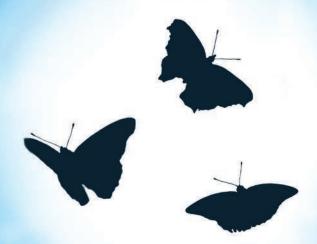
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## Much Ado About Nothing

Translation by John Crowther

Scenic Design
RILEY LATHROM

COSTUME DESIGN
ROBYN GILL

LIGHTING DESIGN
MICHEAL FOSTER

CHOREOGRAPHY
MATTHEW WALTER

WIG/MAKE-UP DESIGN
RACHEL ANTHONIS

Marketing Director
Mark Templeton

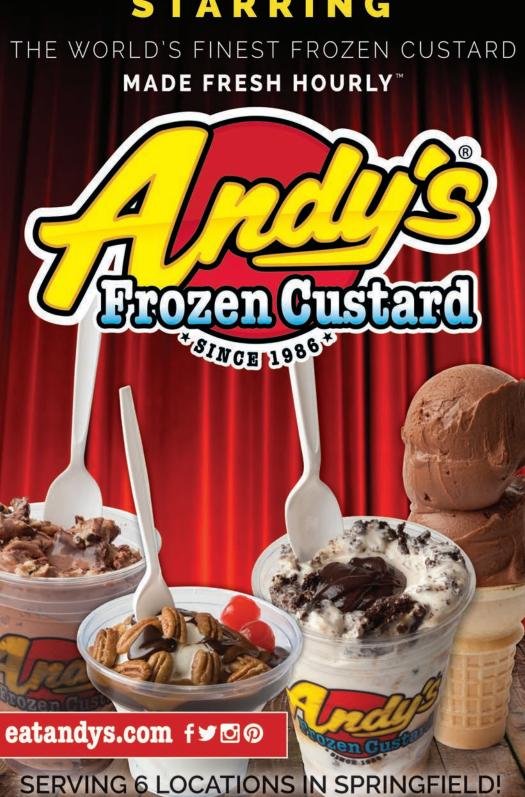
SOUND DESIGNER ED CARSON

Stage Manager Mallory Koenigseder

DIRECTED BY
KYLE A. THOMAS

Springfield, Missouri October 21–24 Coger Theatre

#### STARRING



#### **C**AST

Don Pedro	Noel Alvarado
Claudio	Cameron Mabie
Benedick	JACKSON SPENCER
Leonato	Chris Melton
Antonio	Elijah Nash
Hero	Morgan Dean Green
BEATRICE	Lauren Aiello
Margaret	Kayla Hill
Ursula	FIONA ROSS
Don John	DARBY VINCENT
BALTHAZAR	Hannah Oldham
Borachio	LIAM SMITH
Conrade	TARYN HUFFMAN
Dogberry	Scout Mayberry
VERGES & (u/s Beatrice)	KAT LYNCH
1st Watchman & (u/s Claudio)	Ryan Nolan
2ND WATCHMAN	MATTHEW WALTER
3rd Watchman	SARAH PENDERGRASS
Friar Francis	Ethan Woolever
Sexton	BRYANT PARKER
Messenger & (u/s Benedick)	Nathan Salter
GENTLEWOMAN & (u/s Hero)	Josie Ramsdell

*Location:* Messina, London, Missouri, Wherever *Time:* 1559, 1600, 2021, Whenever

There will be one ten-minute intermission.

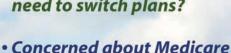
**Dramaturg Note**: Written at the end of the sixteenth century, **Much Ado About Nothing** has always been one of William Shakespeare's most-produced plays. It's not difficult to see why, with the iconic banter between Benedick and Beatrice and the excitement of idealistic love being intercepted by a dastardly villain. The title plays on the importance of "noting," gossip in today's words, and how the characters use supposedly overheard information to influence their friends and enemies. Four hundred years' worth of audiences have never had trouble understanding the power held by a rumor.

A usually unseen but no less central character in this play is society itself. The pressure exerted on these individuals by their society is as much, if not more, of a motivating factor than the titular "noting." This production aimed to visualize that pressure and the different ways society can force its members to conform to emphasize that these characters make decisions not entirely of their own volition. As you enjoy this performance, try to keep this in mind and ask yourself why you are forming the opinions you do about the characters and events. You might find that our ensemble's influence is working upon you too.

Cassidy Hayden - Production Dramaturg

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#### Who's Who in the Company

Lauren Aiello (Beatrice) St. Louis, MO. Lauren is a senior in the BFA Acting Program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Rosemary Sydney in Picnic, and Mavis Johnson in The Rimers of Eldritch. Outside credits include Ashley Frantangelo in The Secretaries at Spectre Theatre Company. Lauren is a recipient of the Kathleen Turner Scholarship and the Bright Flight Scholarship.

Noel Alvarado (Don Pedro) Richardson, TX. Noel is a junior in the BFA Musical Theatre Program. His previous Missouri State University credits include Utkarsh in Working, and Fakir in The Secret Garden. Outside credits include Dancer for Head Over Heels at Spectre Theatre Company.

Morgan Dean Green (Hero) Cape Girardeau, MO. Morgan is a sophomore in the BFA Acting program with a double major in English. Her previous credits include Lucy in A Charlie Brown Christmas, Tanya in Mamma Mia!, and Elvira in Blithe Spirit, all at Cape Central High. Morgan is a recipient of the Board of Governors Scholarship.

Kayla Hill (Margaret) Kansas City, MO. Kayla is a senior in the BFA Acting program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Boreas in Argonautika, and Collegue in Parliament Square. Outside credits include Kelly in Nightmare Arcade at HNB Productions, Calpurnia in To Kill A God at Stingray Entertainment, and Rachel in Seeing Someone Else at Radix Studios. Kayla is a recipient of the Regents Theatre Scholarship.

Taryn Huffman (Conrade) Powell, OH. Taryn is a junior in the BFA Musical Theatre program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Francis U/S/Reporter 2 in These Shining Lives, Ensemble in Oklahoma! In Concert, and Rennie in The Most Massive Woman Wins. Outside credits include Swing Red/Orange in SHOUT! The Mod Musical at Springfield Little Theatre, Ensemble/Dance Captain in Something Rotten at the Hilliard Arts Council, and Mopsa in Head Over Heels at Stagedoor Manor. Taryn is a recipient of the Provost Scholarship and the Leslie Irene Coger Scholarship.

