

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com). The world premiere of SENSE AND SENSIBILITY was produced by Bedlam (Eric Tucker, Artistic Director; Andrus Nichols, Producing Director).

Lafayette College Department of Theater presents

SENSE

Sensibility

KATE HAMILL

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY
JANE AUSTEN

OCT. 23-25 @ 7:30 PM
OCT. 26 @ 2:00 PM

DIRECTED BY
PROFESSOR MARY JO LODGE

THIS PRODUCTION IS SUPPORTED IN PART BY THE BICENTENNIAL ACADEMIC FUND
AND FUNDED IN PART BY THE R.K. LAROS FOUNDATION.

Sense & Sensibility

Mary Jo Lodge

Director/Choreographer

Katrina Miller

Properties Designer/Scenic Artist

Emma Li '26

Associate Costume Designer

Jeff Helm

Scenic/Media Designer

Will Morris

Costume Designer

Kylee Brotz '27

Assistant Lighting Designer

Kia Rogers

Lighting Designer

Jarrold Yuskauskas

Dialect Coach

Laura Coffey '26

Makeup & Hair Designer

Tom DiGiovanni

Music Supervisor

Chanler Sharpe

Production Stage Manager

Daly Gibson '26

Pianist

Alexander Owens

Production Manager/Technical Director

CAST

Elinor Dashwood

Marianne Dashwood

Mrs. Dashwood, Anne Steele, Gossip

Margaret Dashwood, Lucy Steele, Gossip

Fanny Ferrars Dashwood, Charlotte, Gossip

John Dashwood, John Willoughby, Gossip

Edward Ferrars, Robert Ferrars, Gossip

Lady Middleton, Mrs. Ferrars, Gossip

Sir John Middleton, Doctor, Gossip

Mrs. Jennings, Gossip

Colonel Brandon, Thomas, Gossip

Ash Baeck-Hubloux* '26

Sonali Shah* '26

Kelsie Bouyer* '26

Olivia Cox* '28

Zoe Sarr '26

Nikolai Gentes '27

Johnny Raheb '27

Jiayu Angel Yan* '28

Devin Muench '29

Nihan Cedimagar '27

Tiago Brousset '27

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Director/Dramaturg

Jack Finegold '28

Assistant Stage Managers

Addie Snider '29, Krisyalee Decena '29

Nora Morsman '27, Alivia Smith '28

Light Board Operator

Delaney Piccoli* '28

Sound/Media Board Operator

James Miller '28

Deck/Prop Assistants

Bryan Kibet '27, Hope Duffy '29,

Zoe Urbahns '26

Costume, Hair and Makeup Lead

Iris Pierce '27

Dresser

Manning Yip '27

Hair/Makeup Assistants

Lexi Handelman '28, Emma Strawser '29

Program/Marketing Assistant

Brooke Suzman '27

Hair Supervisor

Melissa Livingston

SHOP CREW

Kylee Brotz, Kairo Calcano, Laura Coffey*, Owen Eltz, Sophia Gal, Aven Lancaster*,
Lavender Layre, James Miller, Champe Mitchell, Marin Rosser, Kate Stadter, Jiayu Angel Yan
and THTR 120 Students

*denotes a member of Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society

There is no eating or drinking in the theater. Please turn off all electronic devices.

Sense & Sensibility will play with one 15 minute intermission.

The run time, with intermission, is approximately two hours and twenty minutes.

PRODUCTION NOTE

Place & Time: England, 1790s

ACT ONE

Takes place first at Norland Park, the Dashwood estate in Sussex, and then moves between Barton Park, the Middleton estate in Devon, and the Dashwood Cottage on the grounds of Barton Park. Act I takes place over the course of several months in spring and late summer.

No time passes between the acts.

ACT TWO

Begins at the Dashwood Cottage at Barton Park on the same day, then moves to Mrs. Jennings' London home the next December, and travels to various London locations, including the Fitzgerald's ball, and the Ferrars' family home in London, over the course of several weeks. The action then moves to the Palmer Country House in Cleveland for several more weeks before returning to the Dashwood Cottage at Barton Park, again, in the spring.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

250 years ago, in 1775, the esteemed British novelist Jane Austen was born. 200 years ago, in 1826, Lafayette College was founded. The coming together of two such auspicious events in our 2025-2026 Theater Department season at Lafayette makes it an excellent time to celebrate the work of Jane Austen and to both look back at our history, and forward with a contemporary adaptation of Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* by playwright Kate Hamill. I saw the premiere of this production at Bedlam Theater Company in New York with Hamill playing the role of Marianne back in 2014, and was enchanted by the delightful comedy and the endlessly moving furniture that made up the set. Hamill found an ingenious way to mine the comedy already present in Austen's work and to create a physical theater production that embraced both modern and period details.

