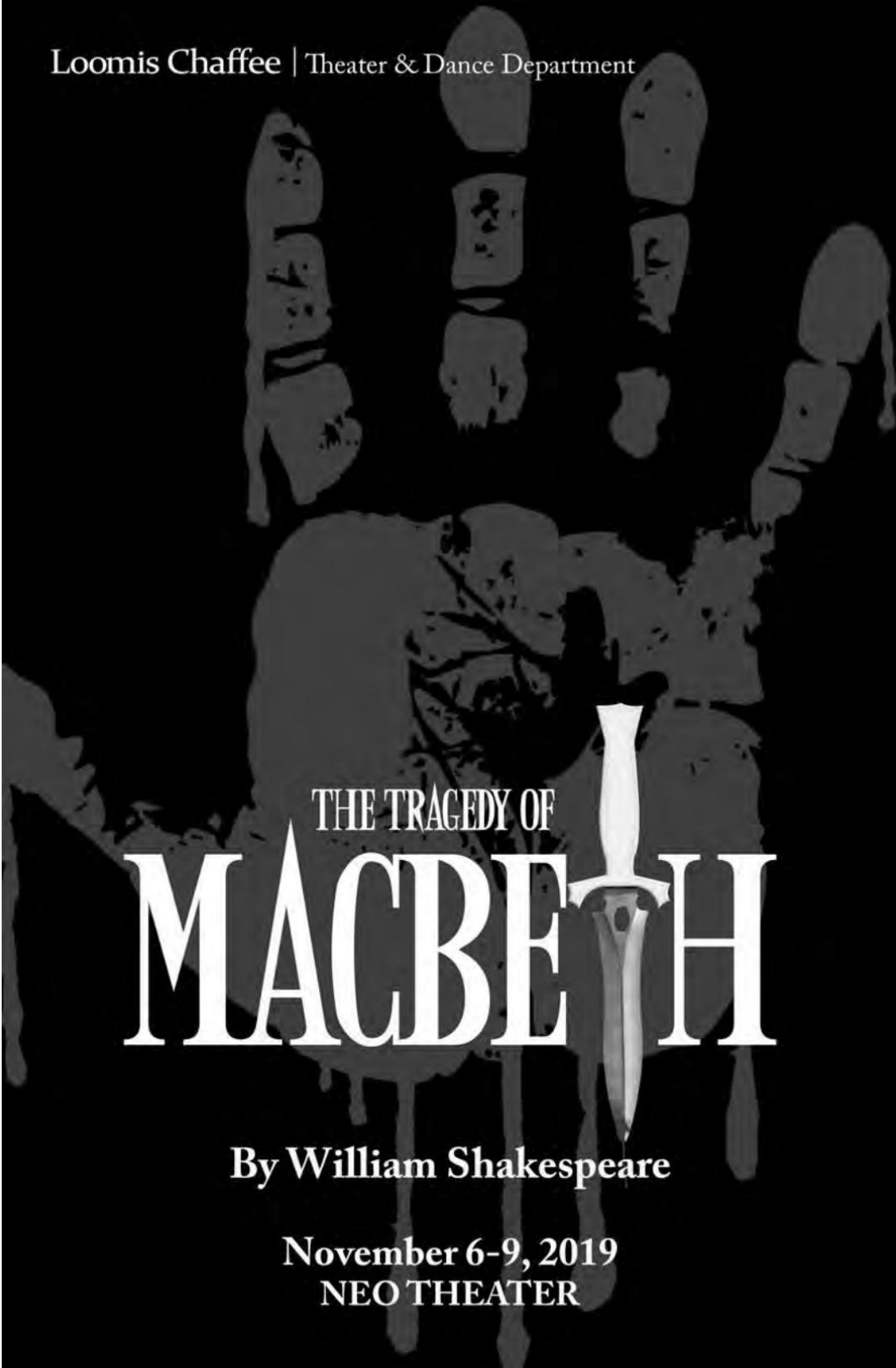


Loomis Chaffee | Theater & Dance Department



THE TRAGEDY OF
MACBETH

By William Shakespeare

November 6-9, 2019
NEO THEATER

LOOMISCHAFFEE
Department of Theater & Dance

JOIN the NEO



theater

ACADEMIC COURSES & PRIVATE STUDY

- Acting I: Beginning Acting
- Acting II: Advanced Modern Scene & Audition Study
- Advanced Acting for Shakespeare
- Advanced Acting for Comedy Improvisation
- Directing
- Playwriting
- Theatrical Production & Management
- Technical Theater I: Theory & Design
- Technical Theater II: Advanced Theory & Design
- Public Speaking & Argumentation
- Independent Studies in Theater
- Private Acting Lessons