**Kat Lynch** (Verges, Beatrice U/S) Victoria, TX. Kat is a senior in the BFA Musical Theatre program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Medea in Argonautika, and Betsy in The Secret Garden.

Cameron Mabie (Claudio) Independence, MO. Cameron is a senior in the BFA Acting program. His previous Missouri State University credits are Richard Hannay U/S in Tent Theatre's The 39 Steps, Styrus in Argonautika, and Robert Conklin in The Rimers of Eldritch. Outside credits include Moritz in Spring Awakening at Spectra Theatre Company, Joey in ROAR (An Original Musical) at Bodhi Theatre, and Luke in the feature film Inheritance with Evangel Films. Cameron is a recipient of the Kathleen Turner Scholarship and the

Regents Scholarship

Scout Mayberry (Dogberry) Melissa, TX. Scout is a junior in the BFA Acting program, with a minor in film production. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Beebee U/S in Suburbia, and Daughter/Pearl U/S in These Shining Lives. Outside credits include Molly in Peter and the Starcatcher at Mustang Theatre Company. Scout is a recipient of the Board of Governors Scholarship.

Chris Melton (Leonato) Charlotte, NC. Chris is a junior in the BFA Musical Theatre program. His previous Missouri State University include Joe/Mike Dillard in Working, Archibald U/S in The Secret Garden, and Ensemble in Oklahoma! In Concert. Outside credits include Pippin in Pippin at Providence Day School, and Al Joad in The Grapes of Wrath at Theatre Charlotte.

Elijah Nash (Antonio) Liberty, MO. Elijah is a sophomore in the BFA Musical Theatre programs. His previous Missouri State University credits include Somebodies/Everybody in Everybody. Outside credits include Posey Small in Broke Open at the Unity Performing Arts Center, Joseph Pulitzer in Newsies, and Courfeyrac in Les Misérables, both at IP Productions. Elijah is a recipient of the A+ Scholarship, George W. and Bernadene B. Oliver Musical Theatre Scholarship, and the Ann Page Theatre Scholarship.

**Ryan Nolan** (George Seacole, Claudio U/S) Ashland, MO. Ryan is a junior with a double major in Dance & Spanish, with a minor in Music. His previous credits include Ichabod Crane in The Legend of Sleepy Hollow and Gomez Addams in The Addams Family, both a Southern Boone High, and Ram Sweeney in Heathers at TRYPS. Ryan is a recipient of the Dennis Riordan Scholarship and the Dance Regents Scholarship.

**Hannah Oldham** (*Balthazar*) Spring Hill, KS. Hannah is a senior in the BFA Acting program. Her previous Missouri State University credit includes Aunt of Meleager in *Argonautika*.

**Bryant Parker** (*Sexton*) Ferguson, MO. Bryant is a senior in the BFA Acting program. His previous Missouri State University credits include Sexton in *A Comedy of Errors*, and Nick in *The Other Room*. Outside credits include Horace Harpagon in *The Skinflint of Shickshinney* at North County Christian School.

Sarah Pendergrass (Watchman) Houston, TX. Sarah is a junior in the BFA Musical Theatre program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Theresa/Sharon Watkins in Working, and Ensemble in Oklahoma! In Concert.

Josie Ramsdell (Gentlewoman, Hero U/S) Milford, NE. Josie is a junior in the BFA Acting program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Arabic - Chinese - French - German - Ancient Greek Hindi - Italian - Japanese - Korean - Kurdish - Latin Portuguese - Russian - Spanish - Swahili

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#### Who's Who in the Company

Love in *Everybody*, Jean in *Miss Julie* and James in *My Sunshine*, both with Tabula Rasa. Josie is a recipient of the Provost Scholarship and the San & Adele Huber Memorial Scholarship.

Fiona Ross (Ursula) Sacramento, CA. Fiona is a junior with a double major in BFA Acting & B.S. English Literature. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Pollux in Argonautika, Katherine in Because I Am Your Queen, and Julie in Miss Julie with Tabula Rasa. Outside credits include Libby in I Ought to be in Pictures at Sacramento Theatre Company, Molly in Peter and the Starcatcher and Viola in Twelfth Night, both at ACME Theatre company. Fiona is a recipient of the Board of Governors Scholarship.

Nathan Salter (Messenger, Benedick U/S) Fort Worth, TX. Nathan is a senior in the BFA Musical Theatre program. His previous Missouri State University credits include Eugene in Tent Theatre's Grease, Dickon in The Secret Garden, Quaxo in Cats, Ensemble in Oklahoma! In Concert, and Ensemble in bare. Outside credits include Tony in West Side Story at Plaza Theatre Company, Otto in Spring Awakening at Spectra Theatre Company, and Tom Sawyer in Big River at Granbury Theatre Company. Nathan is a recipient of the Board of Governors Scholarship and the Virginia C. Bussey Scholarship in Music and Musical Theatre.

Liam Smith (Borachio) Nassau, BS. Liam is a sophomore in the BFA Musical Theatre program. His previous Missouri State University credits include God/Usher in Everybody. Outside credits include Robert in Proof and Emmett Forest in Legally Blonde, both at Plano West Senior High.

Jackson Spencer (Benedick) Overland Park, KS. Jackson is a senior in the BFA Acting program. His previous Missouri State University credit includes Jason in Argonautika, and his outside credits include Jonathan Waxman in Sight Unseen at Johnson County Community College.

Darby Vincent (Don John/Dance Captain) Springfield, MO. Darby is a junior in the BFA Musical Theatre program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Swing in The Secret Garden & Everybody, and ensemble in Oklahoma! In Concert. Outside credits include Jo March in Little Women at Small Umbrella Theatre Company, Barrett in Fugitive Songs at Springfield Contemporary Theatre, and Katherine Plumber in Newsies at Landers Theatre. Darby is a recipient of the Board of Governors Scholarship.

Matt Walter (Hugh Otecake/Dance Captain) Kearney, MO. Matt is a senior in the B.S. Theatre program, with a Dance minor. His previous Missouri State University credits include Choreographer for the upcoming Fall Dance Concert, Quartet Dancer in (un)natural [habits], King Pelias/Apsyrtos in Argonautika, Ensemble in Miss

Julie, and Tony in My Sunshine. Outside credit include Soldier/Ensemble in The Hunchback of Notre Dame at Branson Regional Arts Council. Matt is a recipient of the Theatre Regent Scholarship, the Ann Page Scholarship, and the Bob Comer Scholarship.

