

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Fine Arts and School of Theatre present



2014 Festival of New American Plays

Downstage Theatre
April 8 - April 12, 2014



Entropy by Jack Heifner

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 8 &
Friday, April 11

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 9 &
2 p.m. Saturday, April 12

A Southern Belle Primer (Or Why Princess Margaret Could Never Be a Kappa Kappa Gamma)

by Ted Swindley
Adapted from the book by Maryln Schwartz



Full Buck Moon by Staci Swedeen

7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10 &
Saturday, April 12

Recommended for mature audiences



Sponsored in part by:

TIPTONFordLincoln
Nacogdoches, TX

SEA
Theatre
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY

2013 - 2014
MAINSTAGE
Series

2013 - 2014
MAINSTAGE
Series

Stephen F. Austin State University
College of Fine Arts, School of Theatre and Mainstage Series

Present

April 8th - 12th, 2014

SFA
Theatre
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY
Festival of New
American Plays

Director: Jack Heifner

Assistant Director: Nick Pinelli*

Production Manager: April Gore*

Scenery: Angela Bacarisse

Lighting Design: Angela Bacarisse

Sound Design: Elyse Dishman

Stephen F. Austin State University
School of Theatre

is a member of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education and
the Texas Educational Theatre Association, and an accredited
member of the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

Sponsored in part by:

TIPTONFordLincoln
Nacogdoches, TX

SFA *Theatre*

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Festival of New
American Plays

Presents

Entropy

by

Jack Heifner

The Cast

Lee Ann.....	Anna Goldberg*
Eric.....	Tanner O'Neal
Sybil.....	Heather Abbott*
Larry.....	Joshua Wallace
Matt.....	Chipper Morris*
Candy.....	Sydney Whigam
Marta.....	Sarah Chavez*

Costume Design

Delia Owens

Fight Co-coordinators

Daniel Miller* and Nick Pinelli*

Stage Manager

Stephen Davis

Evening 1

7:30 p.m. April 8 and 11

Downstage Theatre

Time: The present and recent past.

Place: Various locations in Washington, D.C., and suburban Virginia.

There will be one ten minute intermission.

Credits marked with an asterisk () indicates that the student is a member of the Beta Phi cast of the Alpha Psi Omega, the national dramatics honors society.*

SFA *Theatre*

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Festival of New
American Plays

Presents

A Southern Belle Primer

(or Why Princess Margaret Could Never be a Kappa Kappa Gamma)

by

Ted Swindley

Adapted from the book by Maryln Schwartz

The Cast

Hostess.....	Katy Rutherford*
Daughter.....	Vanessa Hendricks*
Granddaughter.....	Cecily Maucieri
Hare Krishna.....	John Brokow

Costume Design

Angela Bacarisse, Barbara Blackwell

Delia Owens

Stage Manager

Monika Zimmermann*

Evening 2

7:30 p.m. April 9 and 2 p.m. April 12

Downstage Theatre

Time: Spring

Place: The living room of "Ten Oaks Plantation" in Natchez, Miss.

There will be no intermission.

Credits marked with an asterisk () indicates that the student is a member of the Beta Phi cast of the Alpha Psi Omega, the national dramatics honors society.*

SFA
Theatre

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY

Festival of New
American Plays
Presents

Full Buck Moon

by
Staci Swedeen

The Cast

Jill.....*Sloan Frierson**
Richard.....*Keenan Chaisson*
Buck.....*Michael Dizon*

Costume Design

Angela Bacarisse, Barbara Blackwell

Fight Co-coordinators

Daniel Miller* and Nick Pinelli*

Stage Manager

Connor Clark*

Evening 3

7:30 p.m. April 10 and 12

Downstage Theatre

Time: July

Place: A rustic cabin in the Catskills

There will be no intermission.