FACULTY

- Head, Theater & Dance Department
- Music Director
- Dance Instructor/Choreographer
- Associate Theater Director
- Production Manager
- Theater Instructor of Stage Management & Design
- Public Speaking & Argumentation Instructor

VISITING ARTISTS

- Set Designer
- Costume Designer
- Lighting Designer
- Sound Designer
- Technical Director
- Assistant Technical Director
- Audio Engineer
- Charge Scenic Artist
- Properties Artisan
- Dramaturg
- Fight Director
- Makeup & Hair Artisan
- Guest Dance Choreographer
- Dialect/Speech/Voice Coach

Loomis Chaffee

Department of Theater & Dance

THE TRAGEDY OF

MACBETH

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

November 6-9, 2019

Director - Will Eggers

Assistant Director - Kate Saxton

Production Manager - Candice Chirgotis

Cover design by Stacy-Ann Rowe
Photography by Rachel M. Engelke
Set Illustrations by Karen Sparks Mellon

SAFETIES



- For the safety of the actors, please **no flash photography** of any kind.
- The exits are located to the right of the audience and through the lobby.
- Restrooms for patrons are located in the red brick building next to the NEO.
- By direction of the Fire Marshal of the Town of Windsor, patrons may not occupy the aisles or the lobby during the show.

COURTESIES

- **Please turn off all cellphones, smartphones, and other personal electronic devices, and refrain from using them during the performance.**
- Patrons who have forgotten or misplaced their tickets will be placed on the Wait List.
- Please unwrap all cough drops before the show. Otherwise, no food or drink (except water in closed containers) allowed in the auditorium.
- The running time is approximately 95 minutes, with NO intermission.

GRATTITUDES

- Andy Billipp, knife maker, for his expertise in crafting, with the assistance of Joel Drake, our original swords. #billippknives
- Our colleagues in the Music Department, Sue Chrzanowski and David Winer, for loaning us "A drum, a drum!"
- Lynn Petrillo, Mary Forrester, and Jessica Ravenelle in Strategic Communications for facilitating the documentation of our NEO productions by professional photographers and videographers.
- Christine Coyle for the skill and care with which she writes about our students and our productions, and most especially for sharing with readers online and in print her keen insights into our work. And Kaitlyn Pratt and Melissa Rion for helping us get the word out.
- Stacy-Ann "Ro" Rowe for the powerful and eye-catching poster art she created for our production!
- Ralph Branco, Chris Beckford, Ana Melendez, and the rest of the Housekeeping staff for taking such good care of our little red barn throughout the year.
- Julia Knight, Paula Henriques, and Marie Tanuis in the Business Office: Our vendors, professional carpenters, electricians, and other contractors much appreciate your efforts.
- Lance Hall and the Physical Plant staff who bring their skills and talents to maintaining the Norris Ely Orchard Theater and upgrading space in the building next door that we have transformed into an organized, much-needed, and greatly-appreciated Production Annex.
- Rich Esposito and Dan Corjulo for the NEO's state-of-the-art theatrical equipment, and Andris Briga for his above-and-beyond-the-call-of-duty audio/visual support, collaboration, and expertise. (Did you notice the high-quality audio coming from the new replacement speakers in front of the stage, and the new subwoofer hiding in the rafters? We have an "Anonymous" donor to thank for their generosity, and Andris to thank for making it happen!)
- Anna Vdovenko for her amazing photography expertly documenting the NEO productions!
- Rachel Engelke for magically producing (through a potent combination of determination, devotion, and infinite patience) this beautiful playbill. Show, after show, after show. How many by now, Rachel? Amazing.
- J.A.D. for the perfect timing of their dramatic entrance.
- And finally, to YOU the audience, and the many parents and families whose support of the work in our Little Red Barn since 1939 makes it all that much more rewarding. THANK YOU!

