





DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I first encountered this play decades ago when I was cast as one of the children. I was later involved in two more productions of the play and I thought I was probably "done" with *Our Town*. I had not looked at the play for more than 20 years when students suggested it as a season possibility. Rereading it, I was reminded what a beautiful piece of theatre Thornton Wilder had created. I imagine many of you may have seen, read, or even performed in *Our Town* at some point, and I hope you also find it worth another visit. If this is your introduction to *Our Town*, I hope you enjoy your trip to Grover's Corners.

Though *Our Town* has been around for nearly eight decades, it hasn't aged significantly. When *Our Town* was first produced in 1938, its setting was already 25 years and more in the past. Daily life in Wilder's fictional New Hampshire town most likely would have seemed simple and remote to the playgoers encountering *Our Town* in a Broadway theatre. Yet audiences were able to grasp something universal in Wilder's particular people, place, and time period.

Wilder invites us to pay attention, notice that our lives unfold through our daily interactions with family and community, and appreciate the marvel of our time on earth, however brief.

INFORMATION

NO PHOTOGRAPHY, NO RECORDING, NO TEXTING!

In consideration of performers and other patrons, please turn off any cell phones and electronic alarms and leave all paging devices at the Box Office. The use of laptops and cell phones is prohibited in the theatre. As always, please remember that the use of cameras and all recording devices is strictly prohibited. Please refrain from eating or drinking in the theatre. Smoking is prohibited in the building. To be reached in an emergency, please leave your name at the Box Office when you arrive. Any audience member disturbing other patrons or causing a disruption of the performance may be asked to leave without a refund or exchange of ticket.

This production is approximately 2 hours 20 minutes long with two 10-minute intermissions.

SETTING

Grover's Corners, New Hampshire

SPECIAL THANKS

Leah Roy Twin City Stage UNCSA Props Department

Our Town

by Thornton Wilder September 18-20 & 24-27, 2015

Director **J. K. Curry**

Set & Lighting Designer **Jonathan Chrisman**

Costume Designer **Tyler Wilson**

Sound Designer **R. Trevor Anderson**

Stage Manager
Tracy Wegner*

CAST (in order of appearance)

Stage Manager	Philip Kayser*
Doc Gibbs	Tyler Johnson*
Joe Crowell	Zeke Bradley
Howie Newsome	Eric Bray*
Mrs. Gibbs	Heather Sullivan*
Mrs. Webb	Justice von Maur*
George Gibbs	Clint Blumenberg*
Rebecca Gibbs	Eden Sharpe
Emily Webb	
Wally Webb	
Professor Willard	Connor Sagerman
Mr. Webb	Thomas Poston
Woman in the Balcony, Woman Among the Dead.	Katie Gamble
Man in Auditorium, Mr. Carter	Jason Chinuntdet
Lady in a Box	
Simon Stimson	Eli Bradley*⁵
Mrs. Soames	
Constable Warren	
SI Crowell	
Baseball PlayersMatthe	
Sam Craig	
Joe Stoddard	
Farmer McCarthy	
Another Dead Woman	
Dead Man	
People of the TownCaroline Baisier,	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Katie Gamble, Anna Hibbert, Jack Kountouris
Jayson Pugh, Cole McWilliams, Conno	or Sagerman, Lily Wieland, Matthew Zoltners

BIOGRAPHIES



Caroline Baisier (Another Dead Woman) is a freshman from Atlanta, Georgia and will be playing a Woman Among the Dead. This is her first Mainstage production here at Wake Forest and is very excited

about starting her theatre career in *Our Town*! She would like to thank J.K. for giving her this opportunity, the designers for working hard behind the scenes, and her castmates for making her first college show experience one for the books. Also, shoutout to Johnson 1B for being the most supportive and awesome hall ever! #JohnsonPride



Clint Blumenberg (George Gibbs) is a junior Psychology major and ROTC Cadet from Annapolis, Maryland. He has appeared previously in *Embers and Stars: The Story of Petr Ginz* (Petr), *Clybourne*

Park (Kenneth), and Love's Labours Lost (Dumain). He would like to thank JK Curry for the opportunity to perform in this classic show, the cast for making it a memorable and enjoyable experience, and his family for supporting him. Enjoy the show, and Welcome to Grover's Corners!