Credits marked with an asterisk () indicates that the student is a member of the Beta Phi cast of the Alpha Psi Omega, the national dramatics honors society.*

Production Staff

Hair and Makeup Assistant Designer.....	<i>Celeste Gale</i>
Light Board Operator.....	<i>Greg Albright</i>
Sound Board Operator.....	<i>Shelby Gilliam</i>
Floor Run Crew.....	<i>Rain Halbur, Amanda Lee, John Brokaw, Anna Drake</i>
Wardrobe Master.....	<i>Brianna Veselka</i>
Wardrobe Assistant.....	<i>Carly Nunn</i>
Master Electrician.....	<i>Kaycee Counts</i>
Props Master.....	<i>Jalen Clark</i>

Special Thanks

Tipton Ford, Rhonda Williams, Mark Porter, Susan Schindler,
Melissa McMillian-Cunningham, Ronnie Clark, Florence Lunsford, Lisa Rodriguez,
Rick Jones, Richard Ellis, Liz Barkowsky, Jason Monmaney, CC Conn

The taking of photographs or the use of any other recording device is strictly prohibited.
Please turn off mobile phones and any personal devices.

Technical Staff

Technical Director.....	<i>Mark Porter</i>
Assistant Technical Director.....	<i>Steve Bacarisse</i>
Costume Shop Supervisor.....	<i>Barbara Blackwell</i>
Administrative Assistant.....	<i>Liz Barkowsky</i>
Publicity.....	<i>Robbie Goodrich, Office of Arts Information</i>
Box Office Manager.....	<i>Diane J. Peterson</i>
Prop Storage.....	<i>Bruce Moran, Head; Victoria Stoner, Assistant</i>

Director's Notes

Welcome to the Ninth Biennial Festival of New American Plays. This week we are proud to present exciting new works by our guest playwrights Staci Swedeen and Ted Swindley. The plays you are about to see performed are presented as "staged readings." Professional theatres and producers use such readings in order to involve audiences and actors in the process of new play development. Plays are meant to be performed, and the best way to see whether a new play works is to present it in front of a live audience. This is where you come in—and we thank you for being here!

Each play in the festival has had only 10 rehearsals. The actors will be performing with the script in their hands, relying on their talent and training to interpret the text without the advantage of a long rehearsal process. These readings have been

designed to concentrate on the words of the playwrights and the talents of our young performers and designers. We have included a minimal amount of scenery, costumes and lights to give the writers what they envisioned in their scripts. We are attempting to present the world of the play as closely as possible to what the author has written. The results may be a different type of theatre from what you are accustomed to seeing. Our hope is that you will find this event both adventurous and exciting.

One of my goals when we started the Festival in 1998 was to bring established writers to our campus to work with our students. In the past, we have welcomed such famous American writers as Tina Howe, David Ives, Carol Hall, James McLure, Beth Henley, Gretchen Cryer, William M Hoffman, Barbara LeBow, John Cariani and Constance Congdon. We have always asked our invited playwrights to send us any script they wished to hear and, in return, we have promised to give them our best interpretation of the text. Another goal has been to give audiences in Nacogdoches the unique opportunity to see new plays while they are being created. Our first eight festivals were great successes. Now with this ninth festival, I hope the community will once again enjoy this celebration of "new theatre in the making."

I wish to thank the faculty and staff of the School of Theatre. My special thanks to Professor Scott Shattuck for his guidance, to Nick Pinelli, my assistant director, for his creative contribution, and to April Gore for keeping this big machine running smoothly. I commend the cast, designers, stage managers and crew for the work they have done. Watching these young theatre artists learn and grow is the primary reason we are here. Finally, to Staci and Ted—thank you for trusting us with your plays and for coming to visit our campus. You inspire us with your words and astound us with your generosity.

Jack Heifner,
Playwright-In-Residence

About the Company

HEATHER ABBOTT (Sybil, *Entropy*) is a junior theatre major and a graduate of Garland High School. Her SFA acting credits include *Stage Door*, *The Madwoman of Chailot*, *How I Became A Pirate*, *W,t*, and *The First Fireworks*. She is a member of Improv Strikes Back.

