

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
Department of Theatre and Dance

Dracula

A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really.
Based on the novel by Bram Stoker
by Kate Hamill

Director

Mary Trotter

Props Designer

Ozzy Glazer*

Stage Manager

Avery Weston*

Costume Designer

Elin Voegeli*

Scenic Designer

Mandy Kolbe

Technical Director

River Podjasek*

Lighting Designer

Amber Meyers*

Special Effects/Blood

Nate Mohlman

Sound Designer

Connor Pangburn*

Dramaturg

Dawn Havican*

*denotes UWL Theatre & Dance student

October 10-11 & 16-18, 2025

October 12 & 19, 2025

Toland Theatre, Lowe Center for the Arts

Dracula is presented through special arrangement with TRW Plays,
1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036

www.trwplays.com

Cast

Dr. Van Helsing
Caroline Thompson

Mina Harker
Ella Kern

Lucy Westenra
Emma Reinhardt

Marilla
Miranda Risher

Drusilla
Grace Nekola

Renfield
Makenna Trumm

Dracula
A. Muma

Jonathan Harker
Ryan O'Connor

Dr. George Seward
Joshua Kaiser

Merchant/Miller
Jaydan Hostettler

Maid
Trinity Alicia Hobot



Special Thanks

Jay Duckworth
Jennifer McClure
UWL Art Department



Dracula was originally
produced by
Classic Stage Company
John Doyle, Artistic
Director



Biographies

Michelle Collyar (Costume Shop Supervisor)--With an MFA in design, Michelle manages the costume shop and teaches costume technology in the Department of Theatre and Dance. Having designed/constructed costumes and dancewear for regional and academic theatres, she has worked for Mid America Dance Company, Trollwood Performing Arts Center, Glimmerglass Festival, an American opera company, and American Players Theatre, to name a few. Michelle worked in costumes for two Canadian television series: *Let's Get Physical* starring Jane Seymour and *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, a mock news series.

Dylan Curvin (Scene Shop Supervisor)--Dylan is the Assistant Technical Director and Scene Shop Supervisor at the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse Department of Theatre and Dance. He is originally from Piedmont, Alabama, where he obtained his B.A. at Jacksonville State University. Dylan has worked professionally in theatre for around 10 years with most recent credits including *Sweeney Todd* and *The Barber of Seville* with Des Moines Metro Opera Theatre, *The Cher Show*, *STOMP*, and *Fiddler on the Roof* Broadway tours.

Ozzy Glazer (Props Designer)--Ozzy is incredibly excited to be on the production team of the first show of the season! Ozzy is currently a fourth year Theatre Design/Tech student with a minor in Art. Aside from making props for previous UWL shows such as *Cabaret*, they have also designed and constructed puppets for department productions. They are also a co-president for UWL's Drama Club. They would like to thank the entire production team for being brilliant collaborators! Get ready for a wicked watch!

David Harlan (Master Electrician)--David is the faculty Sound Designer and Sound/Lighting Supervisor for the Department of Theatre and Dance. He has an MFA in theatre from the University of Idaho and worked in the Pacific Northwest - for UI, Idaho Repertory Theatre and his own theatre company, Moscow Art Theatre (Too) - as an actor, director, designer and technician for 17 years prior to coming to UWL in 2024.

Dawn Havican (Dramaturg)--Dawn is a senior Arts Administration major who lives for theatrical deep dives, feminist plot twists, and curating the perfect playlist-menu combo. When not decoding *Dracula*, she's treasure-hunting in book stores, mapping out themed road trips, or crafting events that turn feelings into unforgettable memories. She wishes to thank her husband, Darryn, and her pups Finn and Riley for supporting her in this crazy adventure!

Trinity Alicia Hobot (Maid)--Trinity Alicia is thrilled to be in her 2nd show at UWL! She was in *Much Ado About Nothing* last semester as one of the Watchmen! Trinity is the Vice President of the Drama Club and is the Social Media Manager for The Night Owls A Cappella group. She is spookily excited for everyone to see *Dracula* and hopes that everyone enjoys this bloody tale!

Biographies

Jaydan Hostettler (Merchant/Miller)--Jaydan is so excited to be working on *Dracula* this semester and has greatly enjoyed working with everyone on the cast and technical team! At UWL she has been on costume crew for *Puffs* and was Father in *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*.