Eli Bradley (Simon Stimson) is a sophomore from Boulder, Colorado. He is thrilled to be starting off his year with this show. At Wake Forest, he has previously appeared in *Love's Labor's Lost* (Don Armado), *Hardy*

Boy's and the Mystery of Where Babies Come From (Nurse Ratchet), and These Shining Lives (Boy at Beach with Vollyball). He would like to thank J.K. Curry for all her help.

Lucas Bradley (Si Crowell) is a fifthgrader at Brunson Elementary. He enjoys playing baseball and soccer, snow skiing, and competing on his school's Battle of the Books team.



Zeke Bradley (Joe Crowell) is a fifth-grader at Brunson Elementary. He enjoys playing baseball, soccer and video games and competing on his school's Battle of the Books team.



Eric Bray (Howie Newsome) is a senior Theatre major from Charlotte, North Carolina. He enjoys long walks on the beach, romantic picnics by sunset and making up total and complete lies about



himself. He has previously been seen in *Noises Off, Love's Labor's Lost, Hairspray*, but his most prized role was as Lord #1 in *As You Like It*. All joking aside, he would like to thank J.K., Tracy, and the rest of the crew for putting up with him throughout this process. He would also like to thank the cast for creating such a wonderful environment and community, and especially all of YOU for coming out to see the show!

Caleb Cabiness (Joe Stoddard) is a freshman from Archdale, North Carolina. He is playing the role of Joe Stoddard and cannot be more excited to be a part of his first WFU Theatre show. He would like to



thank J.K. for giving him this opportunity. He would also like to thank God, his family, and his friends for always supporting his dreams and aspirations.



Hayleigh Carroll (Mrs. Soames) is a junior Theatre and Sociology double major from Greensboro, North Carolina. You may have recently seen her on the WFU stage in *Wake World* or as Boyet in *Love's Labor's*

Lost. Other favorite past credits include: Mary Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice* at TCS, Lucia in *The Long Christmas Dinner*, and Slightly in *Peter Pan*. Hayleigh is also the Artistic Director for the Living Parables Christian Drama Troupe on campus. She would like to thank her parents, sisters, family, friends, and wonderful boyfriend Gregory for supporting her and encouraging her to always follow her dreams. She would also like to thank J.K. for this incredible opportunity, Tracy for being the best stage manager/neighbor ever, and the rest of the amazing cast and crew. Thank you for taking the time to come to *Our Town*; enjoy the show! As always, Nana, this one is for you. Soli Deo Gloria! Luke 1:37



Jason Chinuntdet (Man in Auditorium, Mr. Carter) is a junior Anthropology and Philosophy major from Charlotte, North Carolina. He acted in many

productions for the Davidson Day Theater Dept. and Children's Theater of Charlotte. This is Jason's first Mainstage show at Wake Forest University, although he was in the ensemble cast of *Wake World* this year as well. He would like to thank J.K. for giving him this chance to rediscover this passion, and the cast of the show for being supportive and great friends. Jason would also like to thank his mother and father for always being there for him and his sisters for always bugging him to do better. After graduation, Jason plans on traipsin' about the globe in search of the meaning of life through pensive contemplation.

Alexa Erb (Emily Webb) is a senior Communication major with a double minor in Theatre and Education hailing from Burlington, Vermont. Whether working onstage, behind the scenes, or sleeping on the



couch in the lobby, Alexa is constantly thankful for the home she has found in this department. Alexa is forever indebted to her family, the alumni in the audience, and her Pita Girls. She would also like to thank J.K. for the chance to take the stage once more, Tracy for her secret questions in the rehearsal reports, and all the residents of our town that aren't ashamed of their fifth-grade-boy sense of humor.