SARAH CHAVEZ (Marta, *Entropy*) is a junior theatre major and a graduate of Chireno High School. On the SFA Mainstage, she has performed in *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *The Madwoman of Chailot*, *Three Sisters*, *Stage Door*, and *Charlotte's Web*. She has also directed *Language of Angels* and *Quandary in Quando*.

KEENAN R. CHIASSON (Richard, *FBM*) is a freshman theatre major and a graduate

of George Ranch High School. His previous performances at SFA include *Romeo and Juliet* on the Mainstage the student-directed productions *Lone Star* and *Language of Angels*.

MICHAEL DIZON (Buck, *FBM*) is a sophomore theatre major and a graduate of Rowlett High School. His previous SFA performance credits include roles in the student-directed productions of *The Valiant* and *The Sandbox*; this is his first appearance in a Mainstage.

SLOAN FRIERSON (Jill, *FBM*), is a junior theatre major, graduated from Center Point High School. Her SFA acting credits include *Charlotte's Web*, *Stage Door*, *spam: in all lowercase letters*, *Three Sisters*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

About the Company

She also directed *10,000 Cigarettes* and assistant directed *Godspell* and *W;t*. She is co-historian of Alpha Psi Omega and works part-time in the costume shop.

ANNA LEIGH GOLDBERG (Lee Ann, *Entropy*) is a junior theatre major and a graduate of Homer Hanna High School. She has performed in *Charlotte's Web*, *Godspell*, *Stage Door*, *The Madwoman of Chailot*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *W;t*, *Adam and the Experts*, *The Second Beam*, and *The First Fireworks*. She is a member of Improv Strikes Back.

VANESSA HENDRICKS (Daughter, *SBP*) has acted in *Stage Door*, *How I Became A Pirate*, *Brilliants*, and *How to Succeed...*, among others. Directing credits include *W;t*, *Tunnel of Love* and *The Tarantino Variation*. She is the president of Alpha Psi Omega, and served on the Student Productions Advisory Committee. She is currently student teaching and assistant directing at Chapel Hill High School.

CECILY MAUCIERI (Granddaughter, *SBP*) is a freshman theatre major and a graduate of Plano East Senior High School, where she acted in several productions. At SFA, she has performed with Improv Strikes Back and worked in the props storage last semester.

CHIPPER MORRIS (Matt, *Entropy*) is a sophomore theatre major and a graduate of South Grand Prairie HS. He has performed in *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Stage Door*, and the student productions *Language of Angels*, *Melissa McHiney*

McNormous McWhale and *Right Sensation*. He also performed with Improv Strikes Back.

TANNER O'NEAL (Eric, *Entropy*) is a freshman theatre major and a graduate of Pine Tree High School. He has previously appeared on the SFA Mainstage in *Romeo and Juliet*, and in the student production *The Valiant*. He has also worked on crews for *Blood Wedding* and *Lone Star*.

KATY RUTHERFORD (Hostess, *SBP*) is a junior theatre major and a graduate of Foster High School. Her Mainstage credits include *Stage Door*, *Steel Magnolias*, and *Three Sisters*. She has also appeared in the student-directed *W;t*, *Miracle at Blaise*, and *The Second Beam*. She recently directed *Now We're Really Getting Somewhere* and currently serves as a member of SPAC.

JOSHUA WALLACE (Larry, *Entropy*) is a senior theatre major and previously attended Kilgore College. His SFA performances include *Romeo and Juliet*, *Stage Door* and *Charlotte's Web* on the Mainstage, and the student-directed *2B (or not 2B)*. He was also on crew for *Woman and Scarecrow*.

SYDNEY WHIGAM (Candy, *Entropy*) is a freshman theatre major and a graduate of George Ranch High School. This is her first time appearing on the SFA Mainstage. Over the summer, she has worked as the choreographer and assistant director for a high school workshop at George Ranch High School.