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Even with the number of people familiar with the Scottish play, it offers surprises. Nothing in *Macbeth* is quite what one expects. The most admirable hero of his age becomes a tyrant concerned only with retaining his throne; the relentlessly honorable father behaves like a bystander, allowing his friend to become a tyrant; the heroic, principled agent of justice abandons her wife and child, sacrificing them for the good of her nation; the monarch at the end of the play is one who did not defeat the evil and will not pass on the throne; and the progenitor of the eventual line of kings is nowhere to be found.

Our production plays with these expectations, setting our characters in a world that provides signals that, upon closer inspection, are a little askew. Our set, designed by the brilliant Karen Sparks Mellon, in her 44th NEO production, embodies that idea, driving lines of sight at angles that prevent us from settling in easily to that world. Picking up on gendered language from *Lady Macbeth*, our costume designer Lisa Bebey emphasizes our gender-fluid casting by creating costumes with masculine and feminine elements on characters of both sexes. The goblets, created by prop designer Alex Natrass, seem to be filled with liquids that crawl up the sides unevenly. The set, with all its uncertain angles, stands due to the efforts of our technical director Ken Jones. The



unsettling use of colors, presented by lighting designer Tate Burmeister, helps to portray the blurring of psychological and physical realities. Even the weapons, constructed by fight coordinator Joel Drake, invert the traditional tonto blade, being both recognizable and vaguely unfamiliar.

At the heart of our production is a bad romance, with each character doing what he or she thinks the other wants. In doing so, the Macbeths abandon the best parts of themselves, loving support and the milk of human kindness, in a wild pursuit of a crown that, childless, they can never pass on. Even in a world with magic, confirmation bias can play a more important role than stoic skepticism.

Our performers have populated this world with an admirable ferocity, forging troubled relationships between vivid characters. We hope you appreciate your visit to a world that may not be that far from our own.

Will Eggers
November 2019



CAST

Lana Breheney '21
 Julie Chung '21
 Steele Citrone '20
 Aidan Cooper '22
 Jasper Gitlitz '22
 Emma Goldfarb '20
 John Howley '21
 Grace Kulas '20
 Rosalie Lyons '21
 Vanessa Magid '22
 Talia Mayo '21
 Simone Moales '21
 Benjamin Radmore '22
 Anna Rebello '21
 Kassie Rivera '21
 Laura Salem '21
 Grace Thompson '22
 Baihan (Tom) Zhang '21

Lady Macbeth
Weird Sister, Ross
Duncan, Porter, Seyton
Malcolm, Apparition
Fleance
Weird Sister
Macbeth
Macduff
Donalbain, Gentlewoman
Young Macduff, Menteith
Murderer, Young Siward
Captain, Lennox
Angus, Old Man, Apparition
Lady Macduff, Caithness
Murderer, Apparition, Doctor, Siward
Messenger
Weird Sister
Banquo

PRODUCTION TEAM

Will Eggers
 Kate Saxton
 Candice Chirgotis
 Ken Jones
 Sam Higgins
 Joel Drake
 Karen Sparks Mellon
 Lisa Bebey
 Tate R. Burmeister
 Alexandra Natrass
 Rachel M. Engelke

Director
Assistant Director
Production Manager
Technical Director
Assistant Technical Director, Audio Supervisor
Stage Combat
Set Designer
Costume Designer
Lighting Designer
Properties Designer, Scenic Artist
Playbill Editor

For this Production:

Benjamin Curns
 Alec Drohan
 Kate Loughlin
 Steve Pasternak
 Kacey Skurja

Fight Consultant
Master Carpenter
Choreographer
Carpenter
Charge Scenic Artist



TECHNICIANS

Isabel Ruppel '21
Asher Kornfeld '22
 Cooper Abbate '22
 Ryan Fortani '22
 Jasper Gitlitz '22
 Adam McDonagh '20
 John Riley '22
 Amelia Rinaldi '23
 Kai Sheng Tham '21
 Alejandra Velasquez '20
 Grace Wolf '20
 Olivia Zoga '21

Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Manager
Sound Crew
Sound Crew
Ticket Manager
Lighting Crew Chief
Lighting Crew
Lighting Crew
Sound Crew Chief
Sound Crew
Lighting Crew
Lighting Crew

These students participate in the department's Technical Theater course. In after-school and evening Tech Labs, they worked on this production as they learned the fundamentals of theater production – including scenery fabrication techniques, props devising and construction, costume building and coordination, hanging and focusing lighting instruments, the operation of computerized lighting and audio control consoles, and scenic painting. In addition, they are responsible for the running crew positions listed alongside their names.

