

## The Kennedy Center American College Theater 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.

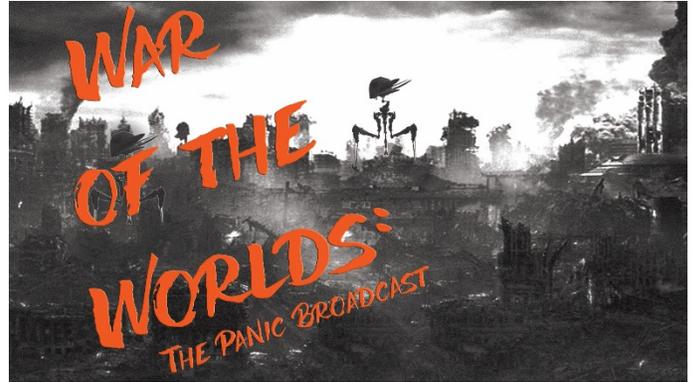
Through state, regional, and national festivals, KCACTF participants celebrate the creative process, see one another's work, and share experiences and insights within the community of theater artists. The KCACTF honors excellence of overall production and offers student artists individual recognition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

## University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Department of Theatre Arts



**BASED ON THE NOVEL BY H.G. WELLS**  
**ADAPTED BY JOE LANDRY**  
**INSPIRED BY AND INCLUDING THE**  
**MERCURY THEATRE ON THE AIR'S**  
**INFAMOUS 1938 RADIO PLAY**

<b>Director</b>	<b>Greg Parmeter</b>
<b>Scenic Designer</b>	<b>Mandy Kolbe</b>
<b>Costume &amp; Makeup Designers</b>	<b>Joe Anderson &amp; Michelle Collyar</b>
<b>Lighting Designers</b>	<b>Ben Golden &amp; Mandy Kolbe</b>
<b>Sound/Foley Designer</b>	<b>Emily Ludewig*</b>
<b>Technical Director</b>	<b>Megan Morey</b>
<b>Dramaturg</b>	<b>Ariel Allman*</b>
<b>Stage Manager</b>	<b>Sydney Smith*</b>

**October 23-25 & October 29-  
November 1, 2020**

Produced by special arrangement with  
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with Broadway Licensing/Playscripts.

\* Indicates Student Designer/Manager

# CAST

**Freddie** ..... Erik Berg  
**Jake Laurents** ..... Nick Holland-Hayes  
**Lana Sherwood** ..... Alexis Cimoch  
**Harry Haywood** ..... Ronald Mickle  
**Sally Applewhite** ..... Lauren Hanson

# FOLEY ARTISTS

Mason Laney  
Emily Ludewig

*The All-American Brand Jingle was composed by Nick Holland-Hayes, and arranged and orchestrated by Erik Berg, Alexis Cimoch, Lauren Hanson, Mason Laney, and Ronny Mickle.*

# BIOGRAPHIES

**Ariel Allman (Dramaturg)**—Ariel is a 5<sup>th</sup> year senior with a major in Biology and a double minor in Theatre and Psychology. Ariel has assisted behind the scenes on *26 Pebbles*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Appropriate*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. Ariel has enjoyed researching information not only on the show itself, but also the wide world of radio during the 1930s. She hopes you enjoy the show and would like to remind the audience not to panic, as this alien takeover is strictly a work of fiction!

**Joe Anderson (Costume Designer)**—Joe has been at UWL since 1991 and has served as the Costume/Makeup Design faculty that entire time. He has served as Chair of the department since 2011. In his time here Joe has designed costumes and makeup for over 150 productions including productions for Shawn McConneloug and Her Orchestra and the American University in Cairo, Egypt among others.

**Erik Berg (Freddie)**—Erik is a sophomore at UWL studying Musical Theatre. He absolutely loves to take the stage and perform. He would like to thank his family and friends for supporting him and the arts, especially during this time. Enjoy the show.

**Alexis Cimoch (Lana Sherwood)**—Alexis is a senior pursuing a double major in Musical Theatre and Media Studies. Recent credits include Amy March in *Little Women* and Mary Swanson in *Middletown*. She thanks her family and friends for supporting her. Enjoy this spooky production.