Staff

ANGELA BACARISSE (Lighting and Scenic Designer, Costume Designer, *SBP* and *FBM*) received her BA in theatre from the University of Delaware and her MFA in Theatre Design from the University of Memphis. Angela supervises all costume and makeup designs for the School of Theatre productions. Her designs have also been

seen at the Texas Shakespeare Festival, Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre, Blowing Rock Stage Company, Playhouse on the Square in Memphis, East Texas Opera, Pioneer Valley Summer Theatre and the Summer Theatre at Mount Holyoke in Massachusetts, and the Asheville Lyric Opera. As a cutter draper,

she has worked on productions at the Alley Theatre in Houston, the Texas Shakespeare Festival, The Mac-Hayden Musical Theatre, Theatre in the Square in Atlanta and the Georgia Shakespeare Festival. She also has worked extensively with Dance companies in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Texas as a lighting designer. She worked in the wardrobe department for the films "Great Balls of Fire!" and "Ace Ventura 2: When Nature Calls," and was the head tailor on the television series "Good Rockin' Tonight." She has also designed music videos for producer Joanne Cash.

BARBARA BLACKWELL (Costume Designer FBM / SBP / Costume Shop Supervisor) has been the costume shop supervisor at SFA since 2000 and teaches the Costume Technology lab. Her past designs include *Blood Wedding*, *Godspell*, "Master Harold"...and the boys, and *Jump for Joy*.

CONNOR CLARK (Stage Manager, FBM) is a junior theatre major and a graduate of Poteet High School. His previous SFA performances include *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Romeo and Juliet* on the Mainstage, and the Fredonia Players. He was assistant stage manager for *Dead Man's Cell Phone* and stage managed the Studio Hour *Surprise*.

JALEN CLARK (Properties Master) is a sophomore theatre major and a graduate of James Bowie High School. His previous stage features include *Charlotte's Web* in Summer Rep and the student-directed *The Valiant*. This is his first major tech position at SFA.

STEPHEN DAVIS (Stage Manager, Entropy) is a sophomore theatre major and a graduate of Ross S. Sterling High School. His previous stage management roles include assistant stage managing for the Mainstage on *Stage Door* and *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. He has also stage managed *W;t* and *Language of Angels* in the Downstage.

ELYSE DISHMAN (Sound Designer) is a senior theatre major minoring in music and

education and a graduate of West Brook High School. Her previous sound design was on *Brainpeople* in the Downstage. She directed *Stars* this semester in the Upstage. She has also performed on SFA's Mainstage in *The Breasts of Tiresias*.

CELESTE GALEY (Hair and Makeup Assistant Designer) is a sophomore theatre major and a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School. Her previous SFA performances include *Blood Wedding*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Stage Door* on the Mainstage, and *Charlotte's Web* in Summer Rep.

APRIL GORE (Production Stage Manager) is a junior theatre major. Her previous SFA performances include *Godspell*, *Fredonia Players*, *10,000 Cigarettes* and *W;t*. She has choreographed for *Brainpeople* and *Fredonia Players*. April stage managed *Charlotte's Web*, *Tunnel of Love*, *Lone Star* and *The Concorde Fallacy* and assistant stage managed *Three Sisters* and *Little Shop of Horrors*.

DANIEL MILLER (Fight Coordinator) is a junior theatre major. His SFA performances include *Blood Wedding*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Stage Door*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Three Sisters*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and the student directed *Adam and the Experts* and *Tunnel of Love*. He will spend the summer as an acting intern with the Texas Shakespeare Festival.

DELIA OWENS (Costume Designer, Entropy, SBP) is a senior theatre major. Over the past summer she worked as a costuming intern with the Berkshire Theatre Group and she will be back again

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as a costuming assistant. She has assisted on numerous productions including *Blood Wedding*, *The Madwoman of Chailot*, *Three Sisters*, on the SFA Mainstage and has designed the student directed *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*, and has been on wardrobe crew for the SFA Opera.

NICK PINELLI (Assistant Director) has directed *Lone Star* and *Perchance*. He served on the Student Productions Advisory Board, and is the vice president of Alpha Psi Omega. His SFA acting credits include *Blood Wedding*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Stage Door*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *How I Became A*

Pirate, *Brilliant*, *Love/Sick*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Tunnel of Love*, the Original Cast, and *Improv Strikes Back*.