Ethan Woolever (Friar Francis) Wann, OK. Ethan is a junior in the B.S. Theatre program. His previous credits include Sir Studley in Once Upon a Mattress and Joey in Sister Act, both at Theatre 29, and Ensemble in Curtains at Miami Little Theatre

Mallory Koenigseder (Stage Manager) Fort Smith, AR. Mallory is a senior in the BFA Design, Technology, & Stage Management program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Stage Manager for Everybody and Argonautika, and Assistant Stage Manager for Picnic and Cats. Her outside credits include Assistant Stage Manager for Desperate Measures at Springfield Contemporary Theatre and Oklahoma! in Concert At the Springfield Symphony, and Stage Manager for Medea at the University of Central Arkansas.

**Madison Young** (*Asst. Stage Manager*) Luther, OK. Madison is a sophomore in the BSED Theatre Education program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Props Master for *Working*.

Robyn Gill (Costume Designer) Kirkwood, MO. Robyn is a junior in the BFA Design, Technology, & Stage Management program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Wardrobe for Picnic, and Costume Designer for These Shining Lives and Working. Outside credits include Wardrobe for Wonderful Town, The Children's Hour, and The Merry Wives of Windsor all at KH Players. Robyn is a recipient of the Brad Ferguson Costume Assistant Scholarship.

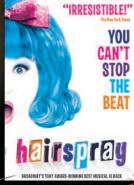
Riley Lathrom (Scenic Designer) Kansas City, MO. Riley is a senior in the BFA Design, Technology, & Stage Management program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Scenic Designer for Working and These Shining Lives, Scenic Designer for Tabula Rasa's Hand to God, and Assistant Scenic Designer for The Secret Garden and Cats. Riley is the recipient of the Brynn Blackwood Scenic Design Scholarship, and the Provost Scholarship.

Rachel Anthonis (Hair & Makeup Design) Saint Charles, MO. Rachel is a senior in the B.A. Theatre program. Her previous Missouri State University credits include Co-Costume Coordinator for Everybody and Assistant Costume Designer for Lab Theatre Company's upcoming production of The Woman of Lockerbie. Her outside credits include Amahl in Amahl and the Night Visitors at SCC Opera Theater Workshop. Rachel is a recipient of the Regents Scholarship.



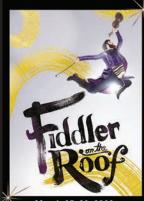






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#### THEATRE and DANCE FACULTY Department Head Joseph Price

#### CREDITS

Alana Yurczyk for production support, Bio Editorialist Alexander Hehr, Missouri State University News Services, Missouri State University Printing Services, Missouri State University Tix, Kyle Frevert, Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, KSMU-Broadcast Services, Randy Stewart, Springfield Contemporary Theatre, Springfield Little Theatre, Linda Palmisano

#### MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Running Crew

Light Board Operator	Daniel Miller
Folllow Spot Operators H	unter Hall, Natalie Stacey
	Peyton Burke
Sound OperatorsAlex	is Smith, Samantha Haley
Deck Crew Julia	Lovett, Madison Haynes
Wardrobe Keegan Adkins, A	Abby Ball, Anna Rickman
	Sydney Smith
Audio Assistant	Celeste Swick
Properties Crew Antoinette	Oliphant, Ashley Russell

#### PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer Ioseph Price
Producer
Production ManagerJennifer Collins Hard
Stage Management Advisor Jennifer Collins Hard
Stage Management Advisor Jennifer Collins Hard Technical Director Christopher DePriest
Scenic Design AdvisorMichelle Harvey
Costume Design Advisor
Scene Shop Supervisor
Costume Shop SupervisorSamantha Morrow
Assistant Director
Properties Anna Hunt
Assistant PropertiesAmberlynn Lewis
Dramaturg
Assistant Lighting DesignerAdam DeBacker
Assistant Stage Manager Madison Young
DrapersSamantha Morrow, Cynthia Winstead
Scene Shop Assistant
Costume Shop AssistantAlicia Mae Dill
House Manager Alexander Hehr Assistant House Managers Cassidy Hayden, Steven Horn
Assistant House Managers Cassidy Hayden, Steven Horn
Lauren Hulsebus, William Mahler Marketing AssistantsCassidy Hayden, Steven Horn
Marketing AssistantsCassidy Hayden, Steven Horn
Lauren Hulsebus, William Mahler, Scout Mayberry
Annette Oliphant, Matthew Walter
Scene Shop Student AssistantsGrace Aumiller
Jerell Calhoun, Dekayla Craigg, Dustin Godar
Madison Haynes, Naliah Hernandez, Lillian Hilmes
Elena Jaquez, Mallory Koenigseder, Emily Kremer
Amberlynn Lewis, Matthew Raymer
Ashley Russell, Madison Young
Scene Shop CrewTHE251
Breanna Mack, Abbey Morales, Kenzi Ream
Emma Schuster, Lauren Aiello, Joseph Pham
Logan Starkey, Erin Wehmeyer, Grace Aumiller
Clayton Kettelkamp, Christopher Melton, Sydney Smith

Ashlyn Cheek, Trenton Kauzlarich, Katherine Lynch Brooke Williamson, Katie Norris, Cameron Perry Natalie Stacey Lighting Student Assistants.......Lilliam Hilmes

Lighting Crew......THE255
Chapman Blake, Eli DePriest, Elyssa Hallgren, McKenna
Harvey, Dolin Ituarte, Elias Kraft
Katie Krasovec, Zoe Lanigan, Mollie-Claire Matthews

Lilly Muehlberger, Annie Oberholtzer, Kourtney Paige Bryant Parker, Anna Pennington, Shayna Rives Nathaniel Salter, Kinzey Sapp, Dillon Savage Elyce Turnipseed, Madison Young

Costume Shop Student Assistants......Robyn Gill Bailey Doran, Cassidy Hayden, Hannah Oldham, Sydney Smith Elena Jaquez, Mallory Koenigseder

Costume Shop Crew .......THE261
Lillian Hilmes, Katherine Lynch, Seth Sims
Anna Stimac, Antoinette St. Godard, Gavin Wilhelm
Isabelle Zurcher

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All performances promptly begin at the posted start time. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of house management, which may mean intermission. Please be in your seat before the performance begins. There is no late seating for Balcony Theatre productions.