CAST



Lana Breheney '21 (*Lady Macbeth*) Lana is excited to pressure John Howley into murder. In her 5th NEO show, previous credits include an old man in the belly of a fish (*The Old Man and The Old Moon*) and a woman who dresses as a man who is a woman (*Twelfth Night*). When Lana is not on stage, you can find her perfecting in Cutler or analyzing Indiana Jones. Thx to everyone who made this AWESOME!



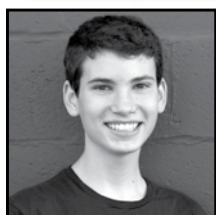
Julie Chung '21 (*Weird Sister*, *Ross*) Julie is back for her 5th show! Previously, she played Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, and one of six old men in *The Old Man and The Old Moon*. Besides spending hours in the NEO learning lines and taking naps, Julie can be found editing *The Log* and working in the Chapel as an Acapelicans leader. She wants to thank the directors, crew & her parents, who are probably reading this.



Steele Citrone '20 (*Duncan*, *Porter*, *Seyton*) Steele is excited for his second time on this stage! Foreshadowing his senior career, Steele went from a cordial, heartwarming king, to a drunken gatekeeper, and finally to Seyton. Steele reprises his role of crawling on the floor in *The Old Man and The Old Moon* when he played Lucy the Dog. He loves his cast, directors, and the audience as he exposes the vices of all.



Aidan Cooper '22 (*Malcolm*, *Apparition*) Aidan is psyched to be performing in his first NEO production at Loomis! When he's not inspiring revolution against John Howley, Aidan can be found writing for *The Loom* or *The Log*, fiddling on his violin, or playing tennis. Before entering the big red barn, he performed in many shows, from *Newsies* to *Phantom of the Opera*. Thank you to the cast for being so welcoming!



Jasper Gitlitz '22 (*Fleance*) Jasper is thrilled to join the amazing NEO community. Although he loves all things theater, this is his first experience with Shakespeare. He hopes he pronounces all the words correctly! He also plays the trumpet, and (when nobody is around) he likes to sing. In addition to acting and playing music, Jasper loves skiing and sailing, and he hopes to be a sailing instructor next summer.



Emma Goldfarb '20 (*Weird Sister*) Emma is thrilled to perform in her 7th NEO show! Just as she was typecast as absent-minded characters in the past, Emma is again playing a character comparable to herself: a conniving witch! Outside of the theater, Emma enjoys banging loudly on her drum set to scare away her neighbors and jamming to '70s music. Many thanks to Dr. Eggers, Ms. Saxton, the cast, and crew!



John Howley '21 (*Macbeth*) In his 5th NEO production, John has enjoyed taking out the stress of his hectic junior year by screaming and crying on stage. When John isn't stabbing his cast mates, he enjoys writing for *The Log*, being an e-Proctor, and running the Film Forum on campus. John would like to thank the talented cast, amazing fight choreographers, and incredible directors for creating the world of *Macbeth*.



Grace Kulas '20 (*Macduff*) This is Grace's 3rd and final year in the NEO, and this long exhausting journey has culminated in stabbing John Howley. Although college apps have taken a toll, Grace is excited to be back in the NEO. Outside the NEO, she can be found doing homework, crying about D&D, and doing more homework. Please help. Grace wants to thank everyone for their hard work and hopes you enjoy the show.



Rosalie Lyons '21 (*Donalbain, Gentlewoman*) Despite missing auditions, Rosalie is back! Since her role as Maria in *Twelfth Night*, she's been coxing varsity crew, writing, surfing, and lying on the floor. Rosalie wants to thank the actors for making nearly every day of rehearsal enjoyable, teaching her new ways to procrastinate while doing homework in the greenroom, and rising to the challenge of taking on *Macbeth*.



