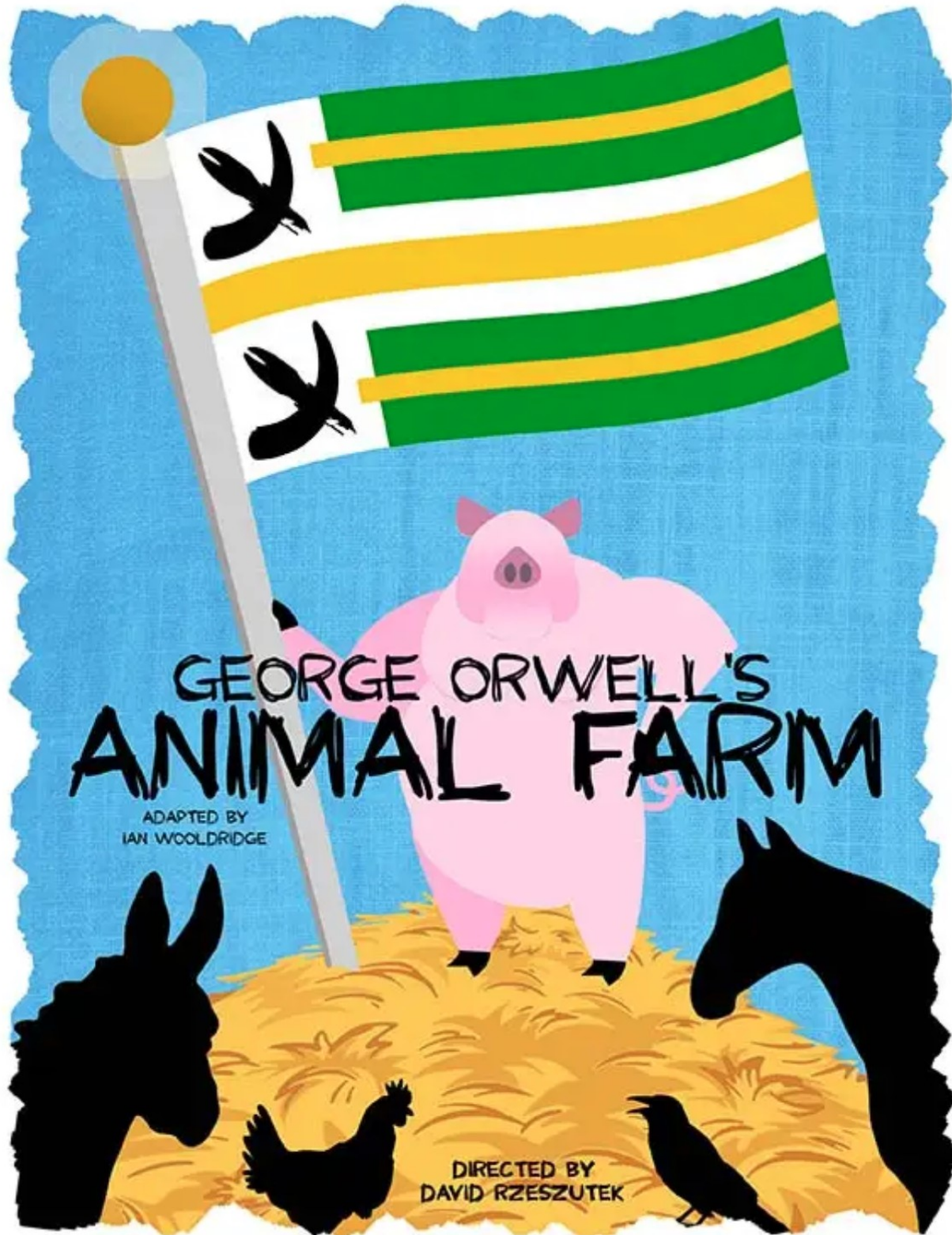


Virtual Show Program

Saginaw Valley State University Department of Theatre
Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts



Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

Saginaw Valley State University Department of Theatre

PRESENTS

George Orwell's **ANIMAL FARM**

Adapted by Ian Wooldridge

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

Stage Manager

Kylee Monahan*

Assistant Director

Austin Butterfield

House Manager

Alyssa Yankee*

Scenic Designer

Jerry Dennis

Sound Designer

Peggy Mead-Finizio

Lighting Designer

Lucas Inman*

Costume Designer

Dani Durst

Make-up and Hair

Designer

Becca Dubs

Prop Designer

Karley Goodman

Dramaturg

Adam Coggins

Fight Choreographer

Tommy Wedge

Mentor to Student

Designers and Crew

Peggy Mead-Finizio

Director

Dave Rzeszutek

Mentor to Theatre

Management

Tommy Wedge

*Denotes an SVSU Theatre Scholarship Student

Saginaw Valley State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution. It encourages diversity and inclusion and provides equal opportunity in education, employment, all of its programs and the use of its facilities. It is committed to protecting the constitutional and statutory civil rights of persons connected with the University. Saginaw Valley State University is committed to providing work and learning opportunities without regard to age, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, height, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, veteran status, weight, or on any other basis protected by state, federal, or other applicable law, and to achieving its objectives in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination.

The actors onstage are unmasked following the university's theatrical COVID protocol. Once they leave the stage, the actors and everyone not onstage are following the SVSU NEST guidelines that requires all individuals to be masked inside regardless of vaccination status.

Cast

Storyteller	Scout McCulloch*
Major	Glecia Tatum
Boxer	Jared Kaufman*
Young Animal	Lydia Bolzman
Squealer	Scott LaMont
Napoleon	Holly Houck*
Snowball	Lexie Shultz*
Benjamin	Briellé Myles-Williams
Clover	Katelynn Bell
Moses	Erica Close
Mollie	Holly Greif
Minimus	Kate Hudkins
Farmers Pilkington/Jones	Ethan Bach
Shadow Puppeteer	Dani Durst, Meg Campbell
Pigeon	Brett Greathouse
<u>Voiceover Credits</u>	
Pig Witness	Jared Kaufman, Scott LaMont, Katelynn Bell, Holly Greif, Wendy Gonzalez
Geese	Lydia Bolzman, Lexie Schultz, Ethan Bach
Sheep	Briellé Myles-Williams, Erica Close, Wendy Gonzalez
Rat	Holly Houck, Dani Durst, Wendy Gonzalez
Hen	Brett Greathouse



Production Team

Director
Assistant Director
Scenic Designer
Lighting Designer
Sound Designer
Prop Designer
Costume Designer
Make-up and Hair Designer
Fight Choreographer
Dramaturg
Stage Manager
House Manager/Publicity
Production Manager

Dave Rzeszutek
Austin Butterfield
Jerry Dennis
Lucas Inman*
Peggy Mead-Finizio
Karley Goodman
Dani Durst
Becca Dubs
Tommy Wedge
Adam Coggins
Kylee Monahan*
Alyssa Yankee*
Peggy Mead-Finizio

Production Staff

Scene Shop Supervisor
Scene Shop Assistant
Costume Shop Coordinators
Assistant Costume Designer
Assistant Sound Designer
Assistant Lighting Designer/Lead Electrician
Assistant Stage Manager
Fight Captain
Logo Designer
Dept. of Theatre Office Worker
Administrative Secretary
Mentor to Student Designers and Crew
Mentor to Student Theatre Management

Jerry Dennis
Artimis Teeple
Olivia Greanias*, Dani Durst
Olivia Greanias*
Jaden O'Berry*
Abbey Kuhns*
Zoe Gilbert
Erica Close
Josh Abram
Abbey Kuhns*
Kelly Helmreich
Peggy Mead-Finizio
Tommy Wedge

Production Crew

Electricians
Light Board Operator
Sound Board Operator
Prop Crew

Costume Crew
Make-up and Hair Crew
Stagehands
Fly Rail

Drea Brown*, Caroline Temple
Trinity Caldwell
Drea Brown*
Amanda Willhite, Madisyn Danner, Josie Keith,
Gabrielle Easterly, Lane Birchmeier
Sarah Doran, Thomas Street
Olivia Dearington
Autumn Wenglikowski, Meg Campbell
Kee Ferguson



———— A Note from the Director ————

Although written as a commentary during Orwell's times, *Animal Farm* is a timely observation of many contemporary themes today. Don't be fooled by the simplicity in this self-proclaimed fairy tale.