Katie Gamble (Woman in the Balcony, Woman among Dead) is a senior from Jefferson City, Missouri. She is a double major in Sociology and Politics & International Affairs and gained her fame as a member of



the *Wake World* cast. Katie would like to thank Valerie for always pushing her to be involved in theatre, and everyone who has worked on the show. Finally, she would like to thank J.K. for upgrading her from just a Woman in the Balcony to a Woman among the Dead.

Kathan Gandhi (Wally Webb) is a 5th grader from Winston-Salem, North Carolina playing the role of Wally Webb. This is his first theater production. He attends Brunson Elementary School. Kathan has



greatly enjoyed the cast and would like to say a special thanks to J.K. Curry for giving him this wonderful opportunity.



Anna Hibbert (Lady in a Box) is playing Lady in the Box, and is from Asheville, North Carolina. This is her first production at Wake Forest University. Previously, some of her favorite roles in high school are

Betty in *Canteen* and Lynn in *Baby, It's Cold Outside*. Anna is a part of the Collegium Choir here at Wake Forest and hopes to participate in WFU performing arts. She would like to thank JK, Tracy, and the rest of the cast and crew for making her first production here an amazing experience! Shout-out to Luter 1A and SCAB for making the first few weeks at Wake the best!



Tyler Johnson (Doc Gibbs) is a sophomore from Chicago, Illinois, double majoring in Mathematical Statistics and Psychology. He was previously featured in Wake Forest University's production *Love's*

Labor's Lost as Sir Nathaniel and is thrilled to be a part of such of a wonderful production with a great group of people. He hopes to dazzle you with his dad-like performance of Doc Gibbs. Tyler would like to thank Tracy and J.K. for all their hard work on the show and his parents as they are his inspiration in life. Thanks Heather.



Philip Kayser (Stage Manager) is a junior from Apex, North Carolina and an Economics major with Premedical credits. This is his seventh show at Wake Forest and eighteenth show in total with recent credits

including *Waiting for Godot, Clybourne Park*, and *These Shining Lives*. When not acting, Philip works as a student manager at Benson University Center. Philip would like to thank his mom, dad, and brother for their love and support.

Jack Kountouris (Baseball Player) is a junior from London, England. He is a Psychology and Computer Science double major. This is his first Mainstage show here at Wake Forest. Jack is affiliated with theta



chi fraternity as well as the founder of his soonto-be chartered improv group. He'd like to thank the rest of the cast for making his experience worthwhile.

Cole McWilliams (Sam Craig) is a freshman from Miami, Florida and plans on double majoring in Business Management and French with a minor in Political Science. This is his first production at Wake



Forest. Previously, he has appeared in multiple productions including A Flea in her Ear, Beyond Therapy, Twenty Ways to Screw Up your College Interview and Bye-Bye Birdie. He also recently directed a one act from Christopher Durang's Titanic. Cole would like to thank his family and friends for their continued support throughout his adjustment to college and especially the theatre department and the wonderful JK for welcoming him with open arms. Go Deacs!

Alex Nedvidek (Baseball Players, Dead Man) is a sophomore Chemistry major from Kennesaw, Georgia. He wants to encourage everyone to look for him as a very tan vampire on the Halloween



episode of the CW's *The Vampire Diaries*. Finally, he'd like to thank his incredible sister Emily for forcing him to get involved in the WFU Theatre Department, his family and friends for their support and encouragement, and JK and the cast for making his first Mainstage production such a great experience. Enjoy the show!