I have long been a lover of Jane Austen's novels and have made several pilgrimages to important places from Austen's life and works during my time on various trips to England. But what of the connection between Austen and the college's founding? *Sense and Sensibility* was written and set in the 1790s and was the first of Austen's novels to be published, but not until much later, on Oct. 30th 1811, now 214 years ago. Its publication date was relatively close to the College's founding, and as a recent exhibition at the Morgan Museum and Library in New York City in celebration of Jane Austen's 250th birthday pointed out,

Austen's work was actually known and sought after in early America. The exhibition included several early copies of her novel *Emma*, published in 1815, which were circulating among American readers as early as 1816. There is a reasonable chance then, that the earliest students at Lafayette might have heard of Austen and her work, which has, of course, gained fame worldwide and rarely been out of print in the 200 plus years since its publication. This is the third time I've tackled the ever popular Austen while at Lafayette. Our campus has already seen productions of *Pride and Prejudice*, adapted by Jon Jory, and *Emma! A Pop Musical*, which we performed electronically in the very early days of the pandemic, and I am delighted to bring Austen to campus once again. In celebration of her 250th birthday and the College's 200th birthday, we will be hosting a joint birthday party following the final 2 PM matinee performance of *Sense and Sensibility* on October 26th in a celebration open to all. We are fortunate that this production received generous support from the Lafayette Bicentennial Academic Fund, as well as from our English Department colleagues who were especially helpful by inviting our theater students to join their department field trip to the aforementioned Morgan Library Exhibition celebrating Austen. The English Department, the Women's and Gender Studies Program and the Lafayette College Library have banded together to support the celebration of the College and Austen after our final performance.

I would be remiss in not noting another major landmark that is occurring in our Department this year. This production is my first collaboration with Professor Jeff Helm, from the Mechanical Engineering Department, though Professor Helm has both designed the sets for, and acted in, a total of thirteen productions during his time at Lafayette. I am so delighted to finally have a chance to work with him, though I am sad to say that this production marks our final Departmental collaboration with Professor Helm, as he is set to retire. Our department is stronger for having worked with Jeff, and in the course of his tenure, we developed the Theater and Engineering Fellowship, which is a collaboration between Engineering students and the Theater Department that has been both rich and rewarding, and which represents, as Professor Helm does, the very best of what a Lafayette education can do.

Also on this production, due to the generosity of the Laros Foundation, we've been able to bring Chanler Sharpe on board as a professional Stage Manager to mentor several student Stage Managers and

Assistant Stage Managers. Chanler has been an invaluable addition to our program for this production and we look forward to seeing their legacy through the future stage management work of these promising students. Professor Helm's mobile set, which features the clever use of video projections, is supported by returning guest artist Kia Rogers, who designed the gorgeous lighting for this production. I'm also thrilled to have Will Morris back with us for a second year to design the elegant period costumes that anchor the show in its period. We've been especially fortunate to have three student designers working on the production as well—senior Emma Li is the Associate Costume Designer and produced and created the looks for both Elinor and Marianne. Senior Laura Coffey created the intricate hair designs that are true to the period. Junior Kylie Brotz is supporting Kia Rogers' lighting design in preparation for her plans next year to design a college production as lighting designer for her senior project. Finally, as always, I am pleased to be working again with Lafayette alum Tom DiGiovanni and with my new Excel scholar Daly Gibson, who together crafted the intricate live piano accompaniment for the production that Daly executes so beautifully on stage at every performance.

My talented team, our gifted student actors, technicians, designers and I hope you enjoy this lovely show, and that you celebrate both Jane Austen and Lafayette College during this exciting anniversary year.

— Mary Jo Lodge

SPECIAL THANKS:

Muhlenberg College
Cindy Notaroberto
Lafayette College Libraries
The English Department
The Women's and Gender Studies Program

BIOGRAPHIES

Ash Baeck-Hubloux (*Elinor Dashwood*) is a senior from New Jersey studying biology and psychology. Recent roles include Margaret in *Silent Sky* (Lafayette College), Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Lafayette College), and Amy Langford in *Lift Every Voice* (Lafayette College). They would like to thank the cast and crew of *Sense and Sensibility* for making this an amazing and fun production.

