR, TEACHER

Master of Education - Kent State University
BFA - Southern Methodist University
Certified Career Technical Educator - State of Ohio
Interlochen Arts Academy - Professional Acting
Member - AEA

Tom Fulton is an award-winning professional actor, director and theater instructor. He founded the Academy in conjunction with Excel TECC and Chagrin Falls High School 15 years ago and developed its training for young artists.

Tom has served as Artistic Director for a number of theatres over the past 40 years, including: **Center Repertory Theatre**, Playhouse Square; **The Phoenix Theatre Ensemble**; **Cain Park Summer Theatre**; **The Cleveland Theatre Company - Downtown Cleveland**.

Before moving to Chagrin to direct the Academy, Tom served as Executive Director for Fairmount Theatre for the Arts for 7 years.

Tom has been a proud member of Actors' Equity Association since 1972. He acted for five years as an actor and director for The Cleveland Play House and has worked in regional theater across the country, including The Stratford Shakespeare Festival, Blossom Music Center, Shakespeare And Company (Lennox Massachusetts) and just recently as a Concert Narrator for the American Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

A professional actor since 1976, some of his favorite roles include King Lear in *King Lear*, Dr. ASTROV in Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, Captain Shotover in Shaw's *Heartbreak House*, George in *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?*, Tartuffe in Moliere's *Tartuffe*, Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, Dr. Gibbs in *Our Town*, and Ken Harrison in *Who's Life Is It Anyway?* Some of his famous musical roles include: Don Quixote in *Man Of La Mancha*, Tevye in *Fiddler On The Roof*, Emile de Becque in *South Pacific*, Sir in *Roar Of The Greasepaint*.

Tom sees himself primarily as a director, having directed well over one hundred plays, garnering numerous awards. *The Three Sisters*, *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, *Vanities*, *Hamlet*, *Anna Christie*, *Twelfth Night*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *Cyrano De Bergerac*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Seagull*, *Man Of La Mancha*, *Camelot*, are just a few professional productions that still knock fondly at the door of his memory.



DAN HENDROCK
ACADEMY DIRECTOR, TEACHER

Master of Fine Arts - Case Western Reserve University
Master of Education (Candidate) - Kent State University
BFA - Kent State University
BA - Case Western Reserve University
Certified Career Technical Educator (Candidate) - State of Ohio
Member - AEA

Dan Hendrock is a professional actor, director, and teaching artist. He has been professionally directing and acting in Cleveland, NYC, and Chicago for the past fifteen years.

Dan has his MFA in Acting from the Cleveland Play House/Case Western Reserve University graduate acting program, his BFA in Musical Theatre from Kent State University, and is a proud member of AEA.

In the summer, Dan is Head of Acting at Hathaway Brown Theatre Institute and is 'chomping at the bit' to bring his love of theatre and teaching to The Academy for the Performing Arts.

Dan takes on some heavy lifting at the Academy; serving as Resident Director of Productions and An instructor in Acting, Speech, Movement, History, Acting for the Camera and Dialects - along with whatever other hats he can throw into the ring!

Dan also holds his teaching certificate in the Michael Chekhov Technique from the Great Lakes Michael Chekhov Consortium. His performing credits include many television, film, and commercial appearances, regional theatres, national tours, and Off-Broadway.

Dan has found his passion in sharing his expertise about the craft with the next generation of performers.



FACULTY



BEN NEEDHAM THEATRE MANGER

MFA - University of Georgia, Scenic Design
BA - Case Western Reserve University
Owner - Digital Squirrel Studios
Co-Owner - Roaring Third Productions

Ben supervises the Academy's Technical Theatre Track and teaches courses in Technical Theater, Lighting Design, Set Design, Puppetry and CAD Design.

Ben holds an MFA from the University of Georgia in Scenic Design and Computer Animation for Performing Arts; He has a BA from Case Western Reserve University in Theatre Arts . He has served as Adjunct Professor for the University of Georgia, Lakeland Community College, Lake Erie College, and Kent State University.

As the Owner and Principal Designer of Digital Squirrel Studio (www.digitalsquirrel.net), Ben has designed over 750 theatre productions for theatres across the country. In addition to his theatre work Ben has been a set designer on several Film and TV series including, Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln*, *Kill the Irishman*, *Killing Lincoln*, *Killing Kennedy* and the 1st and 2nd seasons of AMC's *Turn - Washington's Spies*. Ben recently was the set designer on the feature film *Ithaca*, directed by Meg Ryan, ABC's *The Kingmakers* fall pilot and the new PBS drama *Mercy Street*. Currently he is a set designer on the new CW series *Valor*.

Eurydice Set Design



THE ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS **PLAYBILL**

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DERDRIU RING DIRECTOR, INSTRUCTOR

MFA - The Gaiety School of Acting
BA - The University College Cor

Derdriu began her career at The Abbey Theatre, Dublin and her first equity role in Cleveland was as Lucy in *Dracula* at The Cleveland Playhouse. A proud and active member of both Actors Equity and Screen Actors Guild for 22 years, her roles are too many to fully list but some memorable ones include; Slippy Helen in *The Cripple Of Inishmaan* (Geffen Playhouse, Los Angeles), Catherine in *A Long Day's Journey Into Night* with Ellen Burstyn (Hartford Stage), Catherine in *Proof*, Toinette in *The Imaginary Invalid*, (The Cleveland Playhouse), Josie in *Moon For The Misbegotten*, Phebe in *As You Like It* (both at Great Lakes Theater Festival), Ellen in *There Is A Happiness That Morning Is* (CPT- superior achievement by an Actress -The Cleveland Critics Award), Barbara in *Major Barbara*, Maggie in *Hobson's Choice* (all at Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre) - Awarded Best Actress of the year by Pittsburgh Post Gazette. Pegeen in *The Playboy Of The Western*, (The Irish Rep, NYC. Rosie Redmond in *The Plough & The Stars* (The Guthrie Theatre), Nora Reilly in *John Bull's Other Island* (Geva Theatre), Vivie in *Mrs. Warren'S Profession* (Austin State Theatre), Alexa in *Stranded On Earth*

(Theatre Ninjas/Mamai Theatre Co.- Awarded Best Actress 2014 by The Cleveland Critics Circle Awards and #1 Most Memorable Moment in Theatre), Ellen in *Over The Pub & Ousier* Boudreaux in *Steel Magnolias* (The New London Barn, New Hampshire). Maureen in *The Beauty Queen Of Leenane* at None Too Fragile and Emma in *Annapurna* (Best Actress nomination and award from broadwayworld.com) and Martha in *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf* at The Beck Center (The #1 Most Memorable Moment in Theatre, Critics Choice, 2018.)