MONIKA ZIMMERMANN (Stage Manager, SBP) is a sophomore theatre major and a graduate of ISS International School Singapore. She has stage managed *Brainpeople* in the Downstage and toured with Fredonia Players. She also assistant stage managed the Mainstage productions of *bobrauschenbergamerica* and *Little Shop of Horrors*.

The Playwrights

JACK HEIFNER (Director) Jack Heifner is best known for his play *Vanities*, which ran for five years in New York and became one of the longest running plays in off-Broadway history. His is also the author of *Patio/Porch*, *Natural Disasters*, *Running on Empty*, *Bargains*, *Boys' Play*, *Home Fires*, *Heartbreak*, *Comfort and Joy*, *Earth to Bucky*, *Dwarf Tossing*, *China Dolls* and over 30 other plays produced in New York, Los Angeles and theatres around the world. Mr. Heifner has written the book to six musicals, including *Leader of the Pack* on Broadway and *Vanities—A New Musical*, which opened in New York in 2009. He has also written for television and film. Mr. Heifner was born in Corsicana, Texas and lives in New York City. Since 1997 he has been playwright-in-residence at SFA where he teaches play, screen and television writing one semester each academic year. Along with *The Festival of New American Plays*, at SFA he has also directed *Home Fires*, *The Seagull*, *The Member of the Wedding*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and *Stage Door*. Mr. Heifner is a member of The Dramatists Guild, The Writers Guild of America, Actors' Equity Association and has been elected to The Texas Institute of Letters and The Texas Playwrights Hall of Fame.

TED SWINDLEY has directed and/or produced over 200 plays. He is nationally known for creating the hit musical *Always... Patsy Cline*, which opened in New York in

June, 1997, while continuing to play throughout the world. Some of his directorial credits include world premieres, classics and musicals including *Carnal Knowledge*, *Pacific Overtures*, *Follies*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and rotating repertory projects such as Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*, *The Skin of Our Teeth* and *Dangerous Liaisons* with *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Mr. Swindley was named to *Esquire* magazine's register of Americans for Outstanding Achievement in Arts and Letters and was featured in *Southern Living* magazine. He was also the recipient of the Los Angeles Dramalogue Award for Outstanding Direction and nominated for the prestigious Los Angeles Critics Award for his work at the Pasadena Playhouse. He has also guest directed for the Texas Shakespeare Festival, Duke University, San Diego Repertory, Red Barn Theatre, Flat Rock Playhouse, Denver Theatre Center, Virginia Stage, Barter Theatre, Mill Mountain Theatre, Ryman Auditorium, Actor's Studio, York Theatre, and Pasadena Playhouse, to name a few. As Playwright and Author, Mr. Swindley created the hit musical *Always... Patsy Cline*, which has played all over the world.

Mr. Swindley has served as dramaturg on numerous new plays which had their premiere at Stages Repertory Theatre in Houston.

Internationally, he has directed touring productions in the UK and Australia. Mr. Swindley is the Founding Artistic Director of Stages Repertory Theatre, the second largest theatre in Houston, Texas. There he implemented such diverse programming as the Texas Playwrights' Festival, for which he won national recognition in 1986 from the Wall Street Journal and Backstage magazine. His latest hit musical, *The Honky Tonk Angels* and the sequel *Honky Tonk Angels Holiday Spectacular* are playing in theatres throughout the United States. Other shows by Mr. Swindley which had world premieres are *Step into My Parlor; Bye, Bye Love: The Everly Brothers Musical; Summer of '66*; and *Swingstep*, which was nominated for the Dora Award (the Canadian equivalent of the Tony in America) for best musical.