Kelsie Bouyer (*Mrs. Dashwood/Anne Steele/Gossip*) is a senior biology major and theater minor from New Jersey. This is her fourth show with the Lafayette Theater Department and seventh show at Lafayette, with previous work with the department on *Bright Star* (Lucy Grant), *The Book Club Play* (Properties Crew), and *Head Over Heels* (Ensemble), and with Marquis Players in *RENT* (Mimi Marquez), *Cabaret* (Frenchie), and *Footloose* (Betty Blast/Student Ensemble). She is the President of the Marquis Players and a member of Alpha Psi Omega. Kelsie would love to thank the cast and crew for their hard work, and hopes that everyone enjoys the show!

Nihan Cedimagar (*Mrs. Jennings/Gossip*) is a junior theater and physics double major from Istanbul, Turkey. She has previously been involved in many other Lafayette Theater Department productions, including *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Bright Star*, and *Silent Sky*. She will be playing the title character in *Stuart Little* later this semester in Lafayette's Theater for Young Audiences production. She is so excited to be working on *Sense and Sensibility* with so many talented and hard working people and hopes you enjoy the show.

Laura Coffey (*Makeup and Hair Designer*) is a senior studying Theater and Film and Media Studies. She enjoys spending time with her adorable bunnies Balerion Onyx and Ophelia Sable.

Olivia Cox* (*Margaret Dashwood/Lucy Steele*) is a sophomore theater major and psychology minor from Long Island, NY. Her recent roles at Lafayette include Mrs. Davis/Featured Ensemble in *Rent* and Florence/Ensemble in *Bright Star*. She will be playing Mrs. Little in *Stuart Little* later this semester in Lafayette's Theater for Young Audiences production. Olivia is involved in regional theaters, trains with vocal coach Eric VanHoven, and is the Co-Fundraising Chair for the Marquis Players. Olivia is also a Lafayette Award recipient. This past summer, as

a returning alum, she worked with the creative team as a counselor at her high school's theater camp. She would like to thank her family and friends for their continued support and encouragement.

Krisyalee Decena (*Assistant Stage Manager*) was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey. She is currently a first year student and plans to double major in Psychology and Sociology and minor in Theater. In high school, Krisyalee appeared in the plays *She Kills Monsters* and *One Spotlight Town*. She was also an ensemble member in *Rent*, a student director and part of the ensemble in *The Color Purple*, a Murderess in *Chicago*, and Dorothy in *The Wiz*. She is so thankful for everyone she has met on this production.

Tom DiGiovanni (*Music Supervisor*) has had the pleasure of collaborating with Lafayette's Department of Theater since 1993. He teaches music at Phillipsburg High School and is the music director and organist at Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church in nearby Stewartsville, NJ.

Hope Duffy (*Deck/Props Assistant*) is a freshman majoring in English (Writing Concentration). She is excited for her first Lafayette Theater Department production. Hope's recent productions with the Reading Memorial High School Drama Club include *We Will Rock You* (Production Assistant and Spotlight Operator), *Something Rotten* (Assistant Stage Manager), and *The Actor's Nightmare* (Assistant Stage Manager).

Jack Finegold (*Assistant Director/Dramaturg*) is excited to be making his Lafayette Assistant Directorial and Dramaturgy debut! He would like to thank Mary Jo Lodge for her mentorship and teaching him so much about directing. He will be playing Snowbell the Cat in *Stuart Little* later this semester in Lafayette's Theater for Young Audiences production. He looks forward to other opportunities to direct and is so excited for everyone to see this production of *Sense and Sensibility*!

Daly Gibson (*Pianist*) is a senior electrical and computer engineering major, with a minor in music technology. This is her first theater production at Lafayette College. She has previously performed in honors recitals and as accompanist to the Lafayette College Chamber Orchestra.

Lexi Handelman (*Hair and Makeup*) is pursuing a dual major in Theater and Environmental Studies. She was raised in Connecticut, where she performed in and completed technical work for 6 mainstage productions with her high school's theater arts department and three 24-hour play productions. At Lafayette, she has worked on *Bright Star* on the costume crew and on *Silent Sky* as a properties/costumes swing. She will be playing Margolo the bird in *Stuart Little* later this semester in Lafayette's Theater for Young Audiences production.

Jeff Helm (*Scenic Designer*) is a faculty member in Lafayette's Mechanical Engineering Department. This is his thirteenth production at Lafayette. His credits include designing the sets for *Black Comedy*, *Heddatron*, *Disgraced*, *Metamorphoses*, *Talk Radio*, *Frankenstein 2029* and *Ubu Roi*, designing the robots for *Heddatron*, and acting in the College's productions of *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Love Letters*, *Proof*, *The Laramie Project* and *Inherit the Wind*.