She has participated in master acting classes with Stephen Berkoff, Brian Cox, Brian Dennehy, Anne Bogart, Stephen Rea and Deborah Warner. Derdriu has also performed as an Orchestral Narrator with The Suburban Symphony.

Television: *Law and Order, C.I., Hope & Faith*. Film: *The Yank, Fortune*.

For the past 12 years, Derdriu has been a performer/teaching artist with Playhouse Square's International Children's Festival/ Disney Program, at Cleveland's Metro Hospital and with Kulture Kids. She has been an Artist in Residence with Cleveland School of The Arts, Hathaway Brown and Hawken. Derdriu is deeply grateful to facilitate these incredibly talented, smart students at The Academy and very grateful to call Chagrin Falls her hometown.



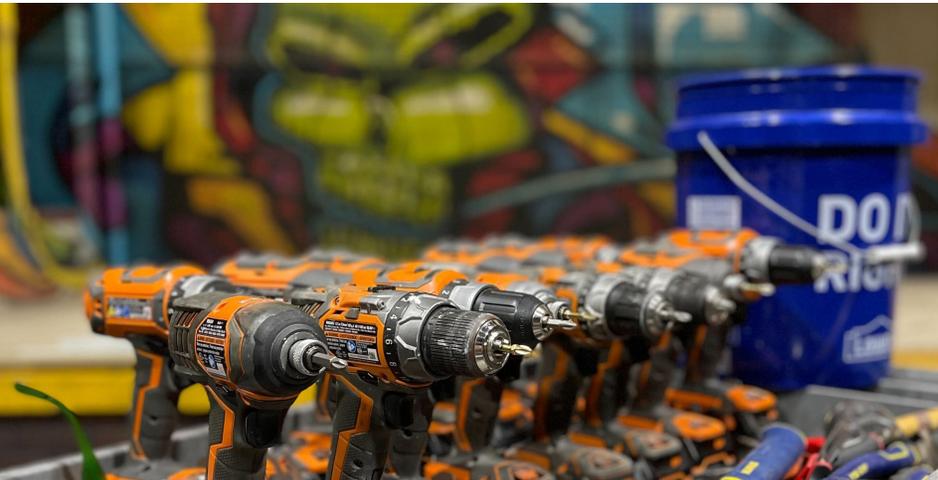
YESENIA REAL

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR,
PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER, TEACHER

Master of Education (Candidate) - Kent State University
BA - Case Western Reserve University
Certified Career Technical Educator (Candidate) - State of Ohio

Yesenia Real graduated from Case Western Reserve University in 2013 majoring in Theater and Psychology. She specializes in Prop Design and Stage Management. Her love of theater started at the age of 15 and has been involved in over thirty productions since then and has worked with professional theaters such as Dobama, Cleveland Public Theater, and the MFA program with CWRU/CPH. Yesenia has Stage Managed notable productions such as: *Eurydice* (Academy), *Christmas Carol-A Radio Play* (Academy), *Electra/Orestes* (CPH/CWRU), *Marilyn Bianchi's Kids Fest* (Dobama), *Entry Point* (CPT), and *Test Flight* (CPT). She has also been the Prop Master for unforgettable productions such as: *Appropriate* (Dobama), *Hand To God* (Dobama), and *An Octoroon* (Dobama).

At the Academy, she teaches Theater Safety, Theater Etiquette, Stage Management, Prop design, Puppetry, Industry Skills, and College BA. Her students inspire her every day to be the best instructor she can be. Yesenia is ecstatic that she gets to share her passion and be part of their journey to find their own paths in the wonderful and rewarding world of theater.



MARCIA SNAVELY

MUSIC DIRECTOR

MA - Case Western Reserve University,
Classical Organ
BS - Case Western Reserve University,
Chemistry

Marcia is the immediate past Dean for the American Guild of Organist, Cleveland chapter. Her musical skills are legend, as she coaches and serves as musical director and accompanist for musical venues Classical, light jazz, opera and Musical Theatres throughout northeast Ohio.

She started studying piano at the age of 5 and accompanying and performing at the age of 6. A business woman who runs her own consulting firm, she has also completed two CDs that include modern piano interpretations of folk songs, hymns, and Christmas music. She is currently the organist at The Federated Church in Chagrin Falls and serves as Music Director at Actor's Summit Theater and the Academy for the Performing Arts.

She has always had a multi-faceted career. Astonishingly, Marcia is not only a master musician, she also holds a degree in chemistry studies. In her early career, she worked as a research scientist specializing in analytical chemistry at BP. She has coauthored a book, and is further distinguished by being a patented inventor!



APRIL ROCK

COSTUME DESIGNER, INSTRUCTOR

MFA - Kent State University, Costume Design

April Rock (Costume Designer) graduated with her Masters of Fine Arts Degree in Costume Design from Kent State University. April is the Resident Costume Designer/Shop Supervisor for both Lorain County Community College and the Oberlin Summer Theater Festival and she also works as a freelance designer throughout the greater Cleveland area. Recent design credits include *Anne of Green Gables*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Barefoot in the Park* (Oberlin Summer Theatre Festival), *The Wiz*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Near West Theatre).



