

**DM YOUNG
ARTISTS
THEATRE**

SUMMER SHORTS

**A Student-Directed
Short Play Festival**

**SATURDAY, JULY 24
SYLVAN THEATRE, GREENWOOD PARK**

DES MOINES YOUNG ARTISTS' THEATRE
PRESENTS

SUMMER SHORTS

A Student-Directed Short Play Festival

Directors
TATUM GLODEN
RYAN HENZI
TYNDAL HERVEY
SAGE JOHNSON
JJ McLAUGHLIN
MAGGIE WISE

Mentors
CHELSEA HAALAND & MEGAN LENSTRA

Stage Manager
COLIN KIERNAN

While this event is free to enjoy, we ask that you consider a contribution to Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre in lieu of purchasing a ticket.

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OUR MISSION

Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre is a nonprofit organization committed to:

- introducing students & their families to the transformative power of live theatre & the arts.
- training young performers in all areas of theatre: singing, acting, dancing, writing, design, directing, and stage management.
- nurturing the next generation of artists to be free-thinking, open-minded, risk-taking artists who use their awareness of their community, society, and world to create thought-provoking and challenging works of art to promote social change.

OUR VALUES

- Students are capable of far more than society assumes.
- Students are capable of teaching just as much as they are able to be taught.
- Every young person, regardless of background or experience, deserves the opportunity to participate on and off the stage.
- When they are with us, they are not kids. They are artists and students. Neither the quality of art nor the education standard should be sacrificed for the other's gain.
- Students and theatre can change the world and improve our community.

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RAINBOW SPRINKLES

by Stacey Lane

directed by TATUM GLODEN

CAST

MIRANDA.....Adrienne Dobson-Greiner
RAINBOW SPRINKLES.....Madelyn Moisa*
VOICE ON MACHINE.....Ryan Henzi

*DMYAT Debut

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I chose this play because it shows how society warps innocent concepts into something it's not. I really worked on the great contrast between the two characters and how differently they react to the same things. I'm so proud of my actors, and I hope you all love it as much as I do.

HE SAID AND SHE SAID

by Alice Gerstenberg
directed by JJ McLAUGHLIN

CAST

DIANA.....Abigail Houston
ENID.....Isabel Christensen
FELIX.....Owen Nicolino
MRS CYRUS PACKARD.....Delaney Boldt*

*DMYAT Debut

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I chose this play because of its social commentary about gossip and gossip's evolution from the 1920's to today's world in 2021. I'm super excited to portray the message of easily believing what you are told and how that needs to end with this incredible cast. I hope this particular play communicates that message clearly and shows why we must combat it. Thank you.

MONSTER SURVIVAL SKILLS DURING A GREMLIN OUTBREAK

by D.M. Larson

directed by MAGGIE WISE

CAST

ALAN.....Anna Coffey*
TOM.....Madelline De Meyer
PAULA.....Sage Johnson

*DMYAT Debut

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I chose this play because of the humor and the interactions between three young friends pretending to be much older than they are. I very much enjoyed the ending. The play made me laugh and it was a lot of fun directing it. My actors were wonderful, and I hope everyone enjoys it as much as I do.

Script performed courtesy of freedrama.net

A CHANCE OF RAIN

by Bridget Grace Sheaff

directed by TYNDAL HERVEY

CAST

BOY.....JJ McLaughlin
GIRL.....Abigail Houston

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The reason I chose this play was because it explores a complex dynamic between two characters that explore a new level in their relationship. I knew from the beginning that this would be an amazing play. I really enjoyed working with my actors.

DEATH TAKES THE TRAIN

by D.M. Larson

directed by SAGE JOHNSON

CAST

MEL.....Delaney Boldt*
MITCH.....Tatum Gloden
TINA.....Anna Coffey*
GRIM REAPER.....Maggie Wise

*DMYAT Debut

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Living in a fast paced society, we often don't stop to think about what happens to us after we die. And if you're like me, you'd rather not think about it for too long. In D. M. Larson's DEATH TAKES THE TRAIN, a group of friends begin on a journey of what seems to be a peaceful train ride, but encounter an unlikely guest seated across from them. With their comedic wit, philosophical questions, and a whole lot of anxiety, Mel, Mitch, and Tina discuss the great unknown of life beyond death.

Script performed courtesy of freedrama.net

BAGGAGE UNATTENDED

by Eric Coble

directed by RYAN HENZI

CAST

WOMAN.....Hannah Hayes*
MAN.....Adrienne Dobson-Greiner
UNIFORMED GUARD.....Owen Nicolino
SECURITY GUARD.....Isabel Christensen
SECURITY GUARD.....Madelyn Moisa*
SECURITY GUARD.....Madelline De Meyer

*DMYAT Debut

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

BAGGAGE UNATTENDED has many different ways to interpret and act it, and it is precisely that quality that makes me so excited to share it with you all. I hope the play challenges you to reflect on every decision the characters make as it has with me. I would like to thank all my wonderful actors for making this play come alive.