Vanessa Magid '22 (*Young Macduff, Menteith*) Vanessa is thrilled to make her NEO debut! She's had so much fun with the cast & creative team, focusing on her screaming skills and coming up with nicknames for her characters #mcdoffspring. Past roles include Campbell in *Bring It On*, Gertrude in *Seussical*, Cassie in *13!*, and many more. Thx to everyone who helped her with her first theater experience at Loomis!

CAST



Talia Mayo '21 (*Murderer, Young Siward*) Having gained some knowledge of stage combat as Sebastian in *Twelfth Night*, Talia is excited to die, murder 2-3 people, and die again in her 5th NEO show. Outside the barn, she is probably sleeping, attempting homework, or turning compost as an Ag-proctor. Talia enjoys singing, dancing, and reading when she has time (rarely). Thanks family & friends for their support!



Simone Moales '21 (*Captain, Lennox*) Formerly a talking donkey in *Shrek, the Musical* and a flirtatious duchess in *Twelfth Night*, Simone is thrilled to play a sympathetic young thane in her 3rd NEO production! Outside the NEO, Simone is a PRISM president, Longman prefect, Acapelicans singer, and lover of the humanities. Special thanks to her family, friends, cast, and crew for supporting her along the way!



Benjamin Radmore '22 (*Angus, Old Man, Apparition*) Ben is overjoyed to have stumbled into his 3rd NEO show. Kept far from sharp objects, he's loved every moment of the topsy-turvy emotional rollercoaster called *Macbeth*. Past roles include Bartley in *The Old Man and The Old Moon* and Captain in *Twelfth Night*. Ben is a D&D enthusiast, prospective physicist, and professional Howley impersonator.



Anna Rebello '21 (*Lady Macduff, Caithness*) Anna is thrilled to return to the NEO for the 3rd time. The nearly 151 hrs, 45 min in rehearsal this fall (not like she's counting) would have been unbearable without the endless laughs and many sword fights. Anna has loved working with the incredibly talented cast and crew to put together this production of *Macbeth*, a true Shakespeare classic. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Kassie Rivera '21 (*Murderer, Apparition, Doctor, Siward*) Kassie's journey from techie to wall jumper to hat passer has culminated in playing a dead body. She is a full-fledged NEO actor now, and for some reason she's also become extremely skilled at stage combat, which she plans to utilize in day-to-day life. Speaking of her daily life, Kassie spends most of her time writing plays or reading books she's already read.



Laura Salem '21 (*Messenger*) Having previously performed in last year's *Twelfth Night*, Laura is extremely excited to appear in her second NEO show. In addition, Laura is a Peer Counselor and a lover of English and history. When she is not in the NEO, Laura spends her time writing or playing lacrosse. She has had an amazing time working with the cast and wants to thank everyone for their hard work!



Grace Thompson '22 (*Weird Sister*) Once upon a time there was a girl whose biggest dream was to play a creepy witch with fake blood covering her face. With *Macbeth*, her dream is finally coming true. This girl would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her odd interests, which include writing, trying to find medieval armor, and listening intensely to Celtic music. Enjoy the show! The End (for now).



Baihan (Tom) Zhang '21 (*Banquo*) Since he read this play in English class last year, Tom has been imagining a role in it! He's thrilled to perform in his third NEO show, and he is very grateful to be able to work with this incredibly talented cast. Outside of the NEO, Tom often finds himself scrolling through Jordan Peterson's (and sometimes Markiplier's) YouTube channel with subtitles in a foreign language.

SENIORS



Our best wishes to this trio of talented thespians in the Class of 2020, who, along with their friends in the crew back stage or out in the house, have performed in or tech'd a total of **31** mainstage productions at the NEO — beginning with *The Crucible*, as freshmen in the fall of 2016: Grace K. (5), Steele (2), and Emma (7). Senior technicians not pictured are Adam (7), Ally (5), and Grace W. (5). Break a leg in college (and beyond!), and be sure to come back and visit your beloved Little Red Barn on the Island.

TECHNICIANS



Cooper Abbate '22 (*Properties Construction, Sound Crew*) Cooper sees the NEO as a wonderful place full of joyous people. In his debut, he stands in the shadows of the tech booth, longing for the day when he may be seen as vital. Please send food and letters from loved ones, as he is hiding from critics. Cooper was last seen arguing with other techies who told him he had to work harder to earn his weekly bread.



