



Theatre presents

MIZZOU



New Play Series

spinning tales of

daring
drama
desire

2023

The New Play Series is where it all begins!

Gold Medallion Winning
Writing for Performance Program



The Kennedy Center

AMERICAN
COLLEGE
THEATER
FESTIVAL
REGION 5

Feb. 9 - 11 at 7:30pm

Feb. 11 and 12 at 2:00pm

MIZZOU



New Play Series

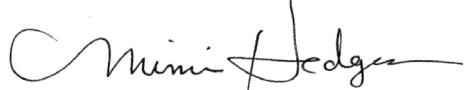
Welcome to the 2023 Mizzou New Play Series. We are thrilled to be back in person after three years over Zoom. Each of the five performance dates will offer different plays, so plan to attend more than one. The Theatre Department's award-winning playwriting program brings many student works to the stage through this series. It is also an opportunity for student directors and dramaturgs to exercise their skills.

Please join us in the Rhynsburger Theatre this March for *Luchadora!* by Alvaro Saar Rios. This engaging tale has been referred to as the Mulan story of Mexican Wrestling-lucha libre. The show opens on March 8th and runs through the 12th. Adam Flores, our guest director joins us from the St. Louis Shakespeare Festival. Ryan Zirngibl, the Director of Production and Scenic Designer for Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre, is our guest Scenic Designer.

In April we will be presenting *The Wolves* by Sarah DeLappe, directed by Kasey Lynch. This story is focused on nine girls on an indoor soccer team as they warm up before weekly games, tribulations and celebrations ensue. Join us in Studio 4 for performances April 19th through April 23rd.

The Larry D. Clark Summer Theatre will be gearing up for performances of *Little Shop of Horrors* and a new Theatre for Young Audiences piece, *Jacked!* by Idris Goodwin. (Based on the Jack and the Beanstalk tale.) More information will be coming soon!

Thank you for joining us this academic season as we continue to present stories that matter with a focus on diversity.



Dr. Mimi Hedges
Chair, MU Department of Theatre



Theatre
University of Missouri

MIZZOU



New Play Series

Dr. David Crespy, Artistic Director

Talia Gritzmacher, Managing Director

Lighting Design
Jake Price and Vincente Williams

Technical Director
Zach Alley

Stage Managers
Harlow Bunten and Tricia Carver-Horner

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MU Department of Theatre Faculty

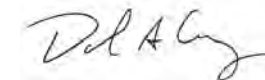
Kevin Brown, Associate Professor
M. Heather Carver, Professor
David Crespy, Professor
Les Gray, Assistant Professor
Mimi Hedges, Department Chair, Associate Teaching Professor
Joy Powell, Associate Teaching Professor
Claire Syler, Assistant Professor
Marc W. Vital II, Assistant Professor

Notes from the Artistic Director

I'm delighted to welcome you to the 2023 Mizzou New Play Series which I've helped to coordinate from afar, as I have been the 2022-2023 Fulbright Scholar to Spain and Greece this year. I'm deeply grateful to our Managing Director, Talia Gritzmacher, who along with her team of curators, including Andrew Black, Zach Apony, and Dr. Lainie Vansant, have done a brilliant job organizing this year's playwrights, playwrights, directors, actors, and dramaturgs.

I do want to highly that since the founding of the Missouri Playwrights Workshop in 1998, more than 100 Mizzou playwrights have gone on to become regional and national finalists in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF), and this year was no exception, with three students, Abby Uphoff, Andrew Black, and Kennedy Rhoades, receiving recognition. Andy Black, who is also one of our MNPS curators, had two plays recognized: his play *What Gay Marriage Means to Me* received the KCACTF Region 5 National Partners of America Theatre (NAPAT) Paula Vogel Award in Playwriting, and his *Bitten by a Boomslang* received the Jean Kennedy Smith Playwriting Award. Abby Uphoff, who was a KCACTF recipient last year, had her play *Red Light Open City* secure a finalist rank in the KCACTF Region 5 Gary Garrison Ten-Minute Play Festival, and Kennedy Rhoades' play *drive safe/play safe* will be featured in the KCACTF Ten-Minute Play Lottery Workshop Selections.

