



April 21, 2017

Students showcase work in an evening of one-act plays

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. – The University of Wisconsin-Platteville Department of Performing and Visual Arts and Pioneer Players will conclude their theatre season with the One Act Festival: An Evening of Short Plays. The production opens on Thursday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m. and continues with evening performances on May 5 and 6 at 7:30 p.m. All performances will be held in UW-Platteville's Center for the Arts.

“Putting the theories and techniques the students are learning in the classroom into practice is a vital component of the theatre major and minor at UW-Platteville,” said Ann Farrelly, associate professor of theatre who teaches the upper-level directing course. “The directing class encourages students to incorporate the skills and knowledge they have acquired from previous classes in acting, design, play analysis, theatre history and dramatic literature. In the class, students focus on learning how to communicate with designers by developing a concept and focus on learning how to guide and translate their ideas effectively to actors while composing imaginative, evocative stage pictures.”

Farrelly noted that the directing class is the culmination of all that they have learned while in the program, and the class challenges them to put those skills into practice by presenting their work to a public audience.

In addition to the directors, this year's festival also will feature designs from the students in the program's advanced lighting design class, taught by Jeffrey Strange, associate professor of theatre at UW-Platteville. “Bringing the students in these classes together helps to reinforce the importance and necessity of collaboration in theatre,” said Strange.

This year's One Act Festival showcases the work of seven student directors, three student designers and 16 student actors. The directors in this year's class are John Gunther, Kyle James, Paul Krombos, Sarah McCraw, Noah Thomas, Zachary Thomas and Emma Wilson. Student lighting designers are Jordan Blood, Josh Lawyer and Abbie Wagner. The cast features Amelia Boylan-Knorr, Ian Duff, Madison Duling, Logan Eigenberger, McKenna Farmer, Nicholas Kelley, Cody Lindau, Michaela Marceau-Zielinski, Corey Mickle, Luke Mohar, Olivia Nottestad, Aaron Pliska, Kiley Schulz, Ross Spadaro, Carl Spangler and Meghan Weber. Many of the student actors are performing in their very first Pioneer Players production. Student Megan Conroy will serve as the production stage manager.

"From the sublime to the ridiculous, this year's slate of short plays has something for everyone," said Farrelly.

Because of the content in some of the plays, the production is recommended for mature audiences. Tickets are available at the University Box Office located on the ground floor of Ullsvik Hall. Tickets may also be purchased over the phone at 608-342-1298 or online at tickets.uwplatt.edu. Ticket prices are \$12 for adults, \$11 for faculty and staff and seniors, and \$7 for current students with a valid ID or anyone under 18. For more information, contact Ann Farrelly at 608-342-6045 or farrellya@uwplatt.edu.

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