

# BREVARD COLLEGE THEATRE

PRESENTS

\\BREVARD COLLEGE THEATRE\\

//OCTOBER 7-10 2021//

# TALLEY'S Folly

WRITTEN BY  
LANFORD WILSON

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BREVARD COLLEGE  
BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA

**DIRECTED BY JOE HERNANDEZ**

 **The Kennedy Center**

**American College  
Theater Festival**

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Twelve years ago this fall was the first time I was exposed to Lanford Wilson's *Talley's Folly*. I remember reading it and not fully understanding it. I read it again and found myself wanting to read it over and over. I was drawn to the belief that no matter what you have gone through in life, your story can be redeemed and love is possible. I had hope.

I have always felt that the characters you will see tonight, Matt and Sally, are wanting to discover the real truths of their stories; to discover the desires and hopes they have been dreaming of. As you'll see, their stories have held them back in ways that have prevented them from truly accepting the love they feel they do not deserve. Part of the world tonight includes *Mural* from Jackson Pollock. He was an abstract impressionist artist of the 1940's, and his work was truly impactful. The thing I love most about this is that for most who are viewing it, the truth is in the eye of the viewer. Pollock's work transcends time much like Wilson's words in *Talley's Folly*. *Mural* reminded me of the hope that I know existed during the 1940's despite the war going on and the hope that exists outside this theatre despite the ongoing challenges we continue to face in the world.

As I look back on my life twelve years ago, I was in a time in my life when I too was searching for truth, searching for acceptance and searching for the love I so longed for. Wilson's words impacted my life and left me hopeful twelve years ago. My hope for you all tonight is that Matt and Sally leave you with that as well - hope.



## JOE HERNANDEZ, DIRECTOR

About twenty years ago, Joe found himself sitting in a Broadway theatre watching the longest running Broadway show, *Phantom of the Opera*. As he sat there and watched this iconic show come to life, he knew then that this is what he had to do for the rest of his life. Fast forward 20 years or so, and Joe is now a professional director, actor, singer and educator. He has a Master of

Fine Arts in Directing from the University of Southern Mississippi, is an Associate Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC), a member of The Association of Arts Administration Educators (AAAE), and a member of the Association for Theatre Movement Educators (ATME) and has a true passion for the arts as a whole. Joe has directed, acted and stage managed regionally and internationally with companies like Ohio Light Opera, Children's Theatre of Charlotte, The Lost Colony, and The International Performing Arts Institute.

In 2018 Joe started jmh MEDIA, which is a branding digital and print design company that specializes in engaging website designs, photography and marketing for theatre and opera artists as well as non-profits and small businesses. He has a true love for branding and loves collaborating with artists and companies to give themselves a social media and web presence that reflects who they truly are. In the fall of 2019, jmh MEDIA signed with TCU Opera program to be the exclusive designers for their Artist Diploma students. Additionally, jmh MEDIA's clients include Broadway Producer Bruce D. Long, Opera Mississippi, and Natchez Festival of Music, to name a few.

He travels the country and the world as a working artist, creating works that inspire, educate and change lives while also educating students who are pursuing a career in theatre. Joe is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Brevard College and currently resides in North Carolina with his wonderful wife, his amazing son and daughter, and his awesome dog, Saban Bear.



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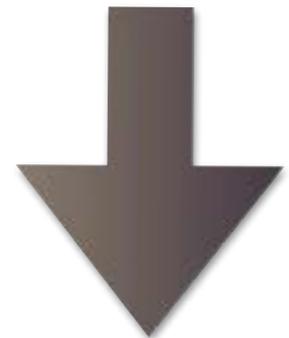
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 Rehearsal Stage Manager  
 Assistant Stage Manager  
 Assistant Stage Manager  
 Shop Foreman  
 Props Master  
 Assistant Costume Designer  
 Wardrobe Supervisor  
 Costume Shop Personnel