Bryan Kibet (*Deck/Props Assistant*) is a Junior Economics and Policy Studies double major and a theater minor from Bethesda, Maryland. This is his fourth production with the Theater Department and he is so excited to work with another fantastic cast and crew! He was previously seen as Tom Collins in *Rent*, Stanford Adams in *Bright Star*, James Wilson in *Lift Every Voice* and Herman in the Marquis Players' *Cabaret*. He will be playing Mr. Little in *Stuart Little* later this semester in Lafayette's Theater for Young Audiences production. Outside of theater, Bryan is the Parliamentarian for Student Government, is in Greek Life, in Lafayette Activities Forum and is a McKelvy and Posse Scholar. He's beyond excited to bring this story of heart, humor, and sense & sensibility to life and sends all his heartfelt thanks (and maybe a dash of sensibility) to everyone who comes to see the show!

Emma Li (*Associate Costume Designer*) is a senior studying theater and government & law. She was the assistant costume designer for *Silent Sky* and *Much Ado About Nothing* for the Theater Department, and was a dresser for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis this past summer. Emma is grateful to the Theater and Gov Lab communities, as well as to her little brother.

Mary Jo Lodge (*Director/Choreographer*) is Professor of Theater and the Theater Department Head at Lafayette. She is a theater performer, director, choreographer and scholar. She has published numerous

articles and book chapters on the musical and has directed and choreographed a wide range of professional and college productions. She holds a PhD from Bowling Green State University. She co-edited, with Paul R. Laird, the collection *Dueling Grounds: Revolution and Revelation in the Musical Hamilton* which was published by Oxford University Press in May of 2021. She edited the collection *Milestones in Musical Theatre* for Routledge in June of 2023. At Lafayette, she has directed many productions, including *Bright Star*, *The Book Club Play*, *The Wolves*, and *Head Over Heels*, and is directing the Department's production of *Stuart Little*, which opens next month.

James Miller (*Sound/Media Operator*) is a sophomore in engineering. Born and raised in Pasadena, California, James worked on several productions at Polytechnic High School, often on sound. This is his fourth time working on crew for a Lafayette production.

Katrina Miller (*Properties Designer/Scenic Artist/Assistant Technical Director*) holds an MFA in Scenic Design from Purdue University and a BFA in Theatre Design and Production from Northern Illinois University. Previously her work has been seen at Boston Children's Theatre, Music Theatre Wichita, Orlando Shakespeare Theatre, Texas Shakespeare Festival, Kalamazoo Civic Theatre, Lehigh University, Muhlenberg College, Parkland High School, and in NBC's production of *Peter Pan Live*.

Will Morris (*Costume Designer*) is a freelance theatrical designer and director. For almost two decades, he was the resident designer at the Civic Theatre of Allentown, where he served as Technical Director, Company Manager, and Associate Artistic Director. Off-Broadway credits include the world premiere of Matthew LaBanca's *Communion* (The Cell Theatre). Other New York credits include the world premiere of *Bum Bum*, as well as *Spring Awakening* and *A Christmas Carol* (Epic Players NYC). In addition to serving as an adjunct professor in the theatre programs at Muhlenberg College and Lehigh University, Will has directed or designed for the stages of Lafayette College (*Silent Sky*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Bright Star*), Cedar Crest College (*Heathers*, *The Wolves*, *Mesmerized*, *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, *Disenchanted*, *Antigone X*), Lehigh University (*Passage*) and Moravian Academy (*Twelve Angry Jurors*). Select directing credits include *Heathers*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Sister Act*, *The Humans*, *Significant Other*, *Spamalot*,

Noises Off, *Rock of Ages*, and *God of Carnage*, among others. To learn more, visit www.willmorrisdesign.org.

Nora Morsman (*Assistant Stage Manager*) has participated in several theater productions during her time at Lafayette and is so excited to participate in *Sense and Sensibility*. Their first show with Lafayette's Theater Department was *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and she then participated in *Shakespeare on the Quad* and was on the crew for *Silent Sky*, and also served on the crew for the Marquis Players' production of *Rent*. She hopes you enjoy the show.

