OCTOBER 2026

THE *Players* PLAYBILL

A NEWSLETTER SPOTLIGHTING THEATRE AT BLAIR

WHAT'S COMING TO BLAIR STAGES

The Blair Academy Players are preparing for a vibrant year, packed with rehearsals, performances and creative energy across the fall, winter and spring. From opening curtains to final bows, it promises to be a fast-paced and exciting full season for our thespians to come together and bring stories to life on Blair's stages. Here's a look at what's in store for our upcoming season.



The Mousetrap by Agatha Christie
Dates: October 29–October 31, 2026
Location: Wean Studio Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

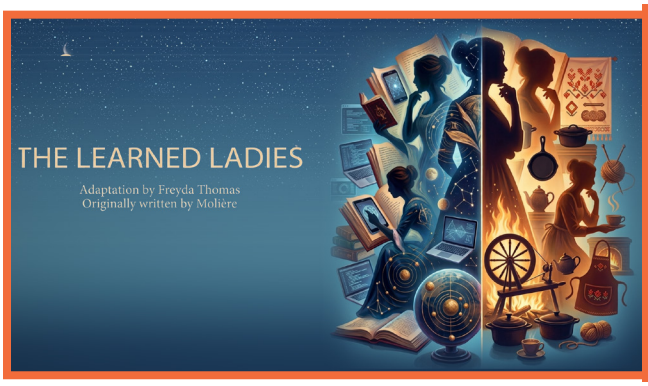
Trapped in a snowy manor, seven strangers are forced to confront the dark pasts they've tried to hide as a killer moves among them. Here, secrets are a matter of survival, where every hidden truth fuels suspicion and brings the guests one step closer to danger.

Bright Star is inspired by a true story. Music, book and story by Steve Martin. Music, lyrics and story by Edie Brickell.

Dates: February 18–February 20, 2027
Location: DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

A long-buried secret lies at the emotional heart of this story, connecting two lives across decades in the American South. Rather than destroying, the revelation of this hidden past becomes the key to healing, forgiveness and redemption.





The Learned Ladies by Molière is translated and adapted by Freyda Thomas.

Dates: May 13–May 15, 2027
Location: Robert J. Evans Outdoor Theatre

Behind the pretentious, intellectual fronts of high society lie petty desires, hidden agendas and secret romances. In this battle of wits, hidden truths expose the absurdity of those who pretend to be all-knowing, proving that sincerity always outshines secret vanity.

To Our Theatre Family—Past, Present and Future,

Welcome to a brand-new season of theatre. Reflecting on this time last year—my first as your Director of Theatre—fills me with immense gratitude. Thanks to your warm welcome and incredible support, we launched a thrilling chapter together with our productions of *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Addams Family* and our spring showcase. Seeing our students shine, our theatre fill and our community unite reminded me just how special this program is. Building on that momentum, our creative team could not wait to select a new lineup that brings everyone together once again.

Whether you are a middle school student getting your first taste of stage magic, a high schooler pouring your heart into rehearsal, a parent cheering from the audience or a former Buc returning home to see how the program continues to grow, this season was chosen with you in mind.

On the surface, a chilly British murder mystery, a rich bluegrass musical and a sharp classic comedy seem completely different. Look a little closer, however, and you will find a common theme that connects them all: secrets. This year, we are exploring the truths we keep to protect ourselves, the hidden motives that lead us astray and the incredible relief that comes when everything finally comes to light.

Here is a look at what is coming to our stage:

We begin our season with Agatha Christie's classic thriller, *The Mousetrap*. When a group of strangers is snowed in at a remote guesthouse, they quickly realize a murderer is among them—and everyone is hiding something. It is an edge-of-your-seat whodunit about how hard it is to hide the truth when the pressure mounts. You will be guessing the outcome until the final curtain.

For our winter production, we present *Bright Star*, a beautiful, heart-filled musical written by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell. Set in the hills of North Carolina across the 1920s and 1940s, it tells the story of characters carrying deep family secrets and lost memories. While our fall play uses secrets for suspense, *Bright Star* explores the emotional toll of keeping the truth hidden—and the profound healing that happens when it is finally revealed.

We close our mainstage season with Freyda Thomas' modern adaptation of Molière's classic comedy, *The Learned Ladies*. Here, secrets spark total chaos. A family attempts to present an image of lofty sophistication, but behind closed doors, everyone harbors a hidden agenda—from greedy pretenders to young lovers plotting to outsmart an overbearing parent. Written in clever rhyming verse, it is a sharp, joyful reminder of the absurdity that ensues when we try to outwit one another.

Theatre is ultimately about coming together to celebrate the remarkable talents of our students. We would love to see our auditorium filled with familiar faces and new friends alike.

Information pertaining to specific shows and performance times will be made available very soon. Plan to bring your family, invite your friends, and come cheer on our incredible cast and crew.

Now that the school year is officially underway, we are thrilled to hit the stage—with *The Mousetrap* kicking off our season at the end of this month! We look forward to welcoming you to the theatre.

Warmly,



L'Oreal Carter
Director of Theatre