Ryan Fortani '22 (*Scenery Construction, Sound Crew*) Ryan is thrilled to take part in the creation of his first NEO show. He enjoyed working on building and painting the set, learning how to use power tools, and he is glad to play a small role in the magic that occurs behind-the-scenes of Loomis theater. Ryan looks forward to continuing to work on future shows in his time here on the Island.



Jasper Gitlitz '22 (*Scenery Construction, Ticket Manager*) Jasper is thrilled to join the amazing NEO community. If this sounds familiar, it might be because you've already seen Jasper on p. 6 of this playbill. In addition to acting in many past shows, as well as this one in a few minutes, Jasper enjoys participating in the technical side of theater. He hopes you enjoy the results of all the hard work by the cast and crew!



Adam McDonagh '20 (*Scenery Construction, Lighting Crew Chief*) A day student from Suffield, Adam is happy to be working in his 4th year as a member of the NEO Theater technical crew, having worked on such shows as *The Old Man and The Old Moon*, *The Crucible*, and *Shrek, the Musical*. Adam is also active on the Robotics team in fall and winter, and he participates in the hiking program in the spring.



John Riley '22 (*Scenery Construction, Lighting Crew*) John is excited to be working with the crew for his 2nd fall show. As a technician, he can usually be found building set elements or being told off for holding the staple gun incorrectly. When he is not on stage, you might find John in Robotics, or perhaps you will not find him at all because he is probably at home doing homework, or putting off doing homework.



Amelia Rinaldi '23 (*Scenery Construction, Lighting Crew*) Amelia is a 1st-time crew member who is eager to see the show in action. Over the last 2 months, she has learned how to dodge falling curtains and has gained the knowledge of the all-powerful staple gun. If she survives Tech Week, she may even learn a few things about lights. Amelia is the only freshman techie, so if anything goes wrong, blame it on her.



Kai Sheng Tham '21 (*Scenery Construction, Sound Crew Chief*) Kai is thrilled for his fifth show with the NEO tech crew. He is extremely excited to continue to show off his professional set-making skills. When not in the NEO, Kai can be found playing water polo in the pool with his teammates, teaching swimming lessons, or, more than likely, in his room playing video games.



Alejandra Velasquez '20 (*Sound Crew*) With her fourth year in the NEO, Ally is no stranger to spilling paint, misplacing props, and forgetting her cues. Thankfully, after many learning experiences, Ally has – hopefully! – improved her tech skills. When she isn't struggling to reach props on the top shelf, Ally can be seen around campus giving tours, napping in Palmer, or leading StuActs meetings.



Grace Wolf '20 (*Costume Assistant, Lighting Crew*) Grace is thrilled to work her 3rd fall play in the NEO! This season, she's pulled lots of staples out of wood, used up a lot of sandpaper, cut lots of planks, and more, all without hurting herself or anyone else. When she's not in the NEO, you can find Grace serving as an RA in Ammidon, leading tours, helping in the Writing Studio, or stressing about college apps.

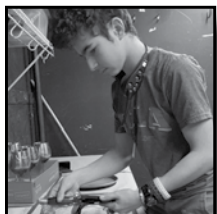


Olivia Zoga '21 (*Scenery Construction, Lighting Crew*) Olivia fights her way through a strong biological need for sleep every Mon & Wed 6:15-8:15 pm in order to use a power tool to assemble something in Tech Lab. She wouldn't trade it for the world! This is Olivia's 2nd show; she almost knows what she's doing. In her spare time, she likes to knit, organize her desktop, and contemplate homework she's avoiding.

STAGE MANAGERS



Isabel Ruppel '21 (*Stage Manager*) Isabel is so pleased to be working with the cast in the NEO again. All of the actors have worked so very hard on this performance, and Isabel is excited for them to share their work with you. Isabel would like to thank the whole cast and crew for their dedication. Outside of the NEO, you can always find Isabel in the library reading or talking to her friends.



Asher Kornfeld '22 (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Asher is happy to be a part of his first NEO production. He is very impressed by the work the actors have put in to create this amazing show, and he is excited for them to share their talents with you. Asher would like to thank the cast, the tech crew, and all the designers for their amazing work and dedication. Special thanks to John Howley for being John Howley.