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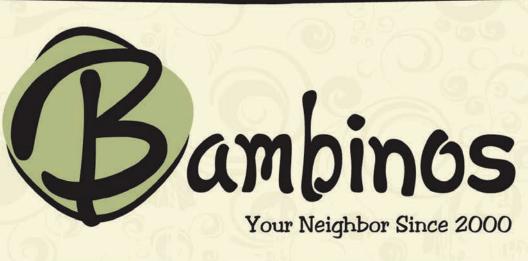
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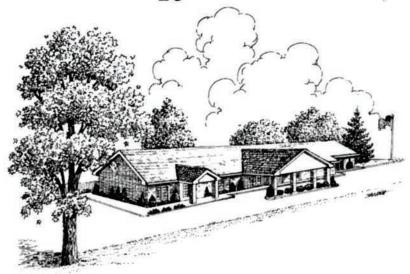
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#### Who's Who in the Department

**Telory D. Arendell** has a PhD from Stanford University, a master's degree from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, and a BA from Swarthmore College. She is a Professor at Missouri State University and has published four books: Pina Bausch's Aggressive Tenderness: Repurposing Theater through Dance (2020), Dance's Duet with the Camera: Motion Pictures (2016); The Autistic Stage: How Cognitive Disability Changed 20th-Century Performance (2015); and Performing Disability: Staging the Actual(2009). Her current book projects include Devised Theatre's Collaborative Performance: Making Masterpieces from Collective Concepts (due out from Taylor & Francis 2022), and a novel, Missouri Normal. Her directing credits include Le Wilhelm's Cucumbers, August Strindberg's Miss Julie, Dinah Toups' Totally Red, Linda Daugherty and Mary Rohde Scudday's Hard 2 Spel Dad, and Lanford Wilson's The Rimers of Eldritch. Arendell also co-founded Philadelphia's Pig Iron Theatre Company before moving into academia.

Ruth Barnes Professor and Coordinator of the Missouri State University Dance Program. Early in her career, Ruth established a reputation as a performer, choreographer and master teacher of contemporary dance in New York City, where she taught at the Merce Cunningham Studio and the New Dance Group Studios, while working as a free-lance dancer. She has choreographed, taught and performed internationally, most significantly in the United Kingdom, France, Switzerland and Taiwan. In Springfield, Ruth has choreographed and created musical staging for the Tent Theatre and at Springfield Contemporary Theatre. She directed *Folding House*, written and performed by Sheila Gordon, with shows in Austin, TX, and on the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. As a choreographer and performer, she has explored mixed media performance, aerial dance, and dance-text pairings, and uses a wide range of music genres in her work. In 2013, Ruth collaborated with five dance artists and three musicians based in Scotland to create Here, There and Everywhere, an hour-long solo dance based on the notion of displacement/dislocation; she subsequently performed the work throughout the United States. Ruth is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship, Missouri Arts Council grants, and several MSU research grants and fellowships. She serves on the American College Dance Association board, as the Central Region Director. Ruth earned her MFA in Dance/Experimental Choreography from the University of California, Riverside.

Lisa Brescia is a professional actor and educator who has worked extensively on Broadway, Off- Broadway and regionally. On Broadway, Lisa recently starred as Heidi Hansen in *Dear Evan Hansen*, Donna Sheridan in *Mamma Mia!*, Elphaba in *Wicked*, Cleo in Twyla Tharp's *The Times They Are A-Changin*', Amneris in *AIDA*, and Marion Halcolmbe in *The Woman in White*. Favorite regional roles include Tatiana Racon in the world premiere of Ken Ludwig's *A Comedy of Tenors* at the Cleveland Playhouse and the McCarter Theatre, and Anna in John Kolvenbach's *Sister Play* at the Magic Theater in San Francisco. She has been teaching and coaching young actors, as well as seasoned professionals, for many years. In August

2016, Lisa joined the acting faculty at Missouri State University's Department of Theatre and Dance. She is a proud member of Actor's Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA and has her MFA in Classical Acting.

Jake Cannon is a student within the MFA – Dramatic Writing program and a Graduate teaching assistant in the Theatre & Dance department. He graduated with his Bachelor of Science degree in Theatre and Undergraduate Certificate in Writing for Television & Film in December 2020 from Missouri State University. Recently, he worked as a Producing Intern and Assistant Stage Manager for Early Days: Stories of the Pandemic with Metro Theatre Company in St. Louis, MO. He directed a student production of Accused of Comedy at Missouri State University and played Rossi Lomanitz in Springfield Contemporary Theatre's regional premiere of Oppenheimer. He received the Dux Esto Award for Excellence in Theatre from St. Mary's High School in 2016.

Chris DePriest holds an MFA from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. He has served as the Production Manager, Technical Director, and Resident Designer in Tent Theatre for the past eleven years. Some of his most recent scenic designs for Tent include: Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure, Leap of Fatih, 110 In The Shade, 42nd Street; Shout, The Mod Musical, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Joseph and the Dreamcoat, The Miss Firecracker Contest, and Alter Boyz. Along with his many responsibilities in Tent Theatre, Chris also serves as Technical Director for the Department of Theatre & Dance at Missouri State University. In his free time, Chris also works as a freelance designer for other theatre companies across the nation. Chris would like to thank his wife, Stacy, and his two wonderful daughters for their continued love, support, and laughter.

Alicia Dill is a sewer in the costume shop. She graduated with a BS in Clothing, Textiles, and Merchandising from Missouri State. She interned for Tent Theater and worked with them a second summer in wardrobe and the costume shop. Since graduating, she has completed a variety of custom sewing projects for customers including Branson, MO stage shows.

Micheal Foster is the lighting design professor for the Department of Theatre and Dance at Missouri State University, and is a member of United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829, the union for professional theatrical designers and artists. He has designed the lighting for over 200 productions including designs for ATREK Dance and MADCO in St. Louis; Florida Studio Theatre (LORT D) in Sarasota, FL; Contemporary American Theatre Festival (LORT D) in Shepherdstown, WV; New Theatre in Coral Gables, FL; Utah Musical Theatre in Ogden, UT; Tent Theatre in Springfield, MO; The University of Miami; Wake Forest University; Missouri State University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from the University of Alabama, a Master of Fine Arts in Theatrical Design & Production from Ohio University, and completed his internship at Central



St. Martin's College of Art and Design in London, England. His thesis production of *Woyzeck* was selected for display at the 2003 Prague Quadrennial.