Joshua Kaiser (Dr. George Seward)--Josh is excited to be back on the Toland stage. You may have seen him recently in last semester's productions of *Cabaret* (Herr Schultz) and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Benedick). He would like to thank his parents, family, friends, teachers, Anna, and all of you for coming out to support live local theatre.

Ella Kernen (Mina Harker)--Ella is a sophomore at UWL. This is her second show at UWL. Last semester she played Margaret in *Much Ado About Nothing*. She is very excited to be continuing her theatre journey as a part of *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really*. She had so much fun working on this show and is very excited to share it with everyone.

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

Hailey Kluck (Asst. Stage Manager)--Hailey is taking another stab at assistant stage managing now for the production of *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really*. Having worked on UWL productions as a member of run crew, a carpenter, a scenic painter, and more, Hailey is excited to continue their work in the Department of Theatre and Dance.

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

Biographies

Jennifer McClure (Blood Effects Consultant)--Jennifer is the Associate Chair of Technical Design and Production at David Geffen School of Drama at Yale, Lecturer in Technical Design and Production, and Properties Supervisor for Yale Repertory Theatre. She has worked as Props Manager and Technical Director for Alfred University, Props Manager for Merry-Go-Round Playhouse and New York Stage and Film, toured with Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus, and designed sets and props for the Yale Cabaret and New Haven-based A Broken Umbrella Theatre Company. She also works as a freelance properties artisan with noted companies such as The Miami Ballet, Hudson Scenic Studios, Global Scenic Studios, Walt Disney World and musician Amanda Palmer; has built custom puppets for The Stringpullers; and custom masks for the Pilobolus dance company. She is the author of *Bloody Brilliant: How to Develop, Execute, and Clean Up Blood Effects for Live Performance*. As a member of the Society of Props Managers (SPM), she has produced multiple "SPMinars" (available on YouTube) to bring prop building info to the masses.

Amber Meyers (Lighting Designer)--Amber is in her final year as a Design and Technical major with a lighting emphasis and stage management minor. Amber has enjoyed working in several areas of theatre including management, lighting, sound, scenic, and make up design although lighting will always be her favorite. She would like to thank the people who helped her get here, especially as she is close to graduating, and is grateful for all the opportunities. She is excited for you to watch *Dracula*, and hopes you enjoy the show!

Nate Mohlman (Special Effects/Blood)--Nate serves as the Technical Director of the UWL Department of Theatre and Dance. He teaches Theatre Technology, Stagecraft, Drafting, and Theatre Foundations. Nate holds an MFA in Technical Direction from the University of Southern Illinois and specializes in rigging, structural design for the stage, entertainment automation, drafting, and metal fabrication. He has worked professionally as a Technical Director at the La Crosse Community Theatre and as an Assistant Technical Director at both the Des Moines Metro Opera and the Utah Shakespeare Festival.

A. Muma (Dracula)--A. is a senior Performance and Biology double major, excited to take the stage for the ninth time at UWL! Most recently, they performed in *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley*, and *Puffs*. They want to thank their family and friends for all the support, and they hope you enjoy the show!

Biographies

Grace Nekola (Drusilla)--Grace is a sophomore studying Theatre Performance, Biochemistry, and Dance at UWL, and is thrilled to be acting in her second university production. Previous roles include Lilly in *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* and assorted crew for various shows. Grace is thrilled to bring Drusilla, half of the sister-wife duo, to the stage and cannot wait for audiences to see the hard work and passion of the entire company!

Ryan O'Connor (Jonathan Harker)--Ryan is so excited to play Jonathan Harker in *Dracula*! This is his second show at UWL, but he has been in many other shows in the past, including but not limited to The Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz*, Barnaby in *Hello, Dolly!* and Peter Pan in *Peter and the Starcatchers*. Outside of theater, Ryan enjoys skating, playing video games, and creating Lego stop motion animations for Nergle Studios, his YouTube channel. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Connor Pangburn (Sound Designer)--Connor is a fourth-year Theatre Design/Tech student at UWL. He is very excited to work on *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really*. He has been the sound designer for a handful of productions in the past as well as a part of the scene shop.