Devin Muench (Sir John Middleton / Doctor /Gossip) is a freshman theater major. Recent roles include Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (McCallie School Theater) and Wiesel in *Newsies* (McCallie School Theater). Prior to attending Lafayette College, Devin has trained at UNCSA. He would like to thank his parents and younger brother, Zack, for their continued support of his theatrical endeavors.

Alexander Owens (*Production Manager/Technical Director*) has collaborated on a successful grant for the creation of the Immersive Arts Lab, developed a fellowship for Engineering students interested in theater, constructed a swimming pool onstage for *Metamorphoses*, and oversaw the move into and opening of William C. Buck Hall.

Delaney Piccoli* (*Light Board Operator*) is a sophomore History major, and is thrilled to be the lightboard operator for *Sense and Sensibility*. You may have previously seen her work as Claudio in *Much Ado About Nothing* and as spotlight operator for *Bright Star* for the Theater Department and as spotlight operator for the Marquis Players' *Rent*.

Iris Pierce (*Costume, Hair and Makeup Lead*) is a junior English (literature) and Psychology double major. She has previously worked on costume crew for the Theater Department's productions of *Bright Star* and *Much Ado About Nothing*, and for the Marquis Players' *Cabaret* and *Rent*.

Johnny Raheb (*Edward/Robert Ferrars/Gossip*) is a junior Biology major and Theater minor. He is looking forward to his first play with the Theater Department, after previously appearing as Jimmy Ray in *Bright Star* last season. As a member of Marquis Players and the Lafayette Mar-Keys, he enjoys the performing arts. He has also performed in the Marquis Players' productions of *Rent* and *Cabaret*.

Kia Rogers (*Lighting Designer*) is a New York City based lighting designer for Theater and Dance. Recent designs include *House of Blue Robes* and *Recurring* with LAByrinth Theater Company. International credits: Lighting Designer for *The Baby Monitor*, Rome and Cagliari, Italy 2021, and Belgrade, Serbia for the Belgrade Pride Festival. Associate Lighting Designer for *Slutforart/98.6* in Gothenburg, Sweden with Muna Tseng. West Coast designs: El Portal's Monroe Forum Theatre, Los Angeles and Z Space, San Francisco. Film credits: *Georgia & Me*, *Happy Days*, and *Hot Angry Mom* web series. Awards: *Outstanding Lighting Design for Real*, 2019 and *Jane The Plain*, 2014 by the New York Innovative Theatre Awards, *Outstanding Lighting Design for Mr. Toole*, 2016 by the Midtown International Theatre Festival. Kia has been a Creative Partner with Flux Theatre Ensemble since 2012, and a member of LAByrinth Theater Company, NYC.

Zoe Sarr (*FannyFerrars Dashwood/Charlotte/Gossip*) is a senior double-majoring in International Affairs and Asian Studies. This is her first show as a cast member for Lafayette's Theater Department and she couldn't be more excited. She served as an Assistant Stage Manager for the Theater Department's production of *Bright Star* last year. She has been doing theater since middle school and recently performed in the Marquis Player's previous productions of *Cabaret* and *Footloose*. Outside of theater, Zoe is involved in Alpha Gamma Delta and works for the College Writing Program.

Sonali Shah* (*Marianne Dashwood*) is a senior Theater & English double major. She is extremely excited to be working on *Sense & Sensibility* as her senior project in theater. She has previously been involved in *Silent Sky* (Annie Cannon), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Hero), *Bright Star* (Edna), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hermia), *Lift Every Voice* (Production Assistant), and Marquis Players' *Footloose* (Ensemble). She will next be seen as Dr. Carey in the Lafayette Theater Department production of *Stuart Little* next month. She hopes that everyone enjoys *Sense and Sensibility* as much as she does!

Chanler Sharpe (*Stage Manager*) is a freelance stage manager/production manager/props artisan/carpenter/theatre person. They were born and raised in Walnutport, PA, and love the Lehigh Valley. Her prior credits include Production Manager at Sharon Playhouse, Stage Operations Supervisor at Maine State Music Theatre, Tech

Supervisor at Easton Area High School, as well as work at Muhlenberg College, Dorney Park, and Cedar Crest College.

Alivia Smith (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is a sophomore Mechanical Engineering major and a Theater minor. On campus, she is the stage manager for the Marquis Players, works in Buck Hall, building sets for Lafayette theater productions, and is a member of PASA. She is also a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority Chapter on campus. She is the Assistant Stage Manager for the show and is so excited for everyone to see it! She will be appearing as Margolo the bird in the Lafayette Theater Department of *Stuart Little* in November.