Scenic Charge  
 Camera Operator  
 Sound Board Operator  
 Master Electrician  
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JOE HERNANDEZ  
 DAN TOOT  
 ABBEY TOOT  
 ANDREA BOCCANFUSO  
 IDA  
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 KURT DAVIS  
 CHRIS STRASSNER  
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 WILL YOUNG  
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 BEN DAVIS  
 SCOTT DOUGLAS  
 SARAH HAJKOWSKI

## **LIGHTING, SCENIC, PAINTS, PROPS and SOUND CREW**

SETH CHEPES  
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 ANNA ERVIN  
 WILL YOUNG

GAVIN MARTIN  
 SARAH HAJKOWSKI  
 MASON LARISCY  
 BEN DAVIS

OLI MASON  
 KRISTIAN MICHELS  
 OLIVER SPRAGUE  
 BRIAN SEON



# PRODUCTION BIOS



## EMMA HARRIS (SALLY TALLEY)

Emma Harris is a Senior at Brevard College. She has performed in Brevard's productions of *The Drowning Girls* (Alice), *She Kills Monsters* (Agnes), *The Life of Galileo* (The Little Monk), and *Into The Woods* (Florinda). She is beyond ecstatic to get this opportunity to perform and tell the story of Sally Talley as her senior capstone project. The story is truly about hope and acceptance. It is a true love story, and who isn't a sucker for a happy ending? She hopes that the audience will leave feeling hopeful for what is to come, no matter the circumstances they may face. This story is timeless, and she is so grateful to be able to work on this show with a wonderful team who loves this story almost as much as she does. She thanks the cast and crew for all their hard work and dedication to this show!



## TAYLOR JAMES SPARROW (MATT FRIEDMAN)

Taylor James Sparrow is a Sophomore Theatre major and is very proud to be playing the character of Matt as his debut character at Brevard College! Taylor is a transfer student, coming from the Savannah College of Art and Design, and he is so happy to call Brevard his home now. In his hometown of Greenville, North Carolina, he played a wide variety of characters at the Magnolia Arts Center, such as Link Larkin in *Hairspray*, Buddy Layman in *The Diviners*, and George in *Our Town*. He has a true passion for the arts and hopes that he is able to pursue a fruitful dream of being an entertainer for the rest of his life.

## ANDREA BOCCANFUSO (SCENIC AND LIGHTING DESIGNER)

Favorite designs include: *Brother Wolf* (BC), *The Laramie Project* (BC), *The Tempest* (BC), *Night of the Iguana* (NYC), *Fool for Love* (UWF), *La Boheme* (BMC), *Sweeney Todd* (BMC 2004), and *Elephant's Graveyard* (BC). She served as Lighting Venues Coordinator for the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy. She was Head of Lighting Design for IMCD Lighting, Inc. in NYC for 8 years (clients include: IMG Fashion (NY Fashion Week), Google, Hugo Boss, Prada, Calvin Klein, MLB.com, Project Runway, among others). Currently she is Director of Production at the Brevard Music Center and Associate Professor of Theatre/ Coordinator of Theatre at Brevard College. MFA in Lighting Design: SUNY Purchase, Conservatory of Theatre, Arts and Film Design/ Technology. She is also a member of the designer's union, United Scenic Artists Local 829 (NYC).

## IDA (COSTUME DESIGNER)

Ida is pleased to be working with Brevard College Theatre for her ninth year. Some of her favorite designs that she has provided for Brevard include *Medea*, *The Tempest*, and *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play*. Ida continues to work at various theaters in the area including Asheville Community Theatre, Bright Star Touring Theatre and the Warehouse Theatre. She also enjoys entering costuming contests, fashion shows and various other events that stretch her as an artist.

# PRODUCTION BIOS

## ABBEY TOOT (INTIMACY COORDINATOR)

Abbey is a teaching artist currently directing and teaching acting, voice and speech, movement and Shakespeare. Abbey received performance degrees from the University of Evansville and the University of California, Irvine. She spent time in Chicago as an actor and teaching artist before making her way to the Raleigh/Triangle area of North Carolina. She taught Voice and Speech at Elon University and has taught acting, voice, speech, physical storytelling, camera work and other classes at UC Irvine, UNC Chapel Hill and USCB, and has been an actor, director and acting/voice coach in Chicago and Chapel Hill.