PRODUCTION TEAM



Lisa Bebey (*Costume Designer*) Lisa has worked with the student crews designing and building costumes for the past 18 years at Loomis Chaffee. She was the Costume Shop Manager at Hartford Stage for 14 years, and has built costumes for the Long Wharf Theatre, Goodspeed Opera, Theaterworks, and the Yale Repertory Theatre. Lisa added the role of entrepreneur to her resume by opening her online shop, FairyGodmother4Hire.com, featuring custom dress-up costumes for children.



Tate R. Burmeister (*Lighting Designer*) Tate has worked as a designer throughout Connecticut, Minnesota, California, and New York and is enjoying her 11th season as the lighting designer at the NEO. In addition to working as a designer, Tate is the Production Manager/Technical Director for the Ivoryton Playhouse. In Connecticut, she has designed for Playhouse on Park, Ivoryton Playhouse, Seven Angels Theatre, Hartford Stage Education Department, Oddfellows

Playhouse, Albano Ballet, and others, as well as various local schools. Favorite lighting design credits include *Metamorphoses* and *The Crucible* (Loomis Chaffee), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Ivoryton Playhouse), *Nuevo California*, *The Threepenny Opera* (Oddfellows), and *A Chorus Line* (Merced, CA).



Candice Chirgotis (*Production Manager*) Candice became Head of the Theater & Dance Department in 2013 after a decade of working here as a part-time teacher and as the production manager for the presentations in the NEO Theater. In her previous lives, she taught at the University of Connecticut, and before that at the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, and even before that, for 16 seasons, Candice was – for over 100 productions – the Production Manager in

professional theater at Hartford Stage. She earned her master's degree in Theater History at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Candice considers herself incredibly fortunate to get to teach, learn, and make original plays with these hardworking, talented, and fun Loomis Chaffee student actors, singers, dancers, and technicians. She would like to take this opportunity to sincerely express how much she admires, appreciates, and is grateful for such creative, devoted, and generous professional theater collaborators and faculty colleagues.



Joel Drake (*Stage Combat*) Joel is a teacher, writer, editor, singer, and actor. He has a B.A. in Theater from Occidental College and an M.A. in Creative Writing from the University of East Anglia in Norfolk, England. Joel also received his certification in stage combat while studying at the London Dramatic Academy. After college, he worked for 10 years in various capacities in the television industry in Los Angeles.

In 2016, he decided he needed a change and left the industry to pursue a career in education, which he has thoroughly enjoyed since. Joel previously worked at the Walden School in Pasadena, California as a 6th grade teacher, where he adapted and directed productions for their theater program. He also sings tenor with the Yale Camerata in New Haven and Trinity Church in Hartford. Joel wants to thank the actors, crew, and production team for their hard work, and he is thrilled to be a part of this show!



Will Eggers (*Director*) Will earned his Ph.D. in medieval and English literature by identifying how modern expectations of lovers can be traced to changes in literary representations of lovers from the 11th to the 17th centuries. Basically, the idea that we should know what our beloved wants – without being told – is linked to changes in 11th century marriage law through Shakespeare's plays all the way to modern romantic comedies. While attending Occidental College in

Los Angeles, Will had the opportunity to work with a variety of acting troupes, acting in Shakespeare as well as performing with Cowboy Bob of Howdy Doody fame. Happily married and a father of two daughters, Will lives in constant awe of his astonishingly good luck. He appreciates the opportunity to work with such talented colleagues and students, and he is consistently amazed by the insight of everyone he meets every day.



Rachel M. Engelke (*Playbill Editor*) In her 20th year on the Island, Rachel teaches in the History, Philosophy & Religious Studies Department, is a resident in Palmer Hall, advisor of Model UN and the *Loomis Chaffee World Bulletin*, and certificate coordinator in the Alvord Center for Global & Environmental Studies. A long-time friend of the NEO Theater, Rachel made her assistant directing debut in 2011 with *The Boy Friend*, while *Macbeth* is her 31st production

over 17 seasons as playbill editor. Rachel would like to express her sincere appreciation to everyone in the cast and crew for their cooperation and good humor as she hounded them for bios, photos, endless lists, and other minutiae.