Addie Snider (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is a freshman at Lafayette College and an Assistant Stage Manager for *Sense and Sensibility*. She intends to major in Biology and minor in Theater. Prior to her arrival at Lafayette College, she worked on *Bright Star*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Mean Girls*, *Winter Break*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Clue*, and *Big Fish*. She's excited for her first show at Lafayette!

Emma Strawser (*Hair and Makeup Assistant*) is a first-year student from Kailua, Hawai'i, studying Psychology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Lafayette College. Before college, Emma worked with Hanakēhau Learning Farm in Wahiawā, where she grew native crops and learned from farmers who connect agriculture with culture and history. She also worked at Kanu Farm in Waimanalo, a cacao supplier for Mānoa Chocolate Company. Outside of farming, she spent 14 years as a performing aerialist, taught aerial arts to kids, played varsity water polo, and volunteered with Kaka'ako Kupuna. These experiences deepened her appreciation for hard work, community, and connection.

Brooke Suzman (*Theater Marketing Assistant*) is thrilled to have assisted with marketing for *Sense & Sensibility* and has loved watching the dedication of the entire cast and crew.

Zoe Urbahns (*Deck/Props Assistant*) is a senior studying Biology and Environmental Science. She is thrilled to be a part of her first Lafayette Theater Department production.

Jiayu (Angel) Yan (*Lady Middleton/Miss Grey/Mrs. Ferrars/Gossip*) is a sophomore majoring in Theater and considering a double major

in Economics. Recently, she was the assistant stage manager in *Bright Star*, in the ensemble of *Rent* (Marquis Players version), Watchperson in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and participated as Xiaohong and Ensemble in *Luxun* the musical produced by Shanghai Jiao Tong University. She will also play Mrs. Little in *Stuart Little* in Lafayette's Theater for Young Audiences production next month.

Manning Yip (Dresser) is a junior studying Mechanical Engineering. Manning discovered his interest and introduction in theater thanks to the Wendy Wasserstein Project/Theater Development Fund. As a first year, he served on the hair and costume crew for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He worked as an Assistant Stage Manager for *Bright Star*. Manning is a proud Posse scholar.

Below please find a tentative list of courses to be offered by the Theater Department in Spring '26. We invite current Lafayette students to join us in class:

THTR 101 Intro to Theater [HAH, HUM]

T/R 9:30-10:45 a.m.

248 N. 3rd Street, Studio Theater (Arts Campus)

Professor Jake Salgado

Through lectures, discussions, hands-on- experiences, master classes with visiting theater professionals, and performances outside of class, this course introduces students to significant texts, ideas, and crafts essential to the study of theater. Projects involve acting, directing, design, and theater criticism; writing assignments familiarize students with the analytic tools and accepted vocabulary of theater scholarship.

THTR 102 Basic Stagecraft [HAA, HUM]

F 1:15-4:00 p.m.

248 N. 3rd Street, Studio Theater (Arts Campus)

Professor Alex Owens

This course is a hands-on introduction to the world of stagecraft where you will explore the technology, both old and new, utilized to create magical environments for the live performing arts. We will examine the myriad ways technology empowers artists to engage, inspire, and move audiences with their performances and learn how and when to utilize various scenic, lighting, sound, and costume tools, techniques, and technology to build convincing and compelling landscapes for performers and audiences alike. And, even if you never plan on working in the performing arts, you'll

develop practical skills for use around your future home and hone your skills in collaboration and creativity, both highly prized by all industries. So if you have ever been frustrated by flat pack furniture instructions, annoyed by a wobbly table at a restaurant, or been awestruck by the special effects at a Broadway musical, then you should take this course.

THTR 209 Theater and Environment [GM2,HUM, HAH, INSU, V, W]

M/W 2:45-4:00 p.m.

248 N. 3rd Street, Studio Theater (Arts Campus)

Professor Courtney Ryan

We live in challenging times. We are surrounded by social and racial injustices, like unequal access to healthcare, education, and food, and environmental problems like fracking, air pollution, and—of course—climate change. This course asks two questions: 1. How might all of these problems be connected to one another? And 2. How can theater serve to highlight these interconnected problems while still offering hope for the future? Students will analyze, evaluate, and create environmental art that speaks to their lived experience and to the experiences of others.

THTR 230 Acting II [HAA, HUM]

T/R 1:15-2:30 p.m.