Angelie Ball

Academy for Performing Arts

Angie's theatre career began when she enrolled in TAC (Theatre Arts Camp) at the Fine Arts Association in Willoughby. Some shows include Shrek the Musical, and Beauty and The Beast where she was part of the ensemble, and Eurydice where she played Eurydice. Angie's hobbies include drawing, singing, and writing. She would like to thank her mom for supporting her every hobby, and for being her best friend.



Bellicia Benitez

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Bella is originally from Los Angeles, California but moved to Ohio her freshman year of high school. Bella was heard as Ms. Fezziwig on the radio show, A Christmas Carol (2020). She was also cast in Beauty and the Beast as Babette but was never able to perform due to the Covid shutdown. Bella absolutely enjoys hanging out with friends, painting, and so much more. She would like to thank her family and friends for supporting anything she does.



Daniel Blum

Grade 12 • Mayfield High School

Daniel is a two-time Cleveland Play House Square Dazzle award nominee for best actor and a top 10 finalist in Shining Star Cle 2020 and 2021. Daniel was last seen as Officer Lock Stock in Urinetown at Stage Door Manor. Other favorite roles include Princeton in Avenue Q, Billy Flynn in Chicago, and Donkey in Shrek, all performed at Mayfield High School. Additional local credits include Roger in a New Brain at Hathaway Brown Theater Institute and Chad in High School Musical at Mercury Theatre Company.



Brandon Bryson

Grade 11 • Richmond Heights Upper School

Brandon is currently a Crew Member for Eurydice, is mentoring Richmond Heights Elementary Schoolers, taking Leadership and Service at Richmond Heights, and is in Richmond's Environmental Club. He is also working on a food drive for the homeless with his home school! Brandon has also been a 9th Grade Representative at an after-school program, he got 4th Place in a Lego Leagues Robotic Competition, and has taught Computer Science at a Community College! He is very thankful to his friends and family for supporting and helping him throughout the Pandemic.



Brett Bryson

Academy for the Performing Arts

Brett has done a couple of shows for his local youth theater, including Charlie Brown in You're a Good Man Charlie Brown and Cornelius Hackel in Hello Dolly! He has executed many other ensemble roles as well. He enjoys getting out of the house and making new friends, along with hanging out with old ones; and also enjoys secretly letting his dog sleep on his bed with him (don't tell his mom). He would like to thank his teachers for their vital education and his dog for companionship.



Taylor Burton

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Taylor is originally from Willoughby, Ohio. She loves to act. Recently, she has been in a radio play "A Christmas Carol" playing Mattie Cratchit. In her free time, she likes to write stories and edit videos for her YouTube channel, and she also likes to hang out with her family. They are very supportive of her decision of becoming an actor so she wants to thank them for their support.



Sarah Carlile

Grade 12 • Mayfield High School

Sarah recently worked with the Academy on The Laramie Project as Reggie Fluty and other roles, as well as at Mayfield High School in Shrek! The Musical as a member of the run crew and sound technology team. Sarah also is a 6-time published creative writer who has been awarded and featured by KENT State, Cleveland Clinic, and many others. She wants to thank God & her faith for taking her as far as she has come, her whole family for always supporting her through good times and bad, and her Academy teachers (Tom, Dan, Ben, and Yesenia) for always believing in her- even when she didn't believe in herself.



Lily Compton

Grade 12 • Mayfield High School

Lily was cast in ensemble for Beauty and the Beast at her home school but was not able to perform due to covid. In her free time, you'll usually find her at the local hippie shops. Lily enjoys vintage films/film-making, writing novels, making music playlists, and going on spontaneous adventures. She wants to thank everyone in her circle, especially her friends in the Academy for inspiring her to follow her passions.



Rachel Cooper

Grade 12 • Orange High School

Rachel most recently was seen in The Academy's production of "The Laramie Project" as Kristin Price, April Silva, Jen, Stephen Mead Johnson. Other theater credits include Life of Galileo; Matilda; and Chicago. Albums: Best of the Liars; Time Train. She enjoys playing music and hanging out with her friends. She would like to thank the Academy team and her family for their endless support in all of her endeavors.



AJ Copus

Grade 11 • North High School

Hi my name is Aj and I am so stoked to be in this program for the wonderful learning experience and opportunities to come from it! I am a first-year student with the Academy. I have yet to work on a show and I am still very new to all of this but I'm very excited to extend my abilities and improve on the skills I have. I want to thank my grandma for always being my number 1 support and keeping me on track. I would also like to thank my instructors Tom, Yesenia, Ben, and Dan for being understanding so far and willing to help everyone learn the best we can.



William Creel

Academy for the Performing Arts

William is a self-taught voice actor with some singing experience. They thank you for the chance you have given them for this program. Will has experience in plays such as Hound of Baskerville and Wizard of Oz. They have voice training from their uncle and father who are professional singers.



Cameron Custer

Grade 11 • Aurora High School

Cameron's favorite productions have been Shrek as Mama Ogre, The Little Mermaid as Ariel, and she was cast to play Ali in Mamma Mia her Freshman year of high school but covid hit and shut everything down. Outside of the theater, Cameron spends time with her acapella group, Double Treble, and on the golf course as a member of The Aurora High School Girls Golf Team. She wants to thank her immediate family (Mom, Dad, Mia, and Zoe) and extended family for always supporting and believing in her! Cameron is excited to see what this new chapter in her life brings her!



Charlotte Daprano

Grade 12 • Willoughby South High School

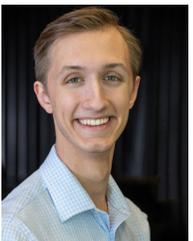
Charlotte recently worked with Andrews Osborne Academy Summer Festival as Lady in Box and Choir member in the production of Our Town, and she sang in the A New Hope Cabaret. She has also been a Who in Whoville Seussical The Musical. She enjoys singing and performing Christian Rock and Broadway songs. She was Tiny Tim in a radio play at Chagrin Falls Academy and sang and read lines and it was released at Christmas time. She is in Excel TECC and the classes such as Acting Boot camp or Movement. She hopes to sing and use her talent to help people feel better and more joyful.