In North Carolina, Abbey reignited her curiosity of how breath affects the voice and body and how that, in turn, affects human behavior and relationships. She began studying and working with the Miller Voice Method and is part of the inaugural cohort of certified Miller Voice Method teachers. Abbey has extensive training in Fitzmaurice Voicework, Knight/Thompson Speechwork, Linklater and other voice methodologies. She has trained in Contact Improvisation, Michael Chekhov work, Stanislavski, Meisner, clowning and The Emotional Body. She remains curious and investigative about the balance of organized mental knowledge with deep instinctual body knowledge. Breath and curiosity live at the center of everything she does, and she is constantly playing with creating space, building a supporting structure and releasing into immediacy.

## DAN TOOT (FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER)

Hailing from Wellsville, NY, Dan attended Interlochen Arts Academy and received his BFA in Acting from The Hartt School, and his MFA from UNC Chapel Hill. Throughout his career he has been diligently searching for ways to integrate disciplines in performing arts. As a musician, he's served as music director for musicals, worked in pit bands and Philharmonic Orchestras, and provided private lessons for instrumentalists of varying skill levels. As an actor, Dan started his career at The Hartford Stage, Goodspeed Musicals and the Monomoy Theatre, moving to Chicago where he's worked with Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, the House Theatre of Chicago, Oak Park Festival Theatre, First Folio Theatre, and others. Regionally he's been seen at Miami's Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, and Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival, to name a few. With a love of physical storytelling, he helps contribute to the health of the Theatre community at large by participating as a fight choreographer and violence consultant. He now calls Brevard home, where he continues to tug at the threads of interdisciplinary arts education, as well as endeavoring to deserve the love and support of his lovely wife and goofy Greyhound.

## KURT DAVIS (SOUND DESIGNER)

Favorite designs include: *The Laramie Project* (Ole Miss Theatre), *Marisol* (OMT), *Oedipus Rex* (OMT), *Sweat* (New Stage Theatre), *Bright Star* (NST), *Murder on the Orient Express* (NST), and *Listening in the Shadows* (OMT). In 2015 Kurt received a B.F.A. in Theatrical Design and Technology, with an emphasis in Sound Design, from the University of Mississippi. He has worked professionally as an audio engineer for many summer and seasonal companies, including Horn in the West Outdoor Drama, the Brevard Music Center, Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, New Stage Theatre, and the Shakespeare Theatre Company, a LORT B+ Regional Theatre in Washington, D.C. Currently he serves as Brevard College's Campus Technical Director and Brevard Music Center's Head of Audio.

# PRODUCTION BIOS

## TALLEY SUGG (HAIR AND MAKEUP DESIGNER/ ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER)

Talley is a Senior at Brevard College. This is her second time assisting Ida on the costume design, and she is grateful to have such an amazing mentor as Ida in her first time as a full designer for hair and makeup. She is ecstatic to have been given the opportunity to design such a complex show. She feels that this show is filled with so much color symbolism, artistry, and beauty, and it's an absolute pleasure to have been able to work with everyone involved.

## CHRIS STRASSNER (TECHNICAL DIRECTOR)

Chris studied lighting design and technical direction at UNC-G. After graduating, he worked as the Technical Director for the American Dance Festival for two seasons before becoming one of the Technical Directors at The Juilliard School in NYC, the Technical Director at The Walnut Street Theater in Philadelphia, and finally opening a commercial shop in Boston building scenery for many professional theater and ballet companies. He took a break from being in charge to learn to build furniture and turn wood, and finally became a mixed media sculptor. In 2009 he relocated to Brevard and began a relationship with Brevard College Theatre as a designer and technical director. He is happy to be back this year and is looking forward to making art with students.

