

## SPECIAL THANKS

- *The Drama Mamas & Drama Dads—perhaps more than ever, this show could never have happened without the time, effort, funding, and extraordinary support of the theatre parents. I am eternally thankful.*
- *The Parents of Cast & Crew for the food, time, support, & patience for the long hours*
- *The NCHS Administration: Dave Bollmann, Nikki Maurer, Josh Fabish, Nikki Combs and Anthony Clark*
- *The NCHS Custodial Staff, especially Zach Pacha and Joe Pulliam*
- *The NCHS Music Department: Ben Luginbuhl, Melissa Siebenthal, Lance Meadows, and Kris Bence*
- *The NCHS Drama Club*
- *Wyanet Carpet in Princeton*
- *Jennifer Coe*
- *Melissa and Joe Santiago*
- *Branden Cargill*
- *Sam Langellier*
- *Spouse*

Join me in thanking those donors who contributed to the “Comfy Seat” fundraiser! We’re still trying to cover the costs of these first 120, so if you appreciate having a cushion for your folding chair, or if we ran out before you came, won’t you consider donating \$5 per cushion along with these fine folks?

The Stark/Resnick Family  
The Nolan Family  
The Shennett Family  
The Joaquin Family  
The Burningham Family  
Susan Sopek  
Ryan Kimbrell  
Zakery Lowe  
Anonymous  
Suzanne & Rich Guttschow

The van Dongen Family  
The Cessna Family  
The Zimmerman Family  
The Santiago Family  
The Ogorek Family  
Laurine Brown  
Diane Fullerton  
Roger Aschbrenner  
Meta Mickens-Baker  
Samantha Wetzel

Normal Community High School Theatre presents

## THE CHILDREN’S HOUR

By Lillian Hellman



February 28, March 1, 7, & 8, 2014  
7 p.m. NCHS Auditorium



*Photography courtesy of  
NCHS Drama and  
eScapesPhoto.com*

Get your free NCHS Drama photos  
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<http://www.unit5.org/nchstheatre>

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Contact [david@escapesphoto.com](mailto:david@escapesphoto.com)  
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## NORMAL COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE HOUSE POLICIES

Welcome to the Normal Community High School theatre.  
Please take a few moments to familiarize yourself with our  
house policies.

- Doors will be open to the public one half hour prior to the curtain time.
- Late arrivals may be held in the lobby until a time designated by the director. Those leaving the theatre during the show may not be admitted until intermission.
- Normal Community High School and its grounds are smoke free.
- Due to contractual agreement, recording devices of any kind are not allowed. Flash photography is strictly prohibited.
- Pagers and cell phones must be turned off. Please. Even texting can interfere with wireless mics and other equipment.
- A variety of refreshments are available during intermission in the theatre lobby. Please be aware that no food except water is allowed back into the theatre.
- Please do not talk during the performance, rattle wrappers, or otherwise disturb fellow audience members and actors.
- Any child four years or older must have a ticket. If you have an infant or toddler, please be considerate and remove them if they are disruptive.
- Anyone needing special seating due to health or physical problems please contact Kevin Yale Vernon at [vernonk@unit5.org](mailto:vernonk@unit5.org)

What's coming up on the NCHS Stage:

Spring Musical: *Footloose*

April 3, 4, 10 & 11 @ 7pm

April 5 @ 2pm

Jazz Night

May 2

Choir Concert

May 6

Band Concert

May 8

Adv. Acting & Directing Project

May 10



Thank you for supporting the arts in Unit 5. The discipline and creative problem-solving skills provided by music, dance, art, and theatre provide our students with skills that serve them the rest of their lives in many different careers. Your participation in this production is an investment in our community, and our future.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I'm not even sure people read these, much less follow my philosophical directorial musings, but those who do know that I like to have meaning behind the shows we present. I initially chose *The Children's Hour* because I saw a relevant connection between the unchallenged power of a schoolgirl's rumor and the bullying capacity of social media. Even the news, now 24-hour infotainment, habitually values sensation over fact. As rehearsals progressed, however, my interpretation evolved—it became about community.

All theatre is collaborative, with many artists of different skill sets coming together to create a cohesive work of art. It's thrilling and often frustrating, but this show in particular showed me just how wonderfully interdependent this program is. We experienced several setbacks—illness, vanishing risers, six rehearsals lost to snow days—yet every time, people stepped in and went above and beyond the call of duty to fix problems, run errands, or get the job done. I feel as though any gratitude I express to parents, co-workers, and the cast and crew is inadequate, but nonetheless—thank you for being my heroes.