He recently premiered a new musical comedy, *Bachelor Pad*, based on the short story "Thank You Anna," by William Safire and featuring lounge music classics from the 50's and 60's. He has also written a play entitled *Stories My Grandmother Told Me*, a southern adaptation of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and completed *The Honky Tonk Angels* trilogy with *Bubba's Revenge*. He has also written a series of children's stories for the Christmas season. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Houston, a Master of Arts from Baylor University and a Bachelor of Arts from Furman University. He has studied at the Lincoln Center Institute and the Institute of European Studies in Vienna, Austria. Mr. Swindley is President/Executive Director of Ted Swindley Productions and APC, Inc. He is also an active member of the Dramatists Guild and the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers.

STACI SWEDEEN was awarded a 2014 Individual Fellowship in Playwriting from the Tennessee Arts Council and the Arts and Letters Award in Drama. She has been commissioned by the Ensemble Studio Theatre and the Sloan Foundation, and awarded a New York State Council for the Arts grant. A Core Lark Theatre Fellow, she was also a Dramatist Guild Fellow.

The Goldman Project was presented Off Broadway at the Abingdon Theatre and is published by Samuel French. Her full length comedy *Three Forks* premiered at Florida Stage Theatre in West Palm Beach, Florida and was nominated for a Carbonell Award as Best New Work. *Three Forks* was also selected by The Charlotte Repertory Theatre to receive its "Best New Plays in America" award. Her plays have been read or produced at Ensemble Studio Theatre, The Stamford Center for the Arts, The Players Club, WestBeth, Nat Horne, Synchronicity Space, the Terry Schreiber Studio and Hunter College Theatres in New York City, also the Newman Theatre of Westchester, The Alliance Theatre in Los Angeles, City Theatre of Miami, New Jersey Rep, Main Street Arts in Nyack and the Gallery Players of Park Slope and Stephen F. Austin State University in Texas. She was the playwright in residence at The Kravis Center in West Palm Beach for several years.

"The Sleep Seeker," a film she wrote and produced, won Best Short Film in the Westchester Film Festival and was the Audience Choice Award at the Valleyfest Film Festival. She has been selected for numerous residencies, including the Millay Colony, Healing Springs, Djerrassi and the Fundación Valparaíso in Spain. A member of the Writers' Guild of America, the Dramatist Guild, AEA, AFTRA, SAG, as well as the Players Club writing workshop in NYC and Emerging Artist Theatre, Mrs. Swedeen has instructed playwriting at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Conn. and at The Educational Center for the Arts in New Haven, Conn. She was also Literary Manager for Penguin Rep Theatre for seven years. As an actor, she most recently performed her one woman show *Pardon Me For Living: A Biting Comedy* at the 2013 Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C. and she continues to be involved in readings of new work for numerous theatres. Ms. Swedeen, a native of Mount Vernon, Wash., recently relocated from Sleepy Hollow, N.Y. to Knoxville, Tenn. where she was executive producer of Flying Anvil Theatre.

Stephen F. Austin State University
School of Theatre Faculty and Staff

Dr. A.C. "Buddy" Himes,

Dean, College of Fine Arts

Scott Shattuck

Director, School of Theatre

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Professor Emeritus

Dr. Alan C. Nielsen
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Dr. Richard Jones
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Carolyn Conn
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Zach Hanks
Assistant Professor

Laura Rikard
Assistant Professor

Richard Ellis
Visiting Assistant
Professor

Jack Heifner
Playwright-in-Residence

Brad Maule
Lecturer

Melissa McMillian-
Cunningham
Lecturer

Shari Ellsworth
Adjunct Faculty

David Raine
Adjunct Faculty

Jason Richards
Adjunct Faculty

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Mark Porter
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Stephen Bacarisse
Assistant Technical Director

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Students participate in one of two total-immersion workshops and participate in three performances.

Workshop A:

Acting and Characterization

Workshop B:

Technical Theatre and Design

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Kathleen Easterling,
Shelby Gilliland, Austin Holt,
Kimberly Linehan, Andrea Nelson
Andrea Rooney, Jennifer Sims

Alumni Scholars

Heather Abbott,
Sarah Chavez, Allison Day,
Sloan Frierson, Benn May,
Jennifer Sims

Alpha Psi Omega Scholarship
Keenan Chiasson

Friends of Theatre Scholarship
Vanessa Hendricks

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