Sabrina Fellingner

Grade 11 • Orange High School

Sabrina is a first-year student within the Performing Arts Excel TECC program at Chagrin Falls. She is currently working with the Academy on Eurydice as the assistant director, as well as at Orange High School in Puffs as the stage manager. Sabrina is also preparing to direct The Lightning Thief at Ballard Brady Middle School. She wants to thank her immediate family (Stacey, Lewis, Steven, Megan, Rob, Jackson, Dillon, Connor) and extended family for always supporting her through good times and bad, as well as her Academy teachers Tom, Dan, Ben, and Yesenia for helping her to achieve her dreams.



Eric Feucht

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Eric is originally from Chagrin Falls, Ohio. He was most recently seen as Orpheus in Eurydice and is very excited to get back to live performance. Other credits include Fagin in Oliver (2019), the White Rabbit in Alice In Wonderland (2018), and Captain Von Trapp in The Sound of Music. In his free time, Eric enjoys listening to music and spending time with his loved ones. He would like to thank his mother and father for always supporting him, and his Honda CRV for always being a reliable means of transportation.



Macy Fletcher

Grade 12 • Orange High School

Macy has been in the theatre since second grade and was most recently seen as Moises Kaufman, Zackie Salmon, and Dr. Cantway in The Laramie Project. Her favorite roles include Jan in Grease, Donkey in Shrek, and Asaka in Once on This Island. Outside of theatre, Macy enjoys playing field hockey, guitar, and piano, as well as spending time with her friends, family, and dog, Buddy ChaCha Capper-Dapper-Paws Sir Bantsovich Fletcher. She would like to thank her directors and parents for their love and support.



Hayley Gaebelein

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Hayley (maybe it's Gaebelein) was most recently seen as "Chloe" in Shadow of the Run's production of Dreamwalkers, other credits include Zubaida Ula/ Amanda Gronich/Email Writer in The Laramie Project (film), Fred's Wife in A Christmas Carol (radio play), Ilona in The Comedy of Terrible Errors (play), Silly Girl #2 in Beauty and the Beast (play), and Wicked Witch in Shrek the Musical (play), among others. She enjoys singing, going to the gym, and dancing. She would like to thank her mom, boyfriend, and dog, Maggie, for always being there for her.



Sophie Groys

Grade 11 • Orange High School

Sophie is in her first year at the Performing Arts Excel TECC program at Chagrin Falls. The most recent role she has worked on was George in Godspell with the teen Academy. Her favorite role she has played has been The Witch in Into the Woods. She has been participating in the Cabaret troupe from 2018 to 2020 and is currently a performer with the Orange High School Lionettes. She wants to thank her family and friends for always supporting her as well as her Academy teachers Tom, Dan, Ben, and Yesenia for always Showing me what a good role model looks like in theater and outside.



Domonique Hankton

Charles F. Brush High School

Domonique has been working hard to take time to pursue their career in acting. Being in the Academy has been a big opportunity for them. They've performed in the Lightning Thief Musical as Gabe Ugliano and D.J. Cerberus. Domonique has also played a supporting role in Eurydice as "Little Stone", which has been filmed instead of performed live. Currently, they're attending Charles F Brush High School in South Euclid Ohio, and attend the Academy of Performing Arts in Chagrin Falls.



Jillian Harris

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Jillian is originally from Mayfield, Ohio. Jillian was most recently seen as Rebecca Hiliiker in The Academy for the Performing Arts production of The Laramie Project. Other credits include Avenue Q (2021), Shrek the Musical (2019), and Little Mermaid (2018). She enjoys playing the ukulele, drawing, and her dog Snowball. She would like to thank her Mom and Grandma for all of their support.



Grace Hoy

Grade 12 • Chagrin Falls High School

Grace most recently was seen as The Loud Stone in Eurydice at The Academy of the Performing Arts. Some of Grace's favorite roles include Kitty in Drowsy Chaperone, Mary Poppins in Mary Poppins, Sarah Brown in Guys and Dolls, Alison in First Date, and Catherine Conolly and Russel Henderson in The Laramie Project. She would like to thank her family for supporting her passion for the arts.



Gianna Jacobs

Grade 11 • Brush High School

They are gender fluid and very talented in many diverse activities. They have advanced training in two different languages and plan on becoming an international interpreter.



Maylon Johnson

Grade 11 • Richmond Heights High School

Maylon is a junior at Richmond Heights High School where she participated in the drama club. She is a first-year student at the Performing Arts Academy.



Alecia King

Grade 11 • Willoughby South High School

Alecia recently worked with the Academy on Eurydice, the current Academy play in production, by helping to build the set. She has also starred in plays at her middle school(s) and church in her hometown. Alecia is also an honor roll student, receiving many awards throughout her school years for being an exemplary student. She wants to thank her immediate and extended family for always supporting her through good times and bad, as well as her Academy teachers Tom, Dan, Ben, and Yesenia for always believing in her—even when she didn't believe in herself.



Maryssa Kissinger

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Maryssa is originally from Willowick, Ohio. Maryssa was most recently seen as Marge Murray in The Academy for the Performing Arts production of The Laramie Project. Other theater credits include Pippin (2017), Beauty and the Beast (2018), and Shrek the Musical (2019). Maryssa enjoys reading, listening to music, and playing with her pets. She would like to thank her parents for always driving her to rehearsals.



Miriam Laughlin

Academy for the Performing Arts

Miriam was in Stone Soup The Musical when she was in third grade as the cabbage girl. She's hoping to act in some other shows and work with Yesenia, Ben, Dan, and Tom. She would like to thank her family for letting her apply and accepting her into the program. She also wishes to invite Poppy to her one of her shows if she gets a new role. She loves acting and performing. She has been doing dance lessons since she was three years old. Her favorite type of dance is ballet. She's really looking forward to learning about Theater Etiquette.