We are so happy to have you back in the audience for this live theatrical experience – we hope you enjoy the show!

THE SEVEN COMMANDMENTS OF ANIMALISM

- 1. Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy.*
- 2. Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend.*
- 3. No animal shall wear clothes.*
- 4. No animal shall sleep in a bed.*
- 5. No animal shall drink alcohol.*
- 6. No animal shall kill another animal.*
- 7. All animals are equal.*

There will be no intermission during the performance.



———— A Note from the Dramaturg ————

George Orwell's novella *Animal Farm*, written in 1945, is a satire of the rise of the Soviet Union under the guise of a fairy tale. Ian Wooldridge adapted this story to a play in 1985 as a touring show for younger audiences to identify and relate the characters to “modern” politicians. An example of this could be Old Major, usually depicted as Karl Marx but now possibly as Mikhail Gorbachev, a man born some 45 years after Marx's death.

History teaches us, however, that when the times are ripe for change, and the government refuses or is unable to change, either society starts to decay or a revolution begins.

— **Mikhail Gorbachev, *On My Country and the World*.**

But you may ask why this play? And why now? Wooldridge intended to show that these characters and their historical counterparts can be seen in modern-day, larger-than-life political icons with a “cult of personality” around them, hiding their true intentions and personalities behind carefully crafted propaganda.

What is a Cult of Personality? Karl Marx first discussed it in a political sense near the end of his life in this quote:

Neither of us cares a straw for popularity. Let me cite one proof of this: such was my aversion to the personality cult that at the time of the International, when plagued by numerous moves...to accord me public honor, I never allowed one of these to enter the domain of publicity, nor did I ever reply to them, save with the occasional snub?

This quote showcases Marx's aversion to these “personality cults,” as he calls them, and his pushback against allowing one to form around him, at least during his lifetime. The danger of cults of personality is in using populists and propaganda to influence a nation's people and, historically, to cover up atrocities in their name.

Orwell intended this as a warning against the rise of totalitarianism.

A prime example of this was Joseph Stalin, for whom Orwell based the satirical *Animal Farm*. Joseph Stalin had risen to the position of general secretary by 1922 and, after the death of Vladimir Lenin in 1924, began to accrue more political sway. Between 1933 - 1937 Stalin gained complete control over the government, becoming its de facto leader; with what is now known as the Great Purge, the NKVD, his secret police were ordered to arrest or kill anyone who spoke out against him.

While seeing this production, ask yourself if you see reflections of today in this play. Is it a timepiece depicting what was? Or is it a grim depiction of what could be?” As George Orwell forewarned:

The most effective way to destroy people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history.

Production Spotlights



Scout McCulloch

Storyteller: Scout is a first year Theatre and Elementary Education major. This is her second show at SVSU but her first time being on the Malcolm Field Stage. Scout would like to give a quick shout out to the amazing cast, crew, and directors who always encouraged her throughout the rehearsals and to her family for their endless support. Enjoy the show!



Glecia Tatum

Major: Glecia is a Theatre major, who creates theatre in her community and is making her first appearance on the Malcolm Field stage. She works to create performance opportunities for people of color and give voice to the underserved through the arts. Glecia will graduate May, 2022.