Yuying Guo is an international student from China. She is now studying MFA in Dramatical Scriptwriting at Missouri State University. Her undergraduate major is Literature of theater, film and television. She came to the United State as an exchange student in her senior year to experience the different education system and decided to stay on for graduate school. She is good at photography, writing, producing and editing videos. She also has a lot of experience and insight to the stage and is currently a teaching assistant for DAN180.

Kathleen Hains holds a BFA and MFA in Theatre Arts from Stephens College and The University of Iowa. Ms. Hains assists Students, Faculty, Staff, and Patrons in the Department of Theatre and Dance as the Administrative Specialist. Ms. Hains is also involved with Missouri State University's Staff Senate as the current Chair, is on the Springfield Little Theatre Associate Board, collaborates with Springfield Contemporary Theatre, and is a member of Actor's Equity Association as a Stage Manager.

Jennifer Collins Hard is an Assistant Professor at Missouri State University with over 20 years of professional experience in Production and Stage Management. Prior to arriving at MSU last fall, she served as a faculty member and Production Manager for the Dartmouth College Department of Theater. Additional production management credits include; Director of Production for the Omaha Theater Company, one of the country's largest Theaters for Young Audiences, Associate Production Manager at Baltimore Center Stage, and Production Manager for Chamber Theatre Productions, a national touring company. Jennifer has worked as a Stage Manager with Virginia Opera Association, Opera Omaha, Opera North, Omaha Symphony, Kansas City Ballet, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, McLeod Summer Playhouse, Dartmouth College, UMKC Conservatory of Music, University of Illinois and the Omaha Theater Company. Jennifer holds a B.A in Theatre from Southern Illinois University Carbondale and an MFA in Stage Management from the University of Missouri Kansas City.

Michelle Harvey (USA 829, MFA) is an Assistant Professor with the Missouri State University Department of Theatre and Dance. She is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829, a union and professional association for designers, artists, and craftspeople in the entertainment and decorative arts industries. Recent design credits for MSU include coprojection design for Working and scenic design for The Secret Garden, and Cats. For MSU's professional summer theatre (Tent Theatre), Michelle designed the sets and video for *Grease* and *The 39 Steps*. Michelle has designed regionally in the DFW area at Stage West, The Dallas Children's Theater (including 3 national tours), Uptown Players, and Theatre Three among others as well as creating concert events for the Turtle Creek Chorale and Spectacular Senior Follies. Elsewhere, she has designed in Florida, Arizona, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Michelle earned her bachelor's degree in theatre at The Ohio State University and her MFA degree at the University of Arizona in Tucson. She has been a member and held various leadership positions with the United States Institute of Theatre Technology (USITT) since 2001

Alexander Hehr is a 1st year graduate student in the MFA Dramatic Writing program. For the last decade Alexander has worked in the Orlando theatre scene in multiple roles, including Associate Producer for The Orlando Fringe & Kids Fringe, Director for Excellent Adventure Productions, and various positions at The Orlando Shakes. A relapsed member of the Dramatist's Guild of America, Alexander is a playwright with productions of his plays on both coasts. Recent productions include Men are Trash (And Other Non-Recyclables) with the Quarantine Players, Rubberneckers at New Generation Theatrical, and multiple productions of *Biodegradable Seagulls*. Most notable awards include a finalist for the John Cauble Short Play Award, and winner of the National Planet Earth Arts Prize, both for *Biodegradable Seagulls*.

Dr. Kurt Gerard Heinlein Professor of Theatre, Coordinator of Acting. Kurt is a working member of AEA, SAG-AFTRA, ATME, FDC, and USA (stunt). Kurt has worked extensively since completing his MFA in Acting from the U. Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM), with union performance credits that include NY, national tours, concert tours, regional theatre, soaps, film, voice-overs, and numerous national television spots. His union stunt, combat, and stunt coordination work are seen in feature films, daytime drama, commercials, and in professional and educational theatres around the nation. He most recently served as stunt coordinator and actor in the film Sick Girl (2022) with Nina Dobrev. Kurt received his Ph.D. from Louisiana State University. A lifelong environmental activist, he's earned several awards for his work in Green Theatre. He has published Green Theatre (book), Evangeline Drowning (play), and a host of journal articles. His recent film directing project, Between the Creag and the Sky (2021) has won accolades at LA Intl. Film Fest, LA Film Awards, Indy Shorts at Cannes, Environmental Film Festival, KC Film Fest, and The Grand River Film Fest, and the Festival of Media Arts (BEA), among others. Kurt is a recipient of the Missouri State University Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence.

**Dr. Christopher Herr** joined the faculty in 2005 and currently teaches courses in theatre history and dramatic literature as well as Introduction to Theatre and Script Analysis. His published works include Clifford Odets and American Political Theatre as well as an essay on satire in modern theatre in Blackwell's A Companion to Satire, on American political theatre in The Oxford Hand- book of American Drama; in "To Have or Have Not"; New Essays on Commerce and Capital in Modernist Theatre; and in American Playwrights of the 1930s, and a chapter on American director Harold Clurman in Great Northa American Stage Directors. Dr. Herr holds a Ph.D. in Drama from the University of Toronto and an MA in English from the University of Toledo, and has worked as a director, dramaturge, and playwright in both the United States and Canada.

Azaria Hogans is a freelance dancer, choreographer, artist scholar, and educator. She holds a M.F.A. in dance from Texas Woman's University where she expanded her research on black modern dance. Azaria serves as the Manager of Resources and Archives and board member for kNOwBOX dance. Currently, Azaria

is an Assistant Professor at Missouri State University and covers an array of classes including contemporary, jazz, contact improvisation, dance history, composition, and West African dance forms. She has presented and performed works both nationally and internationally including Symposium on Performance of the African Diaspora as Social Change Conference, American College Dance Association (South-Central, South-East, and Central) conferences, World Dance Alliance Puebla, Mexico, Women in Dance Leadership Conference, UNT's Gospel Meets Jazz, Sant'Agata Central Plaza, Sant'Agata, Italy, to name a few. In her passion for education, she has brought the art of dance to local schools including Putnam High school in Putnam, Georgia and Lee Elementary School in Denton, Texas through community outreach programs and residencies. Azaria has published articles in the Journal of Dance Education in Practice (DEip), the Journal of Dance Education (JODE), Dance Teacher Magazine, Black Dance Magazine, and Dance Magazine.