Thank you all for being a part of this 25-year exploration of new plays in our wonderful and award-winning MU Writing for Performance Program.



David Crespy
Artistic Director

Notes from the Managing Director

It has been a delight to sit in on the laughter, the learning, and the analysis that this amazing group has embraced with infectious vitality. I am reminded of the privilege we have as theatre practitioners and patrons to explore our work in person, in a designated space that allows us to say, "This writing is ours. This space is ours. This work is ours." Working together, practicing new skills, and using our voices to create art: this is the heart of the play series. It has been an honor to reclaim that in person for the 2023 Mizzou New Play Series.

Talia Gritzmacher
Managing Director

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9 7:30PM

play nice
by Kennedy Rhoads
directed by Zach Apony-Moriarty
Hanna: Melody Tate
Grant: Gannon Huber
Stage Directions: Felix Wang

The Words on the Sand by Jose Luis Munoz Muela directed by Al Dabiri

ASAF, Chief of the
Sanhedrin Guard: Payton Woodruff
Noemi: Dana Alexander
The Phoenician: Felix Wang
Matatias: Lucy Hoener
Gadi: Ruth McCarron
Eliu: Ariel Hall
Joazar: Melika Hasani
Stage Directions: Bridgette Chan

Seasons

by Katie Priscott
directed by Abby Uphoff
Andy Fitzgerald: Caleb Jared
Cecelia Douglas: Payton Woodruff
Peter Fitzgerald: Gannon Huber
Maya Davis: Aria Garcia
Stage Directions: Chance McKim

The Gift of an Amaryllis by Ariel Hall directed by Vivian Gould

Izaak: Parker Ross
Ezra: Joe Shifrin
Violet: Delaney Eischen
Felix: Ben Tatum
Nancy: Bailey Crouch
Stage Directions: Payton Woodruff

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 7:30PM

*There will be one ten minute
intermission*

The Lobotomy of Betty Valentine by Abby Uphoff directed by Jenefer Joby

Betty Valentine: Elizabeth De Kunffy
Mike Kelly: Will Morris
Rose Williams: Delaney Eischen
Joe Flatt: Ben Tatum
Dr. White: Zachary Zoltan Vajda
Stage Directions: Jordan Patton

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 2:00 PM

Greasy Beef
by Teddy Kirdy
directed by Jack Hegger
King Edwards: Gabriel Levi
Greasy Beef: Ryan Cohen
Tina: Zan Schumann
Elizabeth: Raena Sinclair
Mary: Justice Thompson
Stage Directions: Prim Stonebraker

The Soul of the Underworld by Kaylah Janssen directed by Gabriel Levi

Persera: Aria Garcia
Minus: Jordan Patton
Hades: Michael Kramer
Veritas: Ember Kirkham
Elmer: Gannon Huber
Stage Directions: Ben Tatum

La Luna: the lady who keeps pretty in her hair by Gabriel Levi

directed by Kaylah Janssen
La Luna: Max Contreras
Arthur: Zachary Zoltan Vajda
Stranger/Bandit: Joe Shifrin
Mystery: Ruth McCarron
Stage Directions: Jacques Du Plessis

Ten minute intermission

A Chance in Hell

by Ryan Cohen

directed by Elise Hawley

Abby: Kaylah Janssen

Luce: Elizabeth DeKunffy

Paul Vernon: Zakee Branch Jr.

Len Vernon: Jose Luis Munoz Muela

Stage Directions: Ella Ilg

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11
7:30 PM**

There will be one ten minute intermission

***My Emotional Support
White Men***

by Kalin Jones

directed by Irene Gasarah

Kale: Kaylah Janssen

White Man: Ryan Cohen

Holly/ Late Night Show Host:

Melody Tate

The Neighbor: Will Morris

Kale 2/Momma: Keira Howard

Wexler: Chance McKim

Pharmacy: Robert Dresselhaus

Stage Directions: Ella Ilg

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
2:00 PM**

Paths Through Madness

by Elise Hawley

directed by Ryan Cohen

Tarrant Hightopp: Dana Alexander

Alice: Keira Howard

Cheshire Cat: Gabriel Levi

March Hare: Joe Shifrin

Doormouse: Jeremiah Coleman

Stage Directions: Jordan Patton

TeachInAmerica

by Ellison Land

directed by Abby Uphoff

John Smith: Michael Kramer

Amelia: Ember Kirkham

Stage Directions: Jeremiah Coleman

Stabbers Take a Stand

by Lainie Vansant

directed by Talia Gritzmacher

Jada: Bridgette Chan

The Bad: Ella Ilg

Stabbers: Bailey Crouch

River: Kyler Gher

Stage Directions: Delaney Eischen

Ten minute intermission

MITE

by Talia Gritzmacher

directed by Al Dabirir

Hazy: Max Contreras

Ingot: Melika Hasani

Elgen: Michael Kramer

Grace: Sarah Louise Brady

James: Jose Luis Munoz Muela



Theatre

University of Missouri

Stage Door Club

Your support of the Stage Door Club helps keep the curtain rising on live theatre at Mizzou!

Your generosity will help recruit and enroll new MU Theatre Department students; fund students' travel to regional festivals where they showcase their achievements and win awards; create professional-quality set, lighting and costume design; and bring noted theatre and guest artists to the MU campus. Become a part of MU Theatre's traditional and cutting-edge productions at the Rhynsburger Theatre and Studio 4 with your gift today!

**To donate online anytime, please scan the code:
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MU Dept of Theatre, 129 Fine Arts,
University of Missouri, Columbia MO 65211




And 'thank you' to our generous donors!

MU Theatre Technical Crew and Staff

Artistic Director and Director of Production.....	Mimi Hedges
Technical Director.....	Zach Alley
Lead Carpenter.....	Cyan Crockett
Head of Costumes.....	Marc W. Vital II
Sound Board Operator.....	Nick Frieders
Costume Shop Manager.....	Manda Apony-Moriarty
Scenic Studio Assistants.....	Harlow Buntin, Tricia Carver-Horner, Jake Price, Ben Tatum
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Wren Miller
Artist-in-Residence.....	Vincente Williams
Academic Advisors.....	Alex Anderson, Kathrynn Brueggemann
Front of House Director.....	Jabarbara Jennings
Box Office Staff.....	Maggie Bledsoe, Ariel Hall, Sydney Hendrickson, Maddie Hogan Kaylah Janssen, Hanna Keeter Dani Major, Kennedy Rhoades Andrew Schulte, Joe Shifrin Primula Stonebraker, Ayanna Taylor, Grace Wickert
Business Affairs.....	Pat Garmon
Graphic Design.....	Dory Colbert

Scholarship Recipients 2022-2023

Richard And Patricia Wallace Endowment For The Arts River Pich, Symonne Sparks
Donovan and Peggy Rhynsburger Scholarship Dacia Slater
Terry Perkins Comic Actress Scholarship Justice Thompson
Sol Feinstone Technical Theatre Award Hayley Frazier
John Ross Berneche Acting Scholarship Caleb Jared, Evan Gagliardo
Tom Berenger Acting Scholarship Reggie Coleman
Musical Theatre Scholarship Aaliyah Jones
Richard M. Hennessy Scholarship Gabriel Levi
George C. Scott Memorial Acting Scholarship Payton Woodruff
Dan Springer Memorial Scholarship Ayanna Taylor
Freshman Special Talent Scholarship Alyssa Russell, Ian McPherson
Jon Hamm Scholarship Brandon Riley
Dr. Marcia Berry Memorial Scholarship De'Janna Scales-Hand
Artist-Citizenship Award Eliza Brooks
Carla Waal Johns Award Irene Gasarah
Frances McCurdy Memorial Scholarship Josh Saboorizadeh



Stories matter.
Come experience the ones we tell.

UPCOMING SPRING SHOWS

***Luchadora!* March 8 - 12, 2023**
by Alvaro Saar Rios, directed by Adam Flores
Rhynsburger Theatre

***The Wolves* April 19 - 23, 2023**
by Sarah DeLappe, directed by Kasey Lynch
Studio 4

COMING THIS SUMMER!
Jacked!
Little Shop of Horrors



Larry D. Clark
Summer Repertory Theatre

theatre.missouri.edu

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information about the shows
and downloadable programs.