Zeiah Lawniczak

Grade 12 • Beachwood High School

Zeiah is a senior at the Academy and at Beachwood High School. Zeiah lives in Cleveland Heights. They were most recently seen as the Wicked Witch in The Wizard of Oz at Beachwood High School under the direction of Mark Chalice. Other credits include The Hound of the Baskervilles, Fiddler on the Roof, and Peter and the Starcatcher. They enjoy reading, cosplay, and going on hikes with their two dogs, Bleu and V.



Kennedy Lipscomb

Grade 11 • Mayfield High School

Kennedy is very excited to be a first year student within the Performing Arts Excel TECC program at Chagrin Falls. She has been in a church play and has sung in choir as well. Kennedy would also like to thank her immediate family 1# GOD, Mom, Dad, and Isaiah and extended family for always supporting her through good times and bad, as well as her Academy teachers Tom, Dan, Ben, and Yesenia for always believing in her—even when she didn't believe in herself.



Saniyah Manningham

Academy for the Performing Arts

Saniyah Manningham is a first-year student at the Academy for the Performing Arts. She is very excited to have met new people and grow as an artist while attending the Academy. She would like to show appreciation for her Mom, Brother, and her 2 sisters as well as her Grandmother who always teaches her the lessons she learned as a child. She also would like to thank the academy teachers Ben, Yesenia, Tom, and Dan for being so welcoming to her and the new students in this new school year.



Fiona Markey

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Fiona is from Chagrin Falls and is ecstatic for this year! Fiona was most recently seen as the Big Stone in Eurydice at the Academy for the Performing Arts. Some of her favorite roles include the Mormon Homeschool Teacher and Sherry Johnson in the Academy's production of The Laramie Project and the daughter in Anderson Heating Television Commercial. She was also heard in A Christmas Carol as Belle. She would like to thank her family, friends, and adorable dog for all their love and support.



Molly Markowitz

Grade 12 • Beachwood High School

Molly was most recently seen as "Bianca/Young Thalia/Ensemble" in the Hathaway Brown Theatre Institute production of *The Lightning Thief*. Some other notable roles played are "Fan" in *A Christmas Carol* and "Baptist Minister's Wife/Kerry Drake/Newsperson" in *The Laramie Project*. She enjoys singing, dancing, playing the piano and ukulele, figure skating, and spending time with the people she cares about. She would like to thank her family and friends for all of their love and support.



Angela Marvaldi

Grade 11 • Mayfield High School

Angela has been involved in performing arts and music since she was young. She has been involved with Music Alliance Honors Band, Mayfield High School band and theater, as well as the Alphabet Theater. She has shined in productions such as, "Hello Dolly", "Chicago" and "Get Bill Shakespeare off the Stage." On top of being a strong performer, Angela is happy to celebrate her 7th year as an Equestrian Athlete showing and training horses. She would like to thank her brother, friends, mentors, boyfriend, Academy teachers for sticking with her through stressful and joyful times and keeping her grounded.



Patrick McAllister

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Patrick is originally from Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Patrick was most recently seen as "Brian" from Mayfield High School's production of *Avenue Q*. Other theater credits include *Beauty and the Beast* (2020) and *Chicago* (2019). Patrick enjoys playing baseball, basketball, and also listening to music. He would like to thank his family for all of their love and support.



Diamond McClendon

Grade 11 • Richmond Heights High School

Diamond is a student-athlete who plays volleyball at Richmond Heights and bowls in a league outside of school. She is a hardworking individual who contributes to her school and community. As well as being a straight-A student, she likes to help donate and raise fundraisers for her student council and help volunteer when she can. Diamond hopes to find herself and work on herself with the help of the Academy. She loves to sing, perform, and write. She's caring, outgoing, and independent. Basically, a 10 of 10 Personality. She's excited to get better and grow with the help of Yesenia, Tom, Ben, and Dan!



Camay McCollum

Academy for the Performing Arts

Camay has recently worked on many Academy Projects over the course of the past year. She has plans on receiving a Global BFA for Film Art while attending the Paris College of Art in the future. She can be found at Mayfield Heights High School and the Academy for the Performing Arts. She would like to thank her parents for always supporting her through her many passions. She would also like to thank her teacher Ben Needham for introducing her to the interesting world of tech.



Liam Oettinger

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Liam is originally from Chagrin Falls, Ohio. Most recently his works include *The Child* in *Eurydice*, *Chiron* in *Percy Jackson*, and *The Lightning Thief* at The Hathaway Brown Theater Institute. His other works include *Matt* in *The Laramie Project*, *Feldzieg* in *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Louie Fan* in *The Butler Did It*. Liam enjoys listening to music, playing with the marching band as well as spending time with friends and family. He would like to thank his family for their continuous love and constant support.



Alex Olsen

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Alex is originally from Aurora, Ohio. Alex most recently played *Father* in the Academy's Production of *Eurydice*. Other Credits include: *Leaf Coneybear* in the Stagecrafters production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *The Baker* in the Aurora High School Production of *Into the Woods*, and *Judas* in the Stagecrafters production of *Godspell*. He enjoys playing guitar and is the lead singer and rhythm guitar player for his band, *Preferential Treatment*. He would like to thank his parents for always letting him follow his passions and experiment with new opportunities and his sister for inspiring him to enter the world of performance.



Sincere L.B. Pritchett

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Sincere is originally from Charles F. Brush High School. Sincere was most recently seen as "Doc O'Connor" in the *Laramie Project*. He is currently working on writing his audio drama, enjoys playing guitar, bingeing Netflix, composing, writing scripts, 3d modeling, and his three dogs *Paradise*, *Brooklyn*, and *Ghost*. If you want to hear any of his music follow him on Instagram: [sincerepritchett](#). He would also like to thank everyone in the Academy for all of their love and support.