**Michelle Collyar (Costume Shop Supervisor)**—With an MFA in design, Michelle manages the costume shop and teaches costume technology. Having designed/constructed costumes and dancewear for regional and academic theatres, Michelle recently worked on two Canadian television series: *Let's Get Physical* and *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*.

**Laura Felde (Asst. Stage Manager)**—Laura is entering her third year as a double major in Business Management and Stage Management. She has previously worked on *Urinetown* and *Middletown*. She is excited to assistant stage manage her first show at UWL.

**Ben Golden (Lighting Design/Sound Engineer)**—Ben is the Lighting and Sound Supervisor for the Theatre Department. His work has been seen at theatres across the Midwest including: Great River Shakespeare Festival, Children's Theatre of Madison, Madison Opera, Music Theatre of Madison, Des Moines Metropolitan Opera, and Cardinal Stritch University among others. He holds a BA from St. Olaf College and an MFA from UW Madison.

**Lauren Hanson**—Lauren is a UWL senior studying Musical Theatre and Arts Administration. Some of her favorite past works include *Little Women*, *The Laramie Project*, and *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. She hopes you enjoy the show and have a truly “out of this world” evening!

**Ben Hess (Asst. Stage Manager)**—Ben is a sophomore stage management major at UWL. Ben has previously assistant stage managed *Little Women* last spring. Ben would like to thank his family and friends for their constant support and his fellow stage managers for the constant professionalism especially during these unprecedented times.

**Nick Holland-Hayes (Jake Laurents)**—Nick is a junior at UWL and is incredibly excited to be doing the show, *War of the Worlds!* He would like to thank his family and friends for their continued support in doing what he loves and pursuing his passion for theater!

**Corinne Kessler (Asst. Director)**—Corinne is a senior Performance and English major. Previous credits include *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Laramie Project*, *Macbeth*, and *Urinetown*. In 2019, she spent the summer studying how to be funny at *The Second City* in Chicago. When not doing theater, she can be found doing stand-up or reading. She is also the host of *State of the Art* on RAQ radio.

**Laurie Kineman (Production Manager)**—Laurie is an Associate Professor at UWL where she heads the Theatre's Stage Management and Arts Administration emphases and serves as the Production Manager. She has worked professionally in theatre, dance, and opera. Laurie's UWL credits include stage management of *26 Pebbles*, *Big Fish*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Spring Awakening*, and dramaturgy for *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Laramie Project*. Laurie is the author of *The Stage Manager's Toolkit*, published by Routledge Press.

**Mandy Kolbe (Scenic & Lighting Designer)**—Mandy earned her MFA in Scenic and Lighting design from Ohio State University. She has 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. She has also designed for the Ashland Theatre, Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre, The Brick, and the Hudson Guild.

**Mason Laney (Foley Artist)**—Mason is a second year Theatre Performance major at UW-La Crosse. He is excited to be one of the foley artists for *War of the Worlds*. Enjoy the show.

**Katie Link (Asst. Technical Director)**—Katie completed her MFA degree in Scenic Design at Wayne State University. She is the Assistant Technical Director at UWL and supervises the scene shop. Katie has worked at several theatres, including The Stage at Island Park, Summer Arts Intensive, and Hope Summer Repertory Theatre. Technical Direction and Design work on some of her favorite shows include: *Cabaret*, *The Addams Family*, *Fiddler on The Roof*, and *By The Way Meet Vera Stark*.

**Emily Ludewig (Foley Artist/Sound Designer)**—Emily is a senior Design/Technical Theatre major with a Performance minor. She is excited to be doing foley for the first time on *War of the Worlds*. Recent credits at UWL include performance in *Cat in the Hat* and various technical roles in *Urinetown* and *Middletown*. She would like to thank Megan,

Ben, Sydney, and her family for their never-ending support and love. Enjoy the show!

**Talia Mentjes (Asst. Scenic Designer)**—Talia is currently completing her sophomore year as a Theatre Design major and a Visual Arts minor. She has recently worked as costume run crew for *Romeo and Juliet*, props assistant for *Middletown*, and costume shop, paint shop and set construction for *Little Women*. She wants to thank her high school theatre director and English teacher, Kate Laack, for pushing her to pursue her dreams.