River Podjasek (Technical Director)--River is thrilled to be working on *Dracula* as his senior capstone. He has worked on many shows at UWL in various production positions, and this is his second show as the Technical Director! Previous credits include technical director for *What the Constitution Means to Me* and assistant stage manager for *Doctor Faustus* and *Puffs*. He'd like to thank his family, friends, and partner for their endless support in all his endeavors.

Emma Reinhardt (Lucy Westenra)--Emma is elated to be a part of this incredible production! She has been doing theatre since fourth grade and was most recently seen in UWL's production of *Cabaret*. Outside of theatre and dance, she enjoys reading, watching movies, and spending time with friends and family.

Miranda Risher (Marilla)--Miranda is a sophomore majoring in Musical Theatre, with minors in Dance and Costume Design! At UWL, she has performed in *Art in Motion* and *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*. She is very excited to perform as a new character type in *Dracula*! She thanks her friends and family for always supporting her, and she hopes you all enjoy the show!

Julia Grace Sanchez (Asst. Stage Manager)--Julia Grace is a sophomore studying Stage Management and Psychology. This is her fifth year of stage management. Julia Grace's assistant stage management UWL debut was last year's performance of *Cabaret*. She hopes you enjoy the cast and crew's hard work!

Biographies

Caroline Thompson (Dr. Van Helsing)--Caroline is a senior student double-majoring in Psychology and Musical Theatre at UWL. This is her 7th production within the department, following appearances in *James and the Giant Peach* as Aunt Sponge, *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley* as Lizzy, and *Cabaret* as Fraulein Kost. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Mary Trotter (Director)--Mary is in her third year as UWL Theatre and Dance faculty, teaching performance and musical theatre. She is an actor, director, and intimacy choreographer. Professional credits span the country including Black Hills Playhouse, Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, Imagination Theater, Missouri Repertory Theatre, and Idaho Repertory Theatre. Locally Mary has served as Intimacy Director for Viterbo University, La Crosse Community Theatre and Grey Area Productions. In addition to receiving her BA from Bradley University and MFA from the University of Idaho, she has extensive training with Patsy Rodenburg, Theatrical Intimacy Education, and is a certified teacher of the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique through the Great Lakes Michael Chekhov Consortium. This past summer she was invited to serve as Intimacy Director for the five show season at Starlight Theatre in her hometown of Rockford, IL.

Makenna Trumm (Renfield)--Makenna is going into her junior year at UW-La Crosse this fall, and she is excited to be a part of another UWL Theatre and Dance production. Makenna was last seen in *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* as Wilson. Makenna would like to thank her friends and family for their constant love and support.

Elin Voegeli (Costume Designer)--Designing costumes for *Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy*, *Really* has been an amazing and challenging project for Elin. Elin is a 4th year Costume Design major graduating in December. His recent theatre design credits include costume design for *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, *Fuddy Meers*, and *Art in Motion* and puppetry design for *James and The Giant Peach*.

Avery Weston (Stage Manager)--Avery is a senior Stage Management major with minors in Theatre Design/Technology and Arts Administration. Her most recent UWL credits include stage manager for *Much Ado About Nothing* and props designer for *The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley*. They would like to thank their family, friends, and Mary for their love and support. They have had a bloody good time working on this show and hope you enjoy!