Devonte Robinson

Grade 11 • Brush High School

Devonte is a first-year student at the Academy for the Performing Arts. Devonte has been into singing and performing since he was 6 years old. He has been practicing his singing and making music since he was 7 years old. He is currently practicing playing the guitar. Devonte signed up for the performing arts program to help him with his music and performing career. His dream is to help people by making music and performing.



Elena Rodenborn

Grade 11 • Orange High School

Elena has been acting and singing since before she can remember, and has loved theatre for just as long. Some of her favorite productions she has been in include "La Boheme" with the Cleveland Opera Theatre, and *The Cunning Little Vixen* with the Cleveland Orchestra. Elena is so excited to be a part of the Academy of Performing Arts and would like to thank her parents for being her chauffeur, her teachers for challenging her, and especially her fellow classmates for being by her side.



Doriece Sanders

Grade 11 • Richmond Heights High School

Doriece is so grateful for the opportunity to be in the Academy. She is a first time student at the Academy. She has always been interested in film and performing even though she's a little shy. Doriece has been in one school play in the third grade that she doesn't quite remember. She has also tried out for American Idol, but she didn't quite make the cut. Doriece auditioned to be in a local commercial and she has modeled before. She enjoys any part of performing! Doriece wants to thank the Academy for the opportunity.



Joi Scruggs

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Joi is originally from Mayfield Heights, Ohio. Joi was most recently seen in The Academy for the Performing Arts production of The Laramie Project. Other theater credits include Shrek (2018), and Beauty and the Beast (2019). Joi enjoys reading, hanging out with her friends, and being creative. She would like to thank her family for always supporting her.



Autmn See

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Autumn is from Cleveland, Ohio. Autumn has not yet been in any plays or musicals, but she is very ready to. In Autumn's free time she enjoys listening to music, reading inspirational books, and discovering new things. She would like to thank her parents for always encouraging her to do what she loves and to also thank her own self for having the courage to do so.



Shelby Segall

Academy for the Performing Arts

Shelby is originally from Highland Heights, Ohio. Shelby was most recently seen as "Aunt Edith" in The Fine Arts Association's production of Charlotte's Web. Other credits include Ensemble in The Crucible, Alice in Wonderland, and Cinderella. Shelby also has credit in lighting crew for various shows. They enjoy dancing, writing, and watching movies on Netflix. She would like to thank her family for always showing their support and offering help when needed.



Noella Senra

Grade 11 • Mayfield High School

Noella has been performing since fourth grade and most recently was cast in the role of Tiny in Mayfield High School's 2021 fall comedy, Urinetown, The Musical. Noella has been involved in music training and theater, show choir, cheerleading and competitive dance. She is very thankful to all her teachers for helping to develop her talents, overcome challenges, and continue to grow. She would especially like to thank her Mom, Dad, Henry, and her Grandparents for unending support and helping her up when she falls down and reminding her that she can do almost anything as long as she doesn't stop trying.



Emma Snyder-Lovera

Grade 12 • Orange High School

Mae was most recently seen as "The Oracle" in the Hathaway Brown Theatre Institute's production of The Lightning Thief. She would like to thank her parents, sister Didi, brother Jake, and dog Luna for all of their love and support.



Eryka Stafford

Academy for the Performing Arts

Eryka is involved in choir, including a performance choir in eighth grade called Vocal Dimensions. Eryka is hoping to be able to perform as Elvira in Blithe Spirit and is looking forward to the upcoming Junior Play Festival. Eryka hopes for a future in Broadway musicals, voice acting work, and/or working in TV acting and ensemble parts. She would like to thank her father for encouraging her, as well as Tom, Ben, Dan, and Yesenia for accepting her into the Academy.



Asia Thomas

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Asia is originally from Willoughby, Ohio. She has currently worked with South's Drama Club and Ghost Light Theatre. Her favorite show to work on was Annie Get Your Gun and is excited to work on Eurydice.



Vincent Vitale

Grade 12 • Willoughby South High School

Vincent is an Excel TECC student at Chagrin Falls Academy for the Performing Arts. Vincent's most recent acting role is Chief McClelland in Night of the Living Dead at Willoughby South High School; a production that had taken place this fall. Vincent enjoys being a part of the theater experience and appreciates every moment he can spend on stage. Vincent wishes to thank his middle school choir teacher for giving him his spark for theatre; and his family for their everlasting support.



Allison Wank

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Allison was last seen in Mayfield High School's production of Urinetown as Hope Cladwell. She's also been seen as Ensemble in Avenue Q, Beauty and the Beast, Chicago, and Shrek the Musical at Mayfield High School. Allison has volunteered and attended masterclasses with Playhouse square. She has also been in the Academy's film "Laramie Project". In her free time, she loves spending time with her dogs, seeing friends, and watching movies. She would like to thank her family for helping her pursue the arts and her friends for always supporting everything she does.



Owen Weir

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Owen's home district is West Geauga. Owen recently played the role of Jedediah Schultz in The Academy's film production of The Laramie Project. He has also partaken in many productions in years past, like "Nick Piazza" in "Fame," "Chip Tolentino" in "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," and "Seymour Krelborn" in "Little Shop of Horrors." In his free time, he enjoys looking at the animals at Pet Smart and making little crafts for his room.



Paige Weir

Grade 11 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Proud member of West Geauga choir and marching band, Paige's favorite roles have been the Evil Queen Grimhilde in Descendants with Curtain 440 and Hope Harcourt in Anything Goes with West G. She is also very involved in sound tech, film crew, and directing. Some favorite pastimes are taekwondo, costuming, and baking. She would like to thank her family (Mom, Dad, and Aidan) for always supporting her and coming to her shows dressed to the nines. She would also like to thank all of her extended family, friends, and instructors for all of their support. She wouldn't be where she is without you all today!



Joniya Wiggins

Grade 12 • Solon High School

Joniya took improv classes at Pro Model and Talent Management (PMTM) in 2016. She is also a part of Solon High School's drama club and was most recently seen in their Spring production of Freaky Friday. When she's not at school or work, Joniya spends most of her time hanging out with her friends from the Academy, watching Netflix, or singing around the house. She would like to thank her family and sophomore year English teacher, Mrs. Pace, for all of their love and support.