The people in Hellman's play are not as fortunate, their failure to take care of each other resulting in tragedy. However, catastrophe *can* be avoided. Maybe by standing up for one another, believing the best and not the worst in each other, and refraining from holding power over each other, we can *all* be heroes.

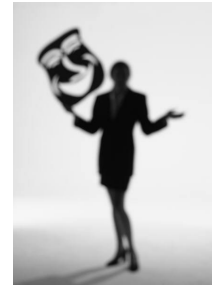
KYV



*To Natalie van Dongen --  
From Bouncing Baby to Drama Queen,  
We have always been so proud.  
Congrats on The Children's Hour and  
a fitting "wrap" of a wild and  
wonderful high school ride!*

*Love, Mom, Dad and Ross*

**"HAILEY ELLIOTT:  
PROM?  
-PETER"**



Tori,

We love you!!

Mom and Dad  
Grandma and  
Poppy



**Kelly:  
We're so  
proud of  
you!  
Love,  
Nanna and  
Grandpa**



**For Logan Yeazle:  
thanks for being  
the best theatre  
mascot ever!  
Love,  
the 2014 Seniors**

Between the dark and the daylight,  
When the night is beginning to lower,  
Comes a pause in the day's  
occupations, That is known as  
the Children's Hour...

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



You can find us on:

Facebook—

Normal Community High School Theatre

Twitter—

@NCHSDrama

Web—

[www.unit5.org/nchstheatre](http://www.unit5.org/nchstheatre)



Dear Anna,

"I am sure your family  
need never worry about  
your going on the  
stage." (Too late!)

Love, Sissy



## THE CAST

### Students:

(in order of appearance)

Peggy Rogers  
Catherine  
Lois Fisher  
Evelyn Munn  
Helen Burton  
Rosalie Wells  
Janet  
Margaret  
Leslie  
Mary Tilford

Anna Joaquin\*  
Paige Honegger  
Kate Meulemans  
Katelynn Shennett\*  
Felicia Jia  
Katelin Dirr  
Sami Barth  
SophiaRose Brown  
Madison Mason  
Hailey Elliott

### Adults:

(in order of appearance)

Mrs. Lily Mortar  
Karen Wright  
Martha Dobie  
Doctor Joseph Cardin  
Agatha  
Mrs. Amelia Tilford  
Grocery Boy

Alexys Ogorek\*  
Natalie van Dongen\*  
Tori Moss\*  
Justin Dirr  
Molly Krawcyk  
Kelly Sopek  
Camden Coe

\*denotes Member of Thespian Troupe 613

**THE TIME: 1935**

**THE PLACE: UPSTATE NEW YORK**

## PRODUCTION & TECHNICAL TEAM

Director  
Assistant Directors  
  
Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Managers  
  
Light Design  
Light Board Op  
Sound Design  
Costume Design  
Props Master  
Program Design

Kevin Yale Vernon  
Kyle Aschbrenner  
Matt Krawcyk  
Victoria Smith  
Kyle Aschbrenner  
Matt Krawcyk  
Alexys Ogorek\*  
Brighton Coe  
Rayven Brady  
Logan Guttschow\*  
Maya Hansen  
Kyle Aschbrenner

### Costume/Hair Crew

Logan Guttschow\*, Kamille Vitor, Hallie Martin-Chadwick, Maggie Brothers, Nathan Fryer, Rachel Lowrance, Cheyenne Broquard

### Props/Stage Crew

Maya Hansen, Nathan Fryer, Anna Bridges, Saaud Zuberi, Karina Prather, Rachel Fletcher, Callie VanAntwerp, Jeff "Fluffy" Smudde

### Light Crew

Alexys Ogorek\*, Jeff "Fluffy" Smudde, Camden Coe, Brighton Coe, Kristin Dougall, David Vernon, Kelly Sopek

### Sound Crew

Rayven Brady, Devon Rodlund, Eddie Harris

### Set construction

Joe Lowrance, Brandon Cargill, David Vernon, Doug and Jill Dirr, Mike Ogorek, Suzanne Guttschow, Susan Sopek, Dirk and Carla van Dongen, the cast and crew (and apologies to anyone we missed!)

**\*THERE WILL BE ONE 15 MINUTE  
INTERMISSION.\***