Anna Hunt supervises student employees and lab classes in the construction and installation of scenery for Missouri State University's theatrical season. Anna also serves as Properties Designer for Tent Theatre. Some of Anna's previous experience include Properties for The Pirates of Penzance, The Odyssey, My Fair Lady, and Unnecessary Farce; Paint Charge for Hair, Rigoletto, and Cucumbers; and Carpentry for Little Shop of Horrors, Romeo and Juliet, and Sweeney Todd. Anna holds a Bachelor of Science of Education in Theatre from Missouri State University. Anna thanks her husband Tom, and her family for their support.

Heather Chittenden-Luellen is Music Director/ Accompanist for the BFA Musical Theater program and the Department of Theatre & Dance. She joined the staff of Missouri State University in 1996. Heather has served as Music Director for mainstage productions since 2003 and Tent Theatre musical productions since 1998. Heather is also the Associate Artistic Director for Tent Theatre. She serves as Music Director for the New York Senior Showcase held each spring. In addition to her teaching duties, she also serves as alumni liaison for the department, providing a central contact for MSU alumni working all over the world. Select recent mainstage Music Direction credits include: Working, The Secret Garden, CATS, Amelié, bare the musical, Heathers, Pippin, Legally Blonde, Dogfight, City of Angels, White Christmas. Select recent Tent Theatre Music Direction credits include: Beehive, Catch Me If You Can, Grease, The Drowsy Chaperone, Cry-Baby, Nice Work If You Can Get It, She Loves Me, All Shook Up, My Fair Lady, Hairspray. Heather's other credits include Music Director for Broadway Unlocked's #Giveback Concert 2018 & 2019 (New York), Kyle Dean Massey's solo cabaret at Feinsteins's at the Nikko; Actor, Lawyer, Indian Chief, a musical by Craig Carnelia and David H. Bell, workshopped at the National Alliance for Musical Theatre Festival of New Musicals (NYC) and premiered at Goodspeed Musicals; pianist/music director for many productions in local community theatres; local keyboardist for national tours of White Christmas, Beauty and the Beast, and Titanic.

Levi Manners is a recent graduate from Missouri State with a BFA in Design/Technology/Stage Management with an emphasis in sound. Past credits include Sound Designer/Engineer for the Bigfork Summer Playhouse's 61st and 62nd season, Working (Missouri State, Sound Design), Argonautika (Missouri State, Sound Design), The Secret Garden (Missouri State, Sound Design), and Oppenheimer (Springfield Contemporary Theatre, Sound & Projection Design). If you'd like to see more of Levi's work, head to www. MannersSound.com.

Dr. Carol J. Maples is a Professor and Coordinator for the BSE Speech & Theatre program. She is also Director of Giving Voice, a nationally recognized interactive theatre troupe that addresses various issues of diversity and oppression. Dr. Maples has taught Acting, Directing, Pedagogy, Teaching Speech and Theatre, and Script Analysis. While at MSU she has directed shows such as West Side Story, Hedda Gabler, Twelve Angry Jurors, The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer, Proof, Clybourne Park and Crimes of the Heart. Additionally, she has directed numerous productions for Tent Theatre, including The Boys Next Door, Anything Goes, Noises Off, Hairspray, and The Drowsy Chaperone. Dr. Maples has also been a guest director at Springfield Little Theatre. She has been seen on stage in The Good Body and in the web series, A Little Help. Dr. Maples is Past-President of the Speech and Theatre Association of Missouri and has served two terms on the Board of Governors. She is a published author and has presented at various state, national, and international conferences. Most recently she was given the MSU Foundation Award for Service. She recently completed work on the new Dance and Theatre Fine Arts standards for the state of Missouri.

Cathy McFall is the Accounting Specialist for the Department of Theatre & Dance at Missouri State. Cathy's responsibilities include managing expense & income accounts for departmental operations, musical and non-musical production budgets as well as Tent Theatre finances. Cathy's twenty-five years at the University include fourteen previous years in Student Affairs managing student union building, food, and retail finances. Cathy's additional accounting experience includes work at Springfield and Nixa public schools and KY-3 TV. Cathy holds a degree from Southwest Baptist University and is a Certified Administrative Professional (CAP) and has Administrative Excellence Certification MDI.

Samantha Morrow is the Costume Shop Manager. Samantha's previous credits include Costume Design for She Loves Me & All Shook Up and Wig Design for Hairspray at Tent Theatre. Costume Design for The Rocky Horror Show, Good People, and Killer Joe at Springfield Contemporary Theatre. Costume Shop Manager and Costume Designer for The Odd Couple and The Curious Savage at Maples Repertory Theatre. Costume Intern at The Williamstown Theatre Festival. Samantha is a BFA Theatre Design Technology graduate from Missouri State University.

Zipporah Peddle is a versatile singer and teacher whose dynamic career has taken her throughout the world. She has an MM degree in Vocal Performance from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, a BM from Memorial University, studied commercial vocal pedagogy at Boston Conservatory, Shenandoah University, and Baldwin Wallace University, studied



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musical theater at Sheridan College in Toronto. Canada, and is a National Center for Voice & Speech (University of Utah) trained Vocologist. Ms. Peddle spent six years as lead vocalist in Cirque du Soleil's top selling production show, O. She has performed in numerous musicals, concerts, cabarets, and recitals, at venues throughout Canada and the U.S. Favorite roles include Kate in Kiss Me Kate (Nevada Conservatory Theater) and Tiffany in I Was Looking at the Ceiling, and Then I Saw the Sky (Long Beach Opera). Ms. Peddle toured internationally with the Nathaniel Dett Chorale and has worked as a production vocalist and guest entertainer for various cruise lines. She most recently appeared in the world premiere of La Sorgente, a collection of art songs for soloists and orchestra, at the Ford Theatre in Los Angeles. Ms. Peddle has maintained private voice studios in Las Vegas and Los Angeles. She has appeared as a speaker for NATS, NATS (LA chapter), The Voice Foundation (SoCal chapter), and has presented her research at NATS and PAVA conferences. She is a proud member of Canadian Actors' Equity, NATS, MTEA, and PAVA. Ms. Peddle is currently an Artist in Residence specializing in Musical Theater and Contemporary Commercial Voice at Missouri State University.