Kellen Williams

Grade 11 • Willoughby South High School

Kellen loves to model, dance, sing, act, and design fashion. He used to tap dance when he was younger and started writing music and singing at an early age. In 2021 his TikTok went viral and he gained 78k followers. He is working to release music with his producer/friend and directing and choreographing videos as well. Kellen takes creative inspiration from icons like Nicki Minaj and others. Kellen is always pushing the limits as to what the possibilities are for him. He is very grateful to his mother for single-handedly raising him and teaching him how to be the most hard-working and caring person he can be.



Carissa Winfrey

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

Carissa is originally from South Euclid, Ohio. Carissa has never acted on stage before but has been performing on the stage for orchestra playing the viola. In Carissa's spare time she likes to hang out with friends and also herself. Carissa loves binge-watching unsolved crime shows on Netflix. Carissa would like to thank The Academy for bringing her into her emotions more and always pushing her.



Maryam Yakout

Grade 12 • Academy for the Performing Arts

After High School, Maryam wants to have a career in History and/or Creative Writing. She has worked on her home school's 2019 show of Grease as a part of Tech and ensemble, as well as a part of the crew for Eurydice. When not performing, you can find her participating in her home school events or working on art in different locations around South Euclid. For Fun, Maryam enjoys playing the violin, writing poetry, doing art, cooking, and much more. She would like to thank her Tech teacher, Ben Needham, and Yesenia for helping her throughout the whole year.

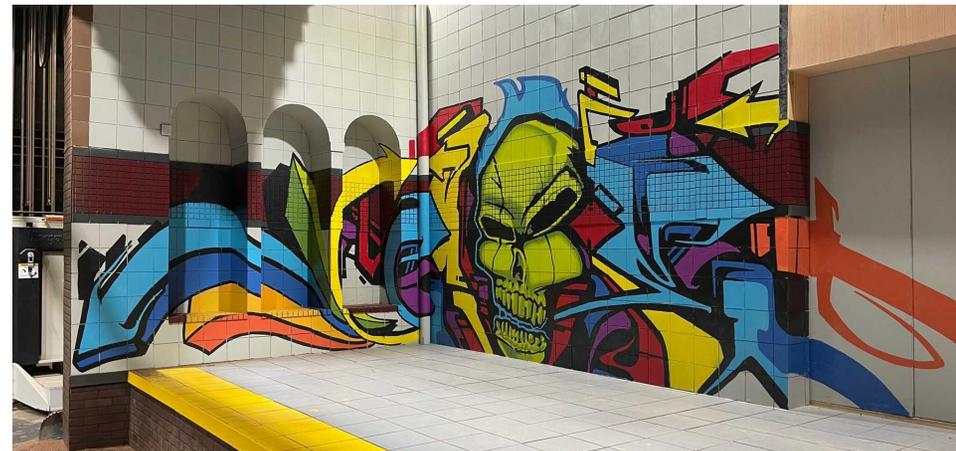


Rose Zabik

Grade 11 • Academy for the Performing Arts

The theater was the first thing Rose really connected to as a child, and she's loved it ever since. Most recently she played Annabeth in the Lightning Thief at Hathaway Brown Theater Institute. It was wonderful to be doing live theater again, and she hopes we can continue to share this joy. She is thrilled to be able to devote part of her day to something she cares about and is so grateful to be at the Academy.

Eurydice Set Design



THE ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

BLITHE SPIRIT

BY
NOEL COWARD

DIRECTED BY
TOM FULTON

DEC 10 & 11

7:30 PM

DEC 12

2:30 PM



CHAGRIN FALLS SCHOOLS
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
BLACK BOX THEATRE
400 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
CHAGRIN FALLS, OH 44022

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
WWW.CHAGRINACADEMY.ORG

BLITHE SPIRIT

An Improbable Farce in Three Acts

By Noël Coward

Directed by Tom Fulton

SETTING

The living room of the Condomine's house in Kent, England: 1941

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Edith	Hayley Gaebelein
Ruth Condomine	Macy Fletcher
Charles Condomine	Alex Olsen
Dr. Bradman	Brandon Bryson
Mrs. Bradman	Joniya Wiggins
Madame Arcati	Fiona Markey
Elvira Condomine	Grace Hoy

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Act I

Scene 1: Before dinner on a summer evening

Scene 2: After dinner

INTERMISSION 5 Minutes

Act II

Scene 1: The next morning

Scene 2: Late the following afternoon

Scene 3: Early evening: A few days later.

INTERMISSION 10 Minutes

Act III

Scene 1: After dinner, a few days later

Scene 2: Several hours later.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

"ALWAYS" by Irving Berlin. Used by special arrangement with Irving Berlin Music-Company; 1633 Broadway NY, NY.

UNDERSTUDIES

EdithMolly Markowitz
 Charles Condomine.....Dan Hendrock
 Ruth Condomine.....Paige Weir
 Dr Bradman.....Vincent Vitale

DESIGN and TECHNICAL CREW

Stage ManagerYesenia Real
 Scenic/Lighting Designer.....Ben Needham
 Costume/Hair and Makeup Designer.....April Rock
 PropertiesYesenia Real
 Sound Designer.....Owen Weir
 Assistant Stage Manager.....Asia Thomas
 Assistant Stage Manager.....Elena Rodenborn
 Deck Crew.....Alli Wank, Sabrina Fellingner, Eryka Stafford, Paige Weir
 Light Board Operator.....Sabrina Fellingner
 Sound Playback Operator.....Alli Wank
 Wardrobe Crew.....Paige Weir
 Hair & Makeup Crew.....Paige Weir

ABOUT BLITHE SPIRIT

Noel Coward subtitled *Blithe Spirit* “an improbable farce,” and it is, not only because it asks the audience to believe in the supernatural but also because its humor turns on the idea that the supernatural world has a pattern of manners much like ours.