**Ronald Mickle (Harry Haywood)**—Ronald is a junior Theatre Performance major at UWL. He will be voicing the Studio Announcer, John Houseman and others in tonight's production. He would like to thank Tessa, Jazz, Corey, and his parents for their endless love and support of the arts during this time. He hopes you all enjoy the show!

**Megan Morey (Technical Director)**—Originally from Missoula, MT, Megan holds a BA in Design/Technical Theatre (Scenic and Costume Design) from Washington University in St. Louis, and an MFA in Technical Direction from the University of Nevada – Las Vegas. She worked professionally as the Technical Director for the Great River Shakespeare Festival in Winona, MN for 7 years.

**Greg Parmeter (Director)**—Greg teaches voice, movement, and acting at UWL. He earned his MFA in Acting from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and spent seasons with the Nebraska Rep, Virginia Shakespeare Festival, Hampstead Stage Company, and Northern Fort Repertory. Greg was the Artistic Director at La Crosse Community Theatre where he directed the regional premiers of *Les Miserables* and *Mary Poppins* as well as the national community theatre premier of *Billy Elliot the Musical*. Productions at UWL include *The Laramie Project*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Eleemosynary*, and *Charlotte's Web*.

**Sydney Smith (Stage Manager)**—Sydney is a senior Stage Management major, and she is thrilled for the experience to stage manage *War of the Worlds*. Her most recent endeavor was stage managing the student-run production of *The Bald Soprano* and attempting to maintain skills and sanity in quarantine. Enjoy the show!

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Assistant Director.....Corinne Kessler  
Assistant Stage Managers .....Laura Felde,  
..... Ben Hess  
Assistant Technical Director .....Katie Link  
Assistant Scenic Designer..... Talia Mentjes  
Assistant Lighting Designer.....Camille Foss  
Sound Engineer.....Ben Golden  
Props Assistant ..... Lauren Dochnahl  
Scenic Artists.....Camille Foss,  
..... Lucas Kolbe, Jessica Miller, Trisha Moore  
Production Manager.....Laurie Kinckman  
Lighting and Sound Supervisor ....Ben Golden  
Master Electrician .....Ben Golden  
Costume Shop Manager..... Michelle Collyar  
Scene Shop Supervisor .....Katie Link  
Video Producer/Editor ..... Jeff Kerkman  
Video Captioning .....Anna Kral,  
..... Beth Miller, Ryan Morstatter  
Videographers..... Jaden Gallardo,  
..... Thomas Pfaff, Ransom Yasko  
Light Board Operator..... Emma Henry  
Sound Board Operator.....Julia Milne  
Run Crew .....Jacob Gesteland,  
.....Julia Milne  
Costume Run Crew ..... Louden Ferguson  
Light/Sound Shop Staff.....Camille Foss,  
.....Sydney Smith  
Light Crew ..... Bryce Miller, Adam Whitney  
Publicity ..... Krista Shulka  
Publicity Crew .....Katie Bak,  
..... Cassie Davis, Shane Flaningam  
Props/Paint Crew .....Camille Foss,  
.....Talia Mentjes, Jessica Miller  
Scene Shop Staff..... Jacob Cramlet,  
.....Emily Ludewig, Elizabeth Mackey,  
.....Joseph Markey, Addison Skeels, Lex Violette  
Scene Shop Crew.....Mykal Lake,  
..... Wyatt Molling  
Poster Design/Cast Photos.....Joe Anderson  
Costume Shop Staff..... Elizabeth Jacobsen,  
..... Delaney Scudella, Irene Swain

# SPECIAL THANKS

Great River Shakespeare Festival  
Jeff Kerkman  
Academic Technology Services/ ITS

# LAND RECOGNITION

We would like to recognize that the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse occupies the land of the Ho-Chunk people. We celebrate and honor this ancestral Ho-Chunk land and the sacred lands of all indigenous people.

# LIVESTREAM INFO

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