Thomas Poston (Mr. Webb) is a sophomore from Currituck County, North Carolina. He is an intended double major in Politics and Economics. This is his Mainstage debut here at Wake Forest

University. Thomas sings in the University Concert Choir and is a member of Wake Forest's Ethics Debate team and Can-I-Poet, Wake's spoken word society, among other organizations. Thomas would like to thank his ever-supportive family and his astounding friends for their unyielding love and encouragement. He's also grateful for everyone involved in making this show such a stellar experience.



Jayson Pugh (Constable Warren) is a sophomore from Da Boogie Down Bronx, New York. He hopes to change the world by becoming a Sociology major with Minors in Theatre and American Ethnic

Studies. This is his first time acting in a University production. Previously, he was a Wardrobe Assistant for *Clybourne Park* and Assistant Stage Manager for *Love's Labor's Lost*. He would like to thank everyone involved in the production!



Connor Sagerman (Professor Willard) is a guy from Winston-Salem who is studying Theatre and Philosophy. After appearing here in shows such as *Sylvia*, *This is Our Youth*, and *The Ugly Duckling*, he's

been promoted to the Mainstage with *Our Town*. He thanks J.K. for letting him be awkward and frazzled (i.e. himself), the choir for using him as a tuning fork, his parents for being great all the time, and every other human he knows for helping shape him into the person he is today.

Eden Sharpe (Rebecca) is a local 5th grader who will turn eleven during this production of *Our Town*. Eden is no stranger to the stage, except that she usually has a violin in her hands! She has enjoyed working

with the "college kids" and thanks J.K. Curry for the opportunity.

Heather Sullivan (Mrs. Gibbs) is a senior Communication major with minors in Film, Theatre, and Psychology hailing from Trinity, North Carolina. You might have seen her in *Wake World*, *Love's*



Labor's Lost, or waving enthusiastically to you from across the Quad. She'd like to thank J.K. for this incredible experience and commend Tracy for an excellent debut as stage manager. She'd also like to thank the Pitas for forcing her to cry it out, her parents for always answering her late-night stress phone calls, and her siblings who double as her best friends. Much love to all of Grover's Corners, especially her hubby.

Justice von Maur (Mrs. Webb) is a Junior from Nassau, Bahamas. She is a History with minors in Theatre and Sociology. This is her second performance on the Mainstage; you may have seen her in *Clybourne Park* last Fall. She has also worked in stage



last Fall. She has also worked in stage managerial capacities in last year's *These Shining Lives* and *Embers and Stars: The Story of Petr Ginz*. Working on *Our Town* has been one of Justice's best experiences at WFU. She thanks J.K. for the climate of freedom and comfort in the rehearsal space, for faciliating immeasurable growth, and for all the cookies. She thanks Tracy for the tough love. She thanks the cast for all the jokes. #BeansForLife.



Tracy Wegner (Stage Manager) is a sophomore prospective Business major with a Theatre minor. She has previously been involved with *These Shining Lives* as a grip and as assistant stage manager *The Ugly*

Duckling. She is beyond thankful for this opportunity to stage manage, and would like to thank Price, Lily, and Abby for being the best assistants known to man as well as the entire cast and crew for the hard work put into the show. She loves her cast so much; they've been the best cast in the world and it was a privilege working with them. Lastly, she'd like to thank J.K. for being such an amazing teacher and director.

Matthew Zoltners (Farmer McCarthy) is a freshman hailing from the distant land of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Undecided as of yet for majors and minors, he is experimenting with theater (and



finding it quite interesting!) So far he is not involved in many things around campus, but he is looking to change that. As for theater, he is enjoying all the inside jokes that go miles above his head, the people in productions, and the director, J.K. for letting him get involved in his very first college production semester one of freshman year. Now that's that. Twain't very long anyway.

Connect with us!

Use the hashtag #OurTownWFU to see behind the scenes content, and to tell your friends about the show!