THE ARTISTS



Delaney Boldt (Death Takes the Train - Mel / He Said and She Said - Mrs. Cyrus Packard) is making both her DMYAT and community theatre debut with SUMMER SHORTS. Delaney will attend Prairieview School in Waukee this fall as a freshman. In her time at Waukee, she has performed in Will & Whimsy as Carol & John and as a student in Details in the Decade. Outside of theatre, Delaney spends her time doing art, singing, reading, color guard, crafting, knitting, rock collecting, running, tennis, and bead art. Delaney is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of SUMMER SHORTS to push herself to do new things, collaborate with new people, and gain new experiences.



Isabel Christensen (He Said and She Said - Enid / Baggage Unattended - Extra Security) is appearing in her second DMYAT production, having previously appeared in DMYAT Sings on Broadway this spring. This fall, Isabel will be a junior at Indianola High School, where she has participated in numerous productions as an actor, including Charming as Dowager, The Hound of Baskervilles as Victoria Lestraude, Pride & Prejudice as Agatha, Clue as Mrs. Peacock, and Death Defiant as Death. Outside of acting work, Isabel enjoys reading, writing, singing, playing instruments, and hanging out with her dog. During SUMMER SHORTS, Isabel is reminding herself to "take risks for the things you enjoy doing," to make great friends, great memories, and gain invaluable experiences and skills.



Anna Coffey (Death Takes the Train - Tina / Monster Survival Skills During a Gremlin Outbreak - Alan) is making her DMYAT debut! This fall, Anna will be a freshman attending Prairieview School in Waukee. In her time at Waukee, she has acted as a Bard in Will and Whimsy. Outside of Waukee, Anna has acted as the Small Brave Girl in Peter Pan Jr. at Kennedy Junior High School in Lisle, Illinois and as Sarabi + Bonzi in Lion King Jr. with Kidz Kabaret in Naperville, Illinois. Outside of the world of theater, Anna loves to draw, read, write, sew, paint, and photography. During SUMMER SHORTS, Anna is excited to meet new people in the Metro area.

THE ARTISTS



Adrienne Dobson-Greiner (Baggage Unattended - Man / Rainbow Sprinkles - Miranda Giles- Hampton) appeared earlier this year in DMYAT's production of Duets. They have also acted in a Short Play series hosted by the Des Moines Playhouse. Adrienne will be beginning their 7th grade year at Summit Middle School this fall. In their spare time, Adrienne enjoys roller skating on ramps, cosplaying, and making digital & traditional art. In the SUMMER SHORTS process, Adrienne hopes to take risks during the production; no matter what, they know that they'll learn from the experience in the end.



Madelline Ruby De Meyer (Monster Survival Skills During a Gremlin Outbreak - Tom / Baggage Unattended - Extra Security) is appearing in their fourth production with DMYAT. Previous productions include I Never Saw Another Butterfly in the ensemble, Seussical Jr. as a part of the Jungle of Nool, and She Kills Monsters as Evil Gabbi. In their free time, Madelline participates in swimming and plays video games. Madelline will be attending Brody Middle School for their 7th grade year. She feels grateful to be a part of SUMMER SHORTS because she loves the feeling of contributing to someone's first experience in directing and being a part of a final product that the directors can be proud of.



Tatum Gloden (Rainbow Sprinkles - Director / Death Takes the Train - Mitch) makes their second appearance with DMYAT since She Kills Monsters, where she performed as Vera. They will be entering their sophomore year at Roosevelt High School this fall. Outside of DMYAT, Tatum has performed numerous roles such as Von Hussler in Mary Poppins Jr., Reporter & Ensemble in James & the Giant Peach, BFG in BFG, & Pinocchio in Broadway Stars all with the Des Moines Playhouse. Outside of community theatre, Tatum enjoys singing, playing multitudes of instruments, music composing, drawing, painting, and doing makeup. With this production, Tatum hopes to use their creativity in new ways with this directorial role to not only produce a show they are proud of, but also to grow as both a director and actor.

THE ARTISTS



Hannah Hayes (Baggage Unattended - Woman) is appearing in her first DMYAT production. Hannah will be attending Roosevelt High School for her sophomore year. Hannah has participated in a few roles at the playhouse, including ensemble in Billy Elliot, Smart Girl in Judy Moody, and ensemble in Ramona Quimby. Outside of the playhouse, Hannah has also played as Marty the Zebra in Madagascar the Musical at St. Augustin Middle School. Beyond theatre, Hannah participates in cross country, show choir, debate, mock trial, synchronized swimming, and piano. Hannah is excited to express her creativity to grow as an actor and person.



Ryan Henzi (Baggage Unattended - Director / Rainbow Sprinkles - Voice On Machine) is making new strides as a director for SUMMER SHORTS. Ryan will be attending Ankeny Centennial High School as a junior this fall. Beyond school, he has acted in many DMYAT productions such as James in James and the Giant Peach, Billy in School of Rock, and I Never Saw Another Butterfly. Beyond DMYAT, he has also acted as Ralphie in A Christmas Story the Musical and Les in Newsies at the Playhouse, and as Pete Buttigieg in Iowa Stage Theatre Company's Adore Us! Line. Beyond theatre, Ryan enjoys playing video games, hanging out with friends, singing, and dancing. In the words of Ryan, "All aspects of theatre are about making bold choices & doing new things". Directing in SUMMER SHORTS has allowed him to grow doing exactly that.