248 N. 3rd Street, Studio Theater (Arts Campus)

Professor Mary Jo Lodge

This workshop extends beyond basic acting skills and training to offer a more in-depth study of the craft of acting. Students will utilize exercises, improvisation, and detailed script analysis as they build and develop characters. Students will perform in a range of scenes from modern American realism and from Ibsen, Strindberg, and Chekhov.

THTR 280 Speaking Power [HAH, HUM, V, W]

M/W 11:40-12:55 p.m.

T 7:00-9:50 a.m.

WCA 108

JENKS 122

Ty Furman

Mark Sapara

Certain phrases continue to ring in our ears long after their speakers have passed into history. This course will focus on the art of persuasion, teaching you effective speaking strategies for life and for professions, including: analyzing effective speeches; writing and delivering persuasive rhetoric; building authority; mastering argument techniques; assessing journalistic, political, and cultural ethics used over history by candidates, lawyers, newscasters, spin-doctors, and commentators.

THTR 287 Scenic Design

T/R 11:00-12:15 p.m.

248 N. 3rd Street, Studio Theater (Arts Campus)

Professor Jake Salgado

In this course, students will develop skills to communicate aesthetic concepts and semiotic connections, informed by dramaturgical analysis, in order to generate their own artful expressions through scenery. These instances of applied analysis and interpretation will challenge students to construct evaluative artistic responses to concepts including, but not limited to, matters of ethical conduct, identity, and justice in the context of live events and entertainment.

THTR 314 Stage Direction

T/R 2:45-4:00 p.m.

248 N. 3rd Street, Studio Theater (Arts Campus)

Professor Melissa Livingston

This course dives into the role of the director in bringing a play to life, covering everything from casting and rehearsals to shaping a show from script to performance. Students will get hands-on experience with key directing skills like organization and preparation, research, staging, and actor coaching, while exploring different scenes from new plays. Students will direct a short play for a public performance.

THTR 340 Queer Theater [H, W, V/ HAH, W, CECS]

M/W 11:40-12:55 p.m.

JENKS 125

Professor Courtney Ryan

What is queer theater and what can it do? Is it an identity and/or a practice? How does it center LGBTQ+ lives, and how has it and its reception changed over time? Analyzing queer, U.S.-based theater from 1980 to today, we will explore LGBTQ+ and two-spirit performances that are queer in content and form. Students will queer a normative piece of theater, write a queer play, and develop their own queer theater canon.

This semester, the students in Professor Lodge's Theater for Young Audiences class did a project where they designed program activities for *Sense and Sensibility*. Here is a selection of just two of the creative activities the students produced:

Create a Playlist (by Alivia Smith, '28)

Create a playlist that a character in *Sense and Sensibility* would listen to.

- What character did you select?
- What contemporary songs are on your playlist?
- Why did you select each song?

Take the Quiz:

Which Dashwood what are you? (by Bryan Kibet '27)

1. When making a big decision you usually:

- a. Think it through carefully, weighing the pros and cons
- b. Follow your gut feelings even if it's risky.
- c. Ask questions and explore before deciding.

2. How do you usually express your emotions?

- a. Quietly - I keep my feelings under control.
- b. Loudly - Everyone around me usually knows how I feel.
- c. With curiosity - I like talking about what I notice.

3. Your ideal way to spend an afternoon is:

- a. Reading, studying, or planning ahead.
- b. Writing poetry, listening to music, or daydreaming.
- c. Exploring something new, asking "why" a lot, or being adventurous.

4. Someone you like is being rude. You:

- a. Stay polite but firm - emotions shouldn't get in the way.
- b. React right away - if I'm upset I'll say it.
- c. Ask others what's going on and try to figure it out.

5. What's most important to you?

- a. Stability, respect, and doing the right thing.
- b. Passion, excitement, and living fully.
- c. Curiosity, fun and learning new things.

RESULTS

Mostly A's - Elinor Dashwood (Sense)

You're practical, thoughtful, and dependable. Like Elinor, you keep calm under pressure and try to make the smart choice even if it means hiding your emotions

Mostly Bs - Marianne Dashwood (Sensibility)

You're expressive, bold and led by your heart. Like Marianne, you live passionately and sometimes dramatically but that's what makes life exciting!

Mostly Cs - Margaret Dashwood (Curiosity)

You're curious, adventurous, and playful. Like Margaret, you're not afraid to ask questions, explore and challenge your expectations.