@WakeTheatre

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Set Designer	
	Eric Bray*, Hope Peterson*, Emily Jo Williams
	Tracy Wegner*, Cheyenne Zuck*5, Courtney Geiger, Monty King
Costume Shop Supervisor	Kaitlin Fara Smith
Costume/Prop Conservator	
Stitchers	Jay Buchanan*5, Megan Nigro
	Emma Kennett Aubrianna Patsey James Ward
Wardrobe Assistants	Anne Peyton Brothers [§] , Madeline Jones
Light Board Operator	
Sound Board Operator	
Photographers	Bill Ray III, Ken Bennett, Leslie SpencerJake Skillings Rachel Bradley, Courtney Mason
House Manager	Jake Skillings
Box Office Staff	
	Stephanie Moore*, Allison Thompson, Alacyia Young
Ushers	APO Fraternity, Anthony Aston Players, WFU Dance Company

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Director of Theatre/Associate Teaching Profe	ssor
Administrative Assistant	Carol Lavis
Staff Assistant	Carol Lavis Richard Williams
Technical Director	
Costume/Props Conservator	Alice Barsony
Costume Shop Supervisor	Kaitlin Fara Smith
Audience Services Coordinator	Leslie Spencer
Instructional Technology Specialist	Ryan McCollum
Digital Media Assistant	Justice von Maur*
Office Assistant	Heather Sullivan*
Department Chair/Associate Professor	Dr. J.K. Curry Nina Lucas
Director of Dance/Associate Professor	Nina Lucas
Director of Film Studies/Professor	Dr. Woodrow Hood Dr. Cindy Gendrich, Mary Wayne-Thomas
Professors	Dr. Cindy Gendrich, Mary Wayne-Thomas
Associate Professors	Sharon Andrews, Jonathan Christman, Dr. Brook Davis
	Rob Eastman-Mullins, Christina Tsoules Soriano
Associate Teaching Professors	Lynn Book, Leah Roy
Assistant Teaching Professors	Brantly Shapiro, Chris Martin
Visiting Assistant Teaching Professor	Michael Kamtman
Part-Time Instructors	Lynn Book, Leah Roy Brantly Shapiro, Chris Martin Michael Kamtman Amy Love Beasley, Gabriel Clausen, Michael Huie
	Debra Sayles, Robert Simpson, Tina Yarborough-Liggins
Teaching Fellows	Ray Ebert, Randy Hawkins, Dan Knight, Hashim Saleh
Accompanists	Ray Ebert, Randy Hawkins, Dan Knight, Hashim Saleh

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

2015-2016 Season September 11, 2015

BENEFACTORS

Barton & Brenda Baldwin[‡]
Estate of John Arthur Collins III
J.K. Curry & Dan Bradley
Caroline Sandlin Fullerton
Denise Koch[‡]
James & Angela McNamara
Alison McWilliams[‡]
Harold & Josie Tedford
Dr. James & Patricia Toole[‡]
Edwin[‡] & Emily Wilson[‡]

John J. Casey
Mr. & Mrs. Julius H. Corpening
Claire & John Friedenberg[‡]
Mr. & Mrs. Henry H. Jordan II[‡]
Joel Leander
Sioban Nicole McNamara[‡]
Margaret Henry Moore
Mary Wayne-Thomas
Don & Nancy Wolfe
Estate of Robert Parker Wilson

CONTRIBUTORS

Monty King

SUSTAINERS

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PATRONS

Susan Bray[‡]
Paul & Linda Edwards Early
John & Jill Hartman
James & Joyce Gist Lewis[‡]
Henry & Deanie Quillian
Meyressa Schoonmaker[‡] & John Carroll

Ann Boyle & Mark Espeland
Louise Y. Gossett
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Ric von Maur III & Doreen von Maur

Lawrence & Sandra Webb

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FRIENDS

Pamela Brumbaugh Jim Greenstreet & Tamison Jewett Mike & Jeanne Newton Wes[‡] & Rebecca Cannon Calkin[‡]
Ainsley Johnston[‡]
Alex Speer

[‡] Wake Forest alumni

2015-2016 UNIVERSITY THEATRE SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

The season subscription series includes one ticket to each of the University Theatre Mainstage productions as well as the Studio Series. Season pass prices are \$36 for adults, \$30 for WFU faculty/staff and senior citizens, and \$15 for students (NC Sales Tax NOT included). All performances will be in the Mainstage Theatre of the Scales Fine Arts Center. See a Box Office attendant if you'd like at upgrade your *Our Town* ticket to a season pass.