Tyndal Hervey (A Chance of Rain - Director) is ecstatic to make this his second DMYAT production since The Giver. This fall, Tyndal will start his sophomore year at Valley High School. At Valley, he has performed as Harris in Lafayette Number 1. Beyond school and DMYAT, he has also performed at the Playhouse as Maddox in Miss Nelson is Missing and in Stagewest Iowa's production of A Christmas Carol as Tiny Tim/James. Beyond theatre, Tyndal loves to run in cross country and track, watch movies, archery, and watch the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. In SUMMER SHORTS, Tyndal is taking inspiration from Christopher Nolan, Quentin Tarantino, and Zach Snyder in how they all took risks to one day become "rich and famous."

THE ARTISTS



Abigail "Abi" Houston (A Chance of Rain - Girl / He Said and She Said - Diana) is appearing in her second DMYAT production since Seussical the Musical Jr. in the Whoville ensemble. This fall, Abi will attend Valley Southwoods for her freshman year. Abi has also done theater in her former school, St. Pius X School, including Music Man Jr. as the farmer's wife, and Goldilocks on Trial as Judge Wendy. Other than school and theatre, Abi spends her time playing volleyball, running track, dancing in show choir, drawing, and reading. Abi is excited to be a part of SUMMER SHORTS to take risks because "you get rewarded by learning new things, exploring your boundaries, and setting new heights for yourself."



Sage Johnson (Death Takes the Train - Director / Monster Survival Skills During a Gremlin Outbreak - Paula) A long time veteran of DMYAT and now second-time director since her role Assistant Directing Lost Girl, Sage will be entering her final year of high school at Hoover this fall. At Hoover, she has acted in numerous roles such as Ellie in Freaky Friday the Musical, Lilith in She Kills Monsters, & as Toni in 13 Past Midnight. With DMYAT, she has also acted as Young Raja in I Never Saw Another Butterfly, Summer in School of Rock, & Molly in 13 the Musical. She has also performed a featured monologue in Manic Monologues with Open Door Repertory Theatre. Beyond theatre, she enjoys singing, cooking, and making trips to Target. With directing in SUMMER SHORTS, Sage has reminded herself - from experience - to be open to taking risks in order to open numerous opportunities and "learn new things as well as grow as a person."



James "JJ" McLaughlin (He Said and She Said - Director / A Chance of Rain - Boy) makes his DMYAT directing debut in SUMMER SHORTS. JJ will be attending Dowling Catholic High School this fall as a sophomore. At Dowling, he enjoys swimming, cross country, weight lifting, and watching Star Wars. JJ has acted in numerous roles, including Lampwick in Pinocchio, Simpson in Singin' in the Rain, an elf in Elf, Perchik in Fiddler on the Roof, & Jack in Stinky Cheeseman Pinocchio & Stinky Cheese. With SUMMER SHORTS, JJ hopes to "create the vision I have with these awesome actors who are so talented." JJ is excited for the pride in seeing his actors perform the final product on the Sylvan Amphitheater stage.

THE ARTISTS



Madelyn Moisa (Rainbow Sprinkles - Rainbow Sprinkles / Baggage Unattended - Extra Security) marks her acting debut with DMYAT's SUMMER SHORTS. Madelyn will attend Roosevelt High School for her sophomore year this fall. Madelyn spends her time singing, playing the ukulele and collecting rocks. Madelyn is humbled by the opportunity to make new friends, gain new life experiences, and reflect on the process for pride in a job well done.



Owen Nicolino (He Said and She Said - Felix / Baggage Unattended - Uniformed Man) is a longtime DMYAT veteran. Owen's long list of DMYAT roles includes Orcus in She Kills Monsters, Michael in The Boy at the Edge of Everything, ensemble in James and the Giant Peach, and ensemble in High School Musical. Owen will attend his junior year at Roosevelt High School this fall. Outside of theatre, Owen enjoys playing DND, video games, reading, and clay sculpting. Owen is ecstatic to gain yet another new experience.



Margaret "Maggie" Wise (Monster Survival Skills During a Gremlin Outbreak - Director / Death Takes the Train - Death) begins her second show with DMYAT since making her debut as Agnes in She Kills Monsters. Maggie will begin her freshman year this fall at Roosevelt High School. Outside of DMYAT, Maggie has acted in a few roles at the Playhouse, including Pippi Longstocking in the ensemble and Mary Poppins Jr. as Mrs. Brill. Maggie spends her time reading, singing, & painting outside theatre. In SUMMER SHORTS, Maggie hopes to illustrate a scene in such a way "that feels real and enchanting" via being experimental and trying new ideas with her scene.



Colin Kiernan (Stage Manager) is soon to be a senior at Waukee High School come this fall. On the side, Colin has become the Technical Liaison and President of Thespian Troupe