Suspending disbelief comes easily to audiences of this play. The playgoer knows from the opening moments, when the Condomines and Bradmans are so sure that ghosts cannot appear, that almost certainly something will happen to prove them wrong. Madame Arcati is a trustworthy link between “here” and “the other side”; she is so much more down-to-earth, for all of her clairvoyance and bizarre dress, than the rather superficial and over-sophisticated Condomines. She rides a bicycle, likes to eat, openly shows enthusiasm, and speaks in Girl Scout clichés. If such a woman believes in ghosts, it would be very hard for a self-respecting audience not to play along. This belief is central to the play’s humor--the butts of the jokes often

About BLITHE SPIRIT (continued)

Elvira is not merely a believable ghost, she is a ghost who pouts, teases, whines, manipulates--in short, does exactly what she did when alive. Elvira has not mellowed at all in the afterlife, which she describes as an extended cocktail party where she played chess with Genghis Khan and watched Merlin do magic tricks. Her jealousy of Charles and Ruth drives her finally toward murder in order to win him back. Yet there is not much to be feared from death (even murder) in this play. After all, life on the other side seems to be just like life here, only gray.

Most of the humor in *Blithe Spirit* turns on the question, who knows the most? The audience and the Condomines begin on the same level, educated and worldly and convinced that all this spiritual business is nonsense. Then the level of awareness shifts, with the audience and Charles joining Madame Arcati in knowing that ghosts exist, and Ruth’s skepticism now makes her the foolish one.

Then there is another shift--Charles and Ruth know about Elvira and attempt to conceal their knowledge from the Bradmans. Toward the end, Charles, Ruth, Elvira, and the audience know even more than Madame Arcati about ghosts and their behavior. These changing levels of awareness keep the farce from falling flat after the first scene or two of miscommunication between the real world and the other side; nobody, especially the playgoer, can be quite sure of what he knows.

SOPHOMORES WHO WISH TO JOIN THE ACADEMY NEXT YEAR

Please visit

chagrinacademy.org

<click on “Admission”>

Auditions are January 12 - 19, 2022

**More Live Theatre
 Coming to the Academy
 This Season
 2021-2022**

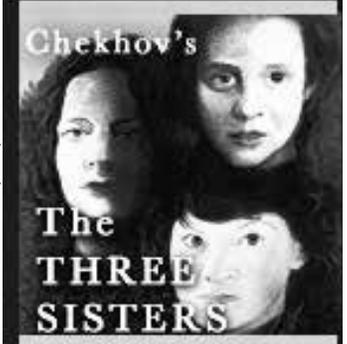
Dec 10, 11, 12



Dec 16, 17



Feb 25, 26, 27



March 15, 16



May 4, 5, 6, 7



SEASON SUMMARY 2021-2022

Eurydice by Sarah Ruhl | OCTOBER 29-31

Directed by Dan Hendrock

“Eurydice” reimagines the classic myth of Orpheus and Eurydice not through Orpheus’s infamous pilgrimage to retrieve his bride, but through the eyes of its heroine. Dying too young on her wedding day, Eurydice must journey to the underworld, where she reunites with her father and struggles to remember her lost love. With contemporary characters, plot twists, and a script written to be a playground for designers, the play is a fresh look at a timeless love story.

Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward | DECEMBER 10-12

Directed by Tom Fulton

To get background for a new book, author Charles Condomine and his second wife Ruth light-heartedly arrange for local mystic Madame Arcati to give a seance. The unfortunate result is that Charles’ first wife Elvira returns from beyond the grave to make his life something of a misery. Ruth too gets increasingly irritated with her supernatural rival, but Madame Arcati is at her wit’s end as to how to sort things out.

Senior Improv Show | DECEMBER 16-17

[Live in our Studio Theatre]

Directed by Ryan Santa

Every year, the Academy Seniors study improv two days a week throughout the first semester. At the end of the term in December, they share their new skills: Second City stylings in an audience participation environment. Great fun for all!

The Three Sisters by Anton Chekhov | February 25,25,27

Directed by Tom Fulton

Nowhere in modern drama is there greater majesty or fuller substance than in *The Three Sisters*. The play is so delicately organized, as to make the work one of the miracles of drama and certainly Chekhov’s masterpiece. No play has ever conveyed more subtly the transitory beauty and sadness of the passing moment. None has ever expressed more shatteringly the defeat of sensitive minds and generous hearts, the pathos of frustrated personal aspirations.

Junior Play Festival | MARCH 15, 16

[Live in our Studio Theatre featuring guest directors]

The Academy’s One Act Play Festival is rehearsed and performed by our first-year juniors. The plays are contemporary, diverse, inclusive, challenging, and entertaining. The plays chosen will be announced at the beginning of 2022.

RENT by Jonathan Larson | MAY 4-7

Directed by Dan Hendrock

In 1996, an original rock musical by a little-known composer opened on Broadway... and forever changed the landscape of American theatre. Two decades later, Jonathan Larson’s *RENT* continues to speak loudly and defiantly to audiences across generations and all over the world. And now, this Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award®-winning masterpiece comes to the Academy Stage for the final production of our 2021-2022 season. A re-imagining of Puccini’s *La Bohème*, *RENT* follows an unforgettable year in the lives of seven artists struggling to follow their dreams without selling out. With its inspiring message of joy and hope in the face of fear, this timeless celebration of friendship and creativity reminds us to measure our lives with the only thing that truly matters—love.

* Please Note All Dates Are Subject To Change.

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2021-2022 SEASON

OCTOBER 29-31

Eurydice

DECEMBER 10-12

Blithe Spirit

DECEMBER 16-17

Senior Improv Show

FEBRUARY 25, 26, 27

The Three Sisters

MARCH 15-16

Junior Play Festival

MAY 4-7

RENT, The Musical

PLAYBILL 2021-22 ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