Our Town by Thornton Wilder

September 18-20 & 24-27, 2015 Directed by J. K. Curry

"Do any human beings ever realize life while they live it—every, every minute?"

In this classic American play, winner of the 1938 Pulitzer Prize for drama, Wilder invites us to reflect on how we fill our days through an examination of life in one small New England town in the early 20th century. A timeless story about family life, love, community and the passage of time.

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde

October 30-Nov 1 & Nov 5-8, 2015 Directed by Cindy Gendrich

The immortal Oscar Wilde's extravagantly witty masterpiece of handbags and train stations, cucumber sandwiches and frivolous deceptions, Bunburyists and christenings-- and "Love."

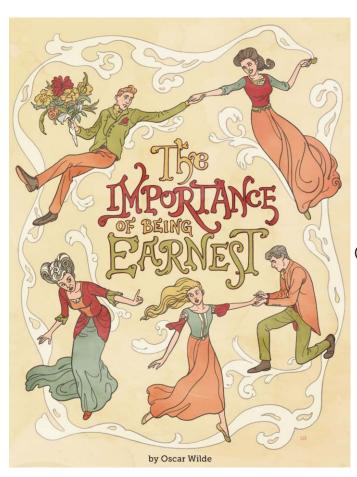
The Waiting Room by Lisa Loomer

February 5-7 & 11-14, 2016 Directed by J. E. R. Friedenberg

In this outrageous comic approach to beauty and medicine, three women from different times and cultures meet in a doctor's waiting room. While the women struggle to meet society's patriarchal construct of beauty and eroticism through body modification, the medical professionals attempt to rationalize the ethics of the business for their own gain. This dark comedy will have you squirming with laughter as the characters struggle to beat the system and win at life.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim Book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart April 1-3 & 7-11, 2016 Directed by Alumnus Michael Baron

"Comedy Tonight!" Join us for one of the most hysterical musical comedies ever written! From the genius mind of composer Stephen Sondheim, writer of *Into The Woods* and *Sweeney Todd*, comes this tuneful, sexy, and funny farce set in ancient Rome. It's appealing and appalling with stunning surprises and cunning disguises! Hit shows like *Glee, South Park*, and even *Mad Men* have referenced this show as one of the greatest irreverent musicals to hit the stage. Before there was Book of Mormon, there was *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*! Togas encouraged!



THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

by Oscar Wilde

Directed by Cindy Gendrich

Oct. 30-31, Nov. 5-7 at 7:30 PM Nov. 1 & 8 at 2:00 PM Mainstage Theatre

Tickets: \$15 adults, \$12 senior citizens, \$7 students 336.758.5295 http://college.wfu.edu/theatre

Harold C. Tedford Gala

The April 2 performance of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* will feature a special dedication ceremony and reception in the lobby after the show as the Mainstage is officially renamed the Harold C. Tedford Stage. *Please note: Courtesy comps will not be honored for the April 2nd Gala performance.* Gala Tickets are \$25 per person and include a complimentary pre-show reception as well as the post-show party and celebration. Price includes a \$15 donation to the Tedford Stage Fund, ticket to the performance of Funny Thing, and NC sales tax. Tickets to the April 2nd performance will not be sold in advance to the general public. You may purchase a ticket to the Gala performance along with your regular subscription by checking the adding your donation (minimum \$15 per ticket) to your purchase. We hope to see you all at this special event.