Joseph Price is Department Head for Missouri State University Theatre and Dance. He has worked as a director, actor and fight choreographer throughout the country. He is a founding member of A Red Orchid Theatre in Chicago and the Oasis Theatre Company in Buffalo, where he served as associate artistic director. He was Program Director for the University of Minnesota/ Guthrie BFA Actor Training Program and spent 11 years at the University of Missouri, Kansas City/ Kansas City Rep where he was Associate Head of Acting for the MFA Actor Training Program. At the Unicorn Theatre in Kansas City he directed Clybourne Park the World Premiere of James Stills' The Velvet Rut, Well, Painted Alice, Bright Ideas, Blue/ Orange, Fuddy Meers, The Shape of Things, The Pillowman and The Lieutenant of Inishmore. He directed The Cripple of Inishmaan for Kansas City Actor's Theatre and A Steady Rain for Riverside Theatre. In 2003 he directed the World Premiere of Wild Boy, The Musical, book by the head writer of Sesame Street, Lou Berger. He has directed numerous university productions including Uncle Vanya, Enron, Killer Joe, Anything Goes, Present Laugher, Boesman and Lena, Tape, The Importance of Being Earnest, Polaroid Stories, American Clock, Mad Forest and The Circus Show. The Circus Show is a rock musical that was developed as part of UMKC's Festival of NOW, with faculty from the Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre. In 2008 he worked closely with Carl Wilkens to create a work based on his book I'm Not Leaving, which detailed Wilkens' experience during the 1994 Rwandan genocide. I'm Not Leaving premiered at the 2008 Anne Frank Project and was livestreamed to Rwanda. Mr. Price spent 14 years at Perry-Mansfield in Steamboat Springs, Colorado serving as theatre faculty, Director of Theatre and Production Manager. He recently directed 39 Steps for Tent Theatre. Acting credits include numerous productions in regional theatre, commercials and the CBS series Dangerous Curves. In the 1980s he starred as Choo Choo the clown in the Preschool Express Video Series. Joseph Price received his MFA from Southern Methodist University.

Mark Templeton is a 1987 graduate of Paris Jr. College and a 1989 BFA recipient from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. Prior to arriving at Missouri State University, Mark served the Palestine, Texas Independent School Districts for eight years as Theatre Director and Chairman of the Fine Arts Department. While in Palestine he directed over thirty productions; eight earning regional honors and two receiving state recognition (Wings and Into the Woods). Other directorial credits include: The Rimers of Eldritch, Johnny Belinda, and The Diviners. Mark joined the Missouri State University campus community in August 1997 as Assistant to the Marketing Director of the Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts and moved to the Department of Theatre and Dance as Marketing Director in 1999. In 2003 he was promoted to Man- aging Director of Tent Theatre. He is an alumnus of the Commercial Theatre Institute of New York. Currently, Mark serves as the University representative and negotiator to Actors' Equity. In 2008 he served on a team that formally transitioned the Tent Theatre operation into a professional theatre company. He has provided insight for the programming, layout and "Tent Theatre aesthetic" of the new John Goodman Amphitheatre which will ensure the design fulfills the requirements of the AEA contract.

**Dr. Kyle A. Thomas** is an assistant professor of theatre and coordinator for the BA/BS theatre program. Kyle received his Ph.D. in Theatre from the University of Illinois, where he received departmental distinction for his work in dramaturgy and directing. Dramaturgy credits include Cabaret and Oh What a Lovely War!, both at the University of Illinois as well as devising and archival work on the original production of *Tom* by Philip Johnston in collaboration with the Amoory Theatre Company (Illinois) and Theatre at the Mill (Northern Ireland). Kyle has directed Comedy of Errors (2019) and Everybody (2021) for the Theatre & Dance department. Further directing Credits include It's a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play (University of Indianapolis), The Heart of Robin Hood (Interlochen Center for the Arts), Viva Verdi! (Lyric Theatre @ Illinois), The Play of Adam (Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC), Floyd Collins (The Station Theatre), The Play about the Antichrist (University of Illinois), and Ah! Wilderness (American International Drama Conference at Peking University, China). Kyle also maintains a profile as a professional actor with roles in St. Louis Stories at La Petite Theatre (New Orleans) and .ZACK (St. Louis); Gone Missing at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts (Urbana, Illinois); Kissing at New Theatre (Miami); and recent on-camera roles in Red Horse and the L.A. Hollyshorts selection, The Karaoke Singer. As a theatre scholar, Kyle specializes in the study of medieval theatre and applying historical practices to postmodern performance. Publication credits include "The Medieval Space: Early Medieval Documents as Stages," in Theatre Survey (2018); "Theatre in a Mobile World: Critiquing Convention and Calling for Innovation," for Howlround.com (2015); "Profile: Nedjeljko Fabrio's The Reformers," in Ecumenica: Journal of Theatre and Performance (2012); a chapter on Andrew Lloyd Webber in The Palgrave Handbook of Musical Theatre Producers (2017); and forthcoming publications: «The Performing Arts and



Their Audiences," in A Cultural History of Leisure in the Medieval Age (500-1450) and The Play About the Antichrist (Ludus de Antichristo): A Historical Exegesis, Performance Dramaturgy, and Latin Edition, co-authored with Carol Symes.

Emma Wang is a Graduate Assistant at the main office of Theatre and Dance Department. In May 2020, she graduated from the T&D department and obtained her degree of BFA Acting. She was seen in the mainstage productions as Courtesan in Comedy of Errors, Ensemble in Bare the Musical, and Tituba in The Crucible. Her professional film/television works include Kim in Vicent's Vow, Jame/Bond in Assassin Anonymous, Bird in Blue Dot, June in Nature of the Beast, and Christine in Its Time, which was selected by AKS International Minority Film Festival in 2019 as a touring educational film throughout Pakistan, Copenhagen, Karachi and Manchester. Emma is currently pursuing her Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.