Sam Higgins (*Assistant Technical Director, Audio Supervisor*) Before coming to Loomis Chaffee, Sam spent eight years as a theatrical jack-of-all-trades for high school and college productions. His expertise is mostly in scenery construction, but he has worked at various times and locales as a lighting technician, sound board operator, run crew, and more. Favorite credits include *The Adding Machine*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *What the Butler Saw*, and *A Bright Room*

Called Day at University of Rochester, *Hairspray* at Lehman College, and *The Old Man and The Old Moon* right here on the Island. This is Sam's fourth year at Loomis Chaffee and his seventh production at the NEO. In addition to theatrical work, Sam is a member of the Math Department and is a resident of Taylor Hall. He would like to thank everyone involved for allowing him to collaborate with the theatre program, and he is very proud of this show.



Ken Jones (*Technical Director*) Ken is delighted to be working with the fantastic crew for his 15th consecutive show at the NEO Theater. He has designed and staged over 100 productions in the Farmington Valley area. Since 2003, Ken has directed and taught theater craft for a number of local theater groups, including Avon Summer Theater, Canton H.S., Theatre Guild of Simsbury, and The Loomis Chaffee NEO Theater. Ken is also Vice President of Theater

Operations and Lead Production Designer for Farmington Valley Stage Company in Canton. In his set notes, Ken writes: "The design for this show is deceiving; while each element appears simple, all conspire together to shift perspective and reinforce the idea that, through the lead character's eyes, nothing can be trusted to be as it seems. Our crew had fun learning how basic shapes can be built and arranged to create an entirely new and disorienting environment."



Karen Sparks Mellon (*Set Designer*) Sparks has been a set designer and scenic artist in the Hartford/New Haven area since 1979. This is her 23rd season, and 44th production, as Loomis Chaffee's set designer. Sparks has designed scenery for, among others, Amherst College, the Connecticut Commission on the Arts, CPTV, Lincoln Theatre, the New England Actors Theatre, the Portland Stage Company, Trinity College, and the University of Hartford. As a scenic

artist, Sparks worked for the Hartford Stage Company for eight years and was a freelance painter for the Long Wharf Theatre and the Goodspeed Opera House. Other projects include backdrop design for the last G. Fox Christmas windows in downtown Hartford, interior painting for the first jungle-themed Banana Republic in New York City, and whitewashing the inside of a barn for the movie *Funny Farm*. In 2008, Sparks was named Artist-Instructor of the Year at the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, where she worked from 2001 until her recent retirement. She is now living happily in Vermont with Bob and Buster.



Alexandra Natrass (*Properties Designer; Scenic Artist*)

After taking a two-year sabbatical in Georgia, Alex is excited to return to the NEO, working on her fifth production at Loomis Chaffee. While in Georgia, she worked in the costume shop at both Atlanta Opera and Atlanta Ballet, while also working on independent film projects. When she is not making props, Alex is a substitute teacher for New Britain Elementary Schools and is working on her master's degree

in Special Education. Previous theatrical jobs include Broadway, Off-Broadway, and many regional theaters, such as Hartford Stage and the Long Wharf Theater. Alex is an alumnus of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and The Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts. She is proud to have been voted Class Clown and Class Scientist in eighth grade.



Kate Saxton (*Assistant Director*) Kate is a member of the English Department and the Director of Writing Initiatives at Loomis Chaffee. A theater aficionado and all-around arts enthusiast, she is a violinist/violist who has spent as much time in the pit as she has on stage. Her credits at Yale University include *Sweeney Todd* and *Così fan Tutte*. While this is Kate's sixth NEO production, it is her first time assisting with the fall play. She feels incredibly privileged to

work with such professional young people and such youthful professionals. Many thanks to the talented directors and production team for making this show possible and to the extraordinary cast for making it all worthwhile.

LOOMISCHAFEE
Department of Theater & Dance

DANCE



Classes

- Ballet
- Modern
- Jazz
- Hip Hop
- Musical Theater Dance (Broadway-style Jazz and Tap)
- Introduction to Dance Styles (Ballet, Modern, and Jazz)
- Composition and Choreography
- Company Dance and Performance I
- Company Dance and Performance II
- Private Dance Study

Performance Opportunities

- Martin Luther King Day
- Winter Musical
- Spring Dance Revue

Student leadership Opportunities

- Lead Dancer
- Dance Choreographer
- Dance Captain

“So foul and fair
a day I have not
seen.”

~Macbeth (Act I, scene 3)