## GRACE DEMPSEY (PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER)

Grace Dempsey is a sophomore at Brevard College. This is her first time Stage Managing and she's loved learning all she can from this terrific cast and crew! Her past productions at Brevard College include *She Kills Monsters* (Lillith) and *The Drowning Girls* (Assistant Stage Manager) She is a Theatre major with a focus on directing and is beyond excited for her future with Brevard College Theatre and for the opportunity to do live theatre again! She hopes you enjoy the show!

## ELLY LEIDNER (REHEARSAL STAGE MANAGER)

This is Elly's second show with Brevard College. She graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with degrees in drama and psychology and, most recently, worked at Flat Rock Playhouse. Some of her recent theatre credits include *Bright Star* (Production Stage Manager), *South Pacific* (Asst. Stage Manager), and *All Shook Up* (Asst. Stage Manager). Elly would like to thank the cast and crew of *Talley's Folly*, as well as her family, both biological and chosen, for always supporting and encouraging her.

## ELI HUGHES (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

Eli is thrilled to be Assistant Stage Managing this play after being an actor for much of their theatre life. They are a sophomore at Brevard College.

## NAOMI FIREBAUGH (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

Naomi Firebaugh is a freshman at Brevard College. This is her first time assistant stage managing, and she loves everything about this show. She has loved getting to know everyone in the cast and crew. Naomi is excited to spend the next four years with these people, and hopes to have a great time with every show.

# PRODUCTION BIOS

## GABRIEL BERNHARD (PROPS MASTER)

Gabriel Bernhard is a junior at Brevard College and a Theater major with a focus in performance. He is thrilled to have the opportunity to help tell this story as the props master. Previous productions as a technician and actor include *The Liar* (Alcippe), *Mr Burns, A Post-Electric Play* (run crew), *The Life of Galileo* (Sagredo and Barberini, and props assistant), *Little Shop of Horrors* (props assistant, sound crew), *The Drowning Girls* (camera operator), and *She Kills Monsters* (Chuck). He is excited to step into this new role as props master, and hopes you enjoy the show.

## PATRICK MILLER (MASTER ELECTRICIAN)

Patrick is a junior at Brevard College and a WLEE / Theatre double major. He has performed this role in many past Brevard College shows such as *The Liar* (2019) and *The Life of Galileo* (2020). He hopes to continue this work into the foreseeable future.

## CASSANDRA DAYTON (SCENIC CHARGE)

Cassandra, a transfer student from Southwest Florida, is a fourth year student at Brevard College. She is a Theatre Major, with a focus in stage management. She spent this past Summer working as the Orchestra Operations Manager at Brevard Music Center, and is currently working as a Stage Manager for BMC's Inaugural Season. Cassandra has had an awesome time working on this set and is pumped for audiences to see this show!

## SARAH HAJKOWSKI (CAMERA OPERATOR/ PRODUCTION STAFF)

Sarah Hajkowski is a junior at Brevard College and an English and Theatre Education double major. Her most recent performance credit being Margaret (*The Drowning Girls*), she is thrilled to step behind the curtain for this very special show and wishes all a stellar evening at the theatre.

## GWYN JENNINGS (WARDROBE SUPERVISOR)

Gwyn Jennings is a junior art major studying drawing and time based media. She has been in work study with the theatre department since her freshman year. Her favorite shows she has worked on are *Little Shop of Horrors* (2020), *Mr Burns, A Post-Electric Play* (2019), *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Warehouse Theater), *The Liar* (2019), and *An Evening with Tennessee Williams* (2018).

# DEDICATIONS AND SPECIAL THANKS

WE DEDICATE THIS PRODUCTION TO THE MEMORY OF  
ROBERT ALLYWN WHITE, COORDINATOR OF THEATRE AT  
BREVARD COLLEGE FROM 1991 TO 2008.



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FOFA, Friends of the Fine Arts for their unending support  
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*The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by **David M. Rubenstein.***

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*Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.*

*Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.*

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



BREVARD COLLEGE IS COMMITTED TO AN  
EXPERIENTIAL LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION THAT  
ENCOURAGES PERSONAL GROWTH AND INSPIRES  
ARTISTIC, INTELLECTUAL, AND SOCIAL ACTION.

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# BREVARD COLLEGE

BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA

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