Join the Theater Department for our upcoming productions this season, all in the Weiss Theater in Buck Hall on the Arts Campus:

Stuart Little (Touring Version)
by Joseph Robinette
November 15, 2025

Directed by Professor Mary Jo Lodge and featuring the THTR 335 class

This charming version of the beloved E. B. White story of Stuart, the New York City mouse with a human family, will be presented to students in the Easton Area School District in celebration of Lafayette's 200th anniversary of rewarding collaborations with the surrounding community. (45 minutes long and free and open to the public in two weekend performances on Nov. 15th. Appropriate for audiences ages 5 and up.)

Medea
adapted and directed by Professor Melissa Livingston
March 5-8, 2026

In this new adaptation of the classic Greek myth, Medea, a woman who has lived her life in service of her husband, Jason, finds herself cast aside when Jason decides to leave the marriage and take the youthful princess of Corinth as his new bride. Alone, broken, and in despair, Medea hatches a plan that she believes will bring her husband joyfully back to her; instead, things end tragically. Featuring lighting design by Professor Jake Salgado, set design by Aven Lancaster ('26) and costume design by Emma Li ('26).

The Next One Hundred Years (abridged)
by Caridad Svich
April 30-May 3, 2026

Directed by Professor Courtney Ryan
Designed by Professor Jake Salgado

This abridged version of playwright Caridad Svich's new play, created during her 2024 Guggenheim Fellowship, asks who we will be in the next 100 years. This multimedia performance piece, supported by student design fellows, asks audiences to imagine, against all odds, there is a future that is not foreclosed.

How can I support the Lafayette College Theater Department?

HAVE a SEAT

Theater Legacy
Endowment Fund

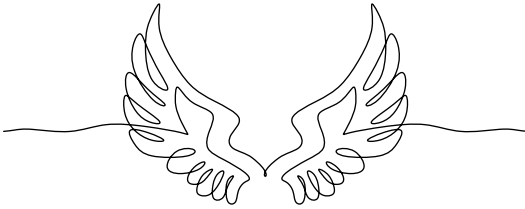


You don't have to be a performer to play a starring role with the Lafayette College Theater Department!

Whether you were in the cast or crew of a past production, are an appreciative member of the audience, or a family member of one of our thespians looking for a memorable gift.

Our *Have a Seat* campaign offers you a chance to leave a lasting legacy and play an important role in ensuring our primary performance space remains at the edge of comfort, safety, and technology for students and community members alike.

[leave a lasting legacy today!](#)



Theater Angels

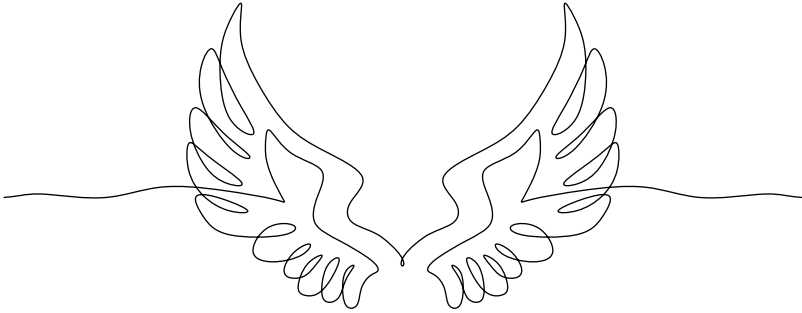
Become an Angel through a donation of any amount! Your support goes towards expanding student opportunities beyond the classroom through programmings such as guest speakers /artists, professional development, workshops, student-directed and designed productions and lots more!

[become an angel today!](#)

Theater Angels are recognized on a designated page in each of our playbill booklets in digital format.

WE BELIEVE IN ANGELS

In the theater, an angel is a divine person who makes generous donations so theater can happen right here on earth. Support from our Angels has brought in professional designers and choreographers, supported our students competing in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and sponsored lectures by playwrights.



Theater Angels 2025-2026

Amy P. Ahart & Thomas A. DiGiovanni

Mary Kate Arcuri

Kelly Hess Artamonov

Grace Marchena Bechtel

Zoe A. Boekelheide

Graham & Susan Githens Cable

George & Irene Cox

Anne Crisafulli

Mark & Shelly Depalmer

Arthur P. Ernst Jr.

Margaret Frodell

Lily Groff

Brent Horowitz

Carly Johnson

Nathaniel Kelley

Marta Kepka

John A. Kolba

Richard & Abby Laskey

Gianna M. Locascio

Patrick & Barbara McCarthy

Brenna Murphy

Glendon & Julie Schuster

William & Barbara Strasburg Tucker

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Suzanne Westfall & Steven Putzel

Rebecca Wilts

James & Susan Woolley

Beth Wynstra