Robert Westenberg, Professor of Theatre, Musical Theatre Program Coordinator. After a lengthy performing career that included work on Broadway and Off-Broadway, in regional theatres, national tours, television and film, Mr. Westenberg is now concentrating on teaching, directing and playwriting. He is perhaps best remembered for his roles in the original Broadway casts of Into the Woods as the Wolf and Prince, for which he received a Tony nomination and Drama Desk Award, Secret Garden as Neville Craven, and Sunday in the Park with George, where he replaced Mandy Patinkin in the title role. He also performed the role of Javert in the Broadway production of *Les Miserables*. Other Broadway credits include leading roles in 1776, Company, Abe Lincoln in Illinois, A Christmas Carol and Zorba, for which he received a Theatre World Award. While known for his work in musical theatre, he has also appeared in numerous plays and classical works in theatres around the country. His national tour credits include Zorba, Funny Girl, and The Full Monty. His film and television credits are The Ice Storm, Before and After, The Stars Fell on Henrietta, Mr. and Mrs. Bridge, Swift Justice, Central Park West, and Law and Order: SVU. He has sung at Carnegie Hall in The Gay Divorcee and can be heard on several original cast albums. Mr. Westenberg is married to Kim Crosby and is the proud father of their three children. He is a graduate of the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco and completed his degree studies at the National Theatre Conservatory in Denver.

Sarah Wiggin is a Full Professor of Theatre Performance at Missouri State, the Artistic Director for Tent Theatre, and a founding member of the Resident Artist Ensemble (RAE), Springfield. A proud member of AEA and SAG- AFTRA, Sarah has performed with theatres such as The Shakespeare Theatre, Ford's Theatre, Everyman Theatre, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, The Folger, and regional companies nationwide. Locally, she worked with SCT as The Pilot in Grounded, Margie in Good People, Veronica in God of Carnage, and Becca in Rabbit Hole, and directed Painting Churches. She directed professionally with Tent Theatre (Steel Magnolias, You Can't Take It With You, Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure, The Mousetrap, Beehive: The 60s Musical); Venus Theatre in Washington, DC; and assisted Aaron

Posner in his Helen Hayes Award-winning production of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* at Folger Theatre. Her own production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* earned Baltimore City Paper's #4 slot in their Top Ten: the Year in Theatre list. Her on-camera work includes *Law & Order: SVU* and *Gods and Generals*, among others. Ms. Wiggin earned her MFA in Acting & Directing from the University of Arizona.

Sarah Wilcoxon holds an MS in Communication from Illinois State University and an MFA in Dance from Florida State University. At Missouri State, Sarah is the coordinator of the dance program and the dance representative for the musical theatre program. She also directs the wellness initiative in the Department of Theatre and Dance, supervising our staff athletic trainer. Her interdisciplinary approach to making dances about community in relation to boundaries and borders necessitates collaboration outside of the dance field with actors, directors, filmmakers, musicians, visual artists, and theorists. Her collaborative works have performed on stages in musicals and concert dance throughout the Midwest and the Southeastern United States while her award winning cross-disciplinary and co-created films have been screened both nationally and internationally. Sarah views somatic practice, mindbody connection, as an essential part of community building through dance. She is a STOTT certified Pilates teacher as well as a certified Progressing Ballet Technique instructor, and she works to promote a culture of wellness in the teaching and practice of dance.

**Cynthia Winstead** holds a MFA from the University of Virginia. In addition to teaching classes in costume design, construction and history of costume and décor at Missouri State, Ms. Winstead designs and drapes professionally. Her costume designs have been seen Off Broadway in Maiden's Progeny-An Afternoon with Mary Cassatt, 1906 (world premiere), The Death in the Juniper Grove (world premiere), The Shattering of the Golden Pane, and The Hanging of  $Razor\ Brown$  – all produced at the 59east59 theaters, New York, New York. She also designed the costumes for The African Company Presents Richard the Third, Oak and Ivy, Conversations on a Dirt Road (world premiere), Robert Johnson, Trick the Devil, Cryin' Shame, and Before it Hits Home – all produced by the St. Louis Black Repertory Company. Ms. Winstead's construction work has been seen on the stages of The Santa Fe Opera, The Glimmerglass Opera, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, The New York City Opera, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Stages! St. Louis, The Mill Mountain Playhouse, and the St. Louis Shakespeare Festival.

Larissa Zageris is a writer, educator, and filmmaker from Midlothian, IL. She is the author of My Lady's Choosing: An Interactive Romance Novel, For Your Consideration: Keanu Reeves, Taylor Swift: Girl Detective, and many comics, games, and scripts. She studied improv at iO and Second City, has taught improv, sketch, and theatre to all ages in Chicago, and holds BFAs in Dramatic Writing and Film/TV from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. She is currently pursuing her MFA in Dramatic Writing from Missouri State. Her most recent short film "Not Bloody Mary" is a NYX Official Selection for their inaugural 13 Minutes of Horror Film Festival, available to stream on Shudder.



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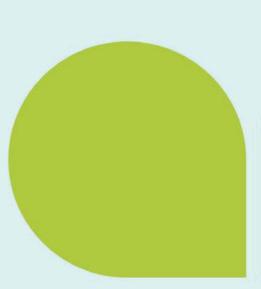
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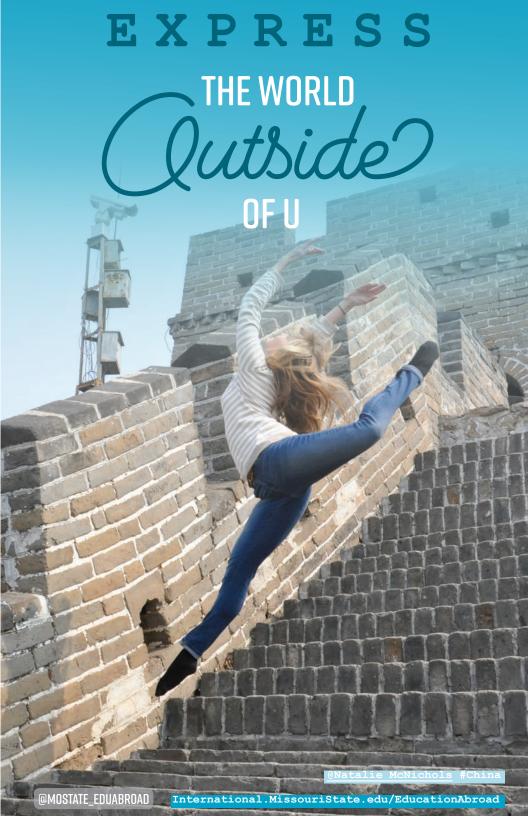
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