Production Team

Asst. Stage Manager.....Hailey Kluck, Julia Sanchez
 Blood Effects Consultant.....Jennifer McClure
 Fight Director.....Greg Parmeter
 Asst. Fight Director/Co-Fight Captain.....Josh Kaiser
 Co-Fight Captain.....Hailey Kluck
 Dialect Coach.....Nic Barilar
 Light/Sound Supervisor &
 CNC Operator.....David Harlan
 Scene Shop Supervisor.....Dylan Curvin
 Costume Shop Supervisor.....Michelle Collyar
 Production Manager.....Laurie Kinckman
 Light Board Op.....Lillie Helseth
 Sound Board Op.....Peyton Olson
 Costume Shop Staff.....Ella Dummer,
 Kai Gilberts, Lillie Helseth, Miranda Logan,
 Miranda Risher, Elin Voegeli, Zoe Zosel
 Costume Shop Crew.....Alora Garibaldi,
 Abigail Hawker, Gracie Lockowicz, Aleeza Pasha,
 Alex Payne, Halle Rowder
 Costume Run Crew.....Mia Bondy, Cayden Amidei,
 Layla Hirschboeck, Matthea Jones, Skylor Miller,
 Gwen Trippie, Savanah VanEss
 Light Shop Staff.....Leah Costello, Amber Meyers
 Light Crew.....Julie Awe,
 Payton Gorecki-Nix, Ruby Gotelaere,
 Mackenzie Kostroun, Ben Krizek, Oliver Olson,
 Piper Trudeau, Madelyn Turnacliiff, Diana Xiong
 Sound Shop Staff.....Connor Pangburn
 Publicity.....Molly Anderson,
 Natalie Lettow, Kenley Wilson
 Box Office.....Mia Bondy, Jaydan Hostettler,
 Eva Mason, Morgan Millard
 Run Crew.....Sarah Glazer,
 Andrew Hickey, Emily Niemuth,
 Emily Ressler, Will Ritter,
 Nicholas Sagen, Lexi Stanke

Poster Design.....Laurie Kinckman
 Company
 Photographer.....David Harlan
 Lobby Display.....Gianna Gleason, Dawn Havican
 House Manager.....Riley Beazley
 Front of House Staff.....Cora Arnold,
 Nolan Chvilicek, Hailey Drath,
 Joel Fernando, Jayden Kenealy,
 Kiera Miller, Gavin Ness,
 Kimmee Schmitz, Chloe Sjoquist,
 Brayden Tynnismaa
 Scene Painting Staff.....Maddie Borski,
 Natalie Giddings, Apollo Kasprzyk,
 Grace Nekola, Ilex Rosen,
 Magdelana Stauffer, Avery Weston
 Scene Painting Crew.....Abigail Huser,
 Ashley Rechtzigel
 Scene Shop Staff.....Stella Blum,
 Josh Kaiser, Jezelyn Lorraine,
 Michael Muma, Sean Peterson,
 River Podjasek, Julia Sanchez,
 Zach Theobald, Avery Weston
 Scene Shop Crew.....Jack Augustine,
 MaKenna Boerboom, Eleanore Brey,
 Kendal Coggins, Tyler Demulling,
 Caelan Fritche, Ryan Grassman,
 Alexis Kevan, Olivia Miskell,
 Caleb Niesen, Colin Olson,
 Luke Owens, Kailee Potter,
 Violet Rudolph, Casey Stuedemann,
 Jocelyn Wittkopf, Kaden Zurfluh



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HALFWAY THERE!

Help Theatre & Dance meet our goal to raise \$5,000 for the William T. Clow Memorial Scholarship!

This fund will support a student studying theatre design, technology, stage management, or arts administration each year.

Donate online or by sending a check to the Department of Theatre & Dance c/o UWL Alumni & Friends Foundation, 615 East Avenue N., La Crosse, WI 54601.

Questions? Contact Theatre & Dance Chair Laurie Kinckman at lkincman@uwlax.edu

THEATRE & DANCE 

Director's Notes

Dracula A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really. first grabbed my attention, of course, by the title. What I then grew to love is how Kate Hamill explores, as she does in most of her works, what happens when we center women in the retelling of classic stories.

This feminist retelling of *Dracula* is quite possibly the most relevant retelling we will ever have. Hamill shares with us a line of poetry from Elizabeth Hewer at the beginning of her work, “god should have made girls lethal when he made monsters of men.”

I feel the resonance of this line in every part of this story. The characters in this adaptation are asking us to think about some very big questions. What will you stand up for? What would cause you to be brutally extreme? What fosters resentment in you? What are your darkest fears? And, ultimately, can we really trust people who have full power or control over us?

As Van Helsing says, “the monsters look just like us”. How do we know who they are? These are complex questions to process, and Hamill brilliantly weaves humor and horror into her writing to help us with this task. While exploring these themes gives us a lot to chew on, what I love most about this retelling is journeying with the female characters, fearless and undefined, as they take control and battle the darkness that surrounds humanity...

...And, yes, putting on a show with lots of fights and stage blood is a lot of fun, too!

The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

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

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

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

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

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

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



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