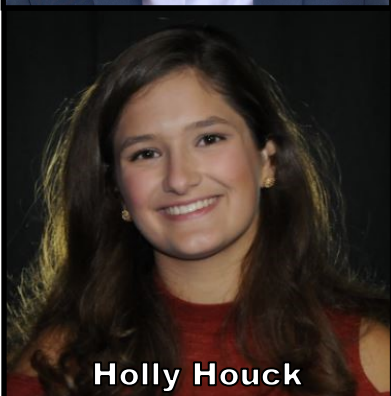
Jared Kaufman

Boxer (Pig Witness VO): Jared is a 4th year Communication and Theatre Education Major. He's made many appearances in SVSU productions and is grateful for all he has gotten to do in his time on this stage, yet he is excited to begin his career in the classroom! Enjoy the show!



Scott LaMont

Squealer (Pig Witness VO): Scott is a 2nd year student here at SVSU and couldn't be more excited to be back on the stage! Scott was last seen on the stage in SVSU's production of *Roustabout! The Great Circus Train Wreck*. Scott will be pursuing a career in Theatre Education. He also would like to thank the SVSU Theatre faculty as well as his Mom and Dad for their constant support.



Holly Houck

Napoleon: Holly is an SVSU senior majoring in Theatre and International Studies. After a hiatus of live performances, she is thrilled to be returning to the stage for the first time since her role as Neo #3 in *Roustabout*, Feb. 2020.





Lexie Schultz

Snowball: Lexie is a third year double major in Theatre and Music Performance. She was recently the stage manager for SVSU's *Lonely Planet* (FA21), but was last seen on the Malcolm stage as Joan in *Joan the Girl of Arc* (WI21). She would like to thank her family, her friends, and everyone involved for their support, love, and encouragement and she welcomes you to *Animal Farm*.



Lydia Bolzman

Young Animal (Geese VO): Lydia is an 18 year old girl who loves art, music, and cosplaying. She always gives 100% into her passions. From a very young age, she has performed on stage. She participated in every talent show from eighth grade and on, and was in choir since third grade. SVSU's *Animal Farm* is her first real theatre experience.



Briellé Myles-Williams

Benjamin (Sheep VO): Briellé is a senior, and she is excited that she gets to perform at SVSU for the first time in front of a live audience. Recently she has been in *Joan the Girl of Arc* as ensemble but has also been working in other areas of theatre. Some of her previous work at SVSU includes Assistant Stage Managing for *A Dolls House, No. 6*, and *Roustabout*.



Katelynn Bell

Clover (Pig Witness VO): Katelynn is excited to be performing in her first ever production. She is a Vocal Music Major and Theater Minor at SVSU, and has an Associate Degree in Arts from North Central Michigan College.



Erica Close

Moses (Sheep VO): Erica is a Theatre student at SVSU. She has been very involved here as well as in community theatre. Erica is thrilled to assume the role of fight captain and to play with puppets! Erica thanks her dad for teaching her everything she knows.





Holly Greif

Mollie (Pig witness VO) : Holly is a 4th year Theatre Major and is thrilled to be back onstage for the first time since the pandemic. She has been seen in 5 other shows at SVSU including *Emilie*, and most recently the audio drama of *Unraveling Magicians*. Holly would like to thank her family for their constant support of following her dreams.



Kate Hudkins

Minimus (Rat 1 VO) : This is Kate's first production here at SVSU. She is a Business Management Major with a minor in Musical Theatre. After her senior year show *Anything Goes* was cancelled due to Covid-19, Kate is ecstatic to get back into what she loves most. Kate wants to thank her family most of all for always believing in her and supporting her in everything she does.



Brett Greathouse

Pigeon (Hen 1 VO) : Brett is a third-Year Theatre and English Education Major. They are excited to be a part of *Animal Farm*. Brett was last seen onstage as Torvald Helmer in *A Doll House*. They are thankful for all of their friends in the Theatre department as well as their family.



Ethan Bach

Farmers Pilkington/Jones (Geese VO) : Ethan is a third year Comm/Theater Education major at SVSU. His last production at the University was in Steven Dietz's *Lonely Planet*. He would like to thank his friends and family for their never-ending support.



Dani Durst

Shadow Puppeteer (Rat 2 VO) : Dani is a fifth year double major in Theatre and Communication at SVSU. She would like to dedicate her performance to her family and her dogs, who have been there through thick and thin with her endeavors. After graduation, she plans to pursue theatre from both an acting and costume standpoint. Dani is honored that *Animal Farm* will be her last show at SVSU before graduation.





Wendy Gonzalez

Sheep VO, Pig Witness VO, Rat 3 VO : Wendy is in her 3rd year at SVSU as a Theatre major. Though she has done smaller shows in high school this is her big first production. She is hoping that this is a start into a world of theatre and participating in more shows.



Dave Rzeszutek

Director: Dave is the Chair/Professor of Theatre and has taught at SVSU since 2009. He is affiliated with the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival and the Michigan Educational Theatre Association. He studied Circus Techniques/Movement in Argentina, Commedia Dell'Arte in Italy, and earned his MFA from Ohio University. Dave helped establish the Saginaw U. S. Department of Arts and Culture Community Outpost in 2018.



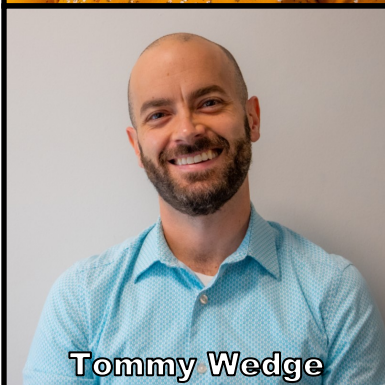
Austin Butterfield

Assistant Director: Austin is in his 4th year at Saginaw Valley State University. Majoring in Theatre/Communications Education, he is thankful for the opportunity to assistant direct this production and to take this experience forward to better serve future students.



Peggy Mead-Finizio

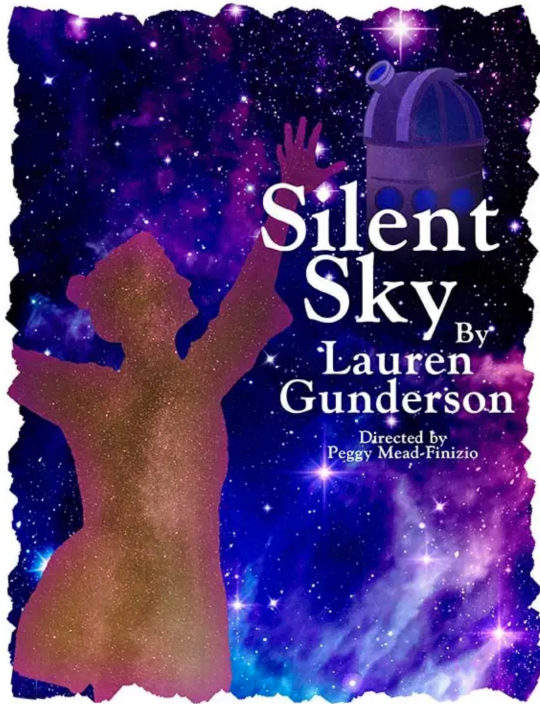
Production Manager/Sound Designer: Peggy is an active theatre designer, technical theatre instructor, choreographer, dance instructor and arts administrator. She holds MFA degrees in Theatre Arts and Choreography from the University of Iowa and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre at Saginaw Valley State University. She is a certified teacher Primary - Level 3 of the ABT® National Training Curriculum and has served as the Assistant Lighting Design to Designer Ted Sullivan for the Juilliard Spring Dance Concerts for the last several years.



Tommy Wedge

Fight Choreographer: Tommy is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at SVSU and has been active in teaching, directing, stage management, and stage combat. Tommy holds an MFA in Directing from The University of South Dakota and a BS in Theatre from South Dakota State University. Professional memberships include Stage Directors and Choreographers Society and The Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD) where Tommy holds the rank of Advanced Actor Combatant.

Upcoming Productions



The true story of 19th-century astronomer Henrietta Leavitt explores a woman's place in society during a time of immense scientific discoveries, when women's ideas were dismissed until men claimed credit for them. Social progress, like scientific progress, can be hard to see when one is trapped among earthly complications; Henrietta Leavitt and her female peers believe in both, and their dedication changed the way we understand both the heavens and Earth.

Audition Information:

Monday, December 6, 2021 @ 7:00pm

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 @ 7:00pm

Location: Dance Studio (Curtiss 181)

Performance Information:

Wednesday, February 23, 2022 @ 7:30pm

Thursday, February 24, 2022 @ 7:30pm

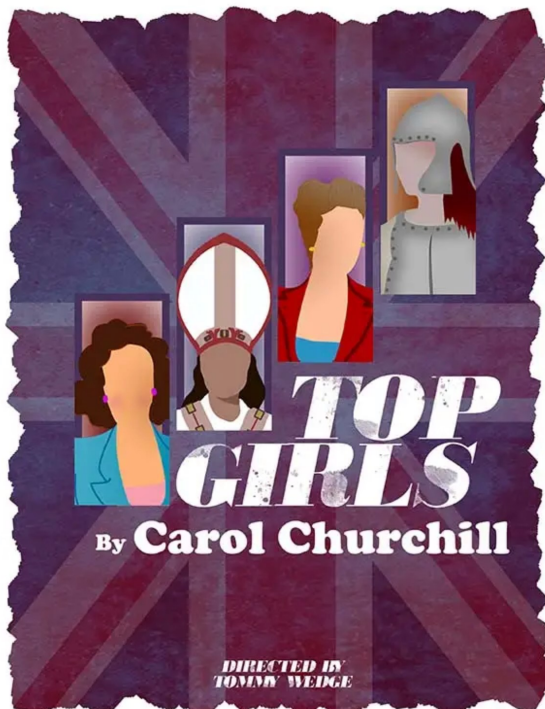
Friday, February 25, 2022 @ 7:30pm

Saturday, February 26, 2022 @ 7:30pm

Sunday, February 27, 2022 @ 3:00pm

Location: Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts

Tickets—\$15



Marlene has been promoted to managing director of the 'Top Girls' employment agency and is celebrating with some distinguished guests, women in legend or history who offer perspectives on maternity and ambition. In a time warp, these ladies are then transformed into her co-workers, clients, and relatives as we transition to London in the Thatcher years. Marlene, like her famous guests, has had to pay a price to ascend from proletarian roots to the executive suite. She's become, figuratively speaking, a male oppressor: This seminal play of the modern theatre poses complex questions about feminism, power, motherhood, agency, and the meaning of success.

Audition Information:

Monday, February 7, 2022

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Location: Dance Studio (Curtiss 181)

Performance Information:

Wednesday, April 6, 2022 @ 7:30pm

Thursday, April 7, 2022 @ 7:30pm

Friday, April 8, 2022 @ 7:30pm

Saturday, April 9, 2022 @ 7:30pm

Sunday, April 10, 2022 @ 3:00pm

Location: Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts

For updates on our upcoming season or information on how to get involved, check out our social media pages!

[Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) [SVSU's Theatre Page](#)

———— Acknowledgements ————

Full Time Faculty

Peggy Mead-Finizio, MFA

David Rzeszutek, MFA

Tommy Wedge, MFA

The Office of President Dr. Donald Bachand

The Office of Dr. Deborah Huntley,
Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

Adjunct Faculty

Dan Gerics, MA

Caleb Knutson, MA

Dakotah Myers, MA

The Office of Dr. Marc Peretz,
Dean College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences

The Office of University Communications

Departments of RPW & Theatre

Administrative Secretary Kelly J. Helmreich

The Conference Center at SVSU

Andy Sharrow, Kellie Lehner, and Julie Eddy

— Special Thanks —

Office of University Communications

Tim Inman, Director of Marketing Support

Michael Randolph, Marketing Specialist for Videography and Photography

Vectorworks - for the donation of software to support SVSU productions and classrooms

Campus Facilities - for technical support

Marlow Dunn - for the “Beasts of England” musical track

Adam Coggins - for overall support on the production

Lucas Inman - for sound support

Jacob Kaufman - for technical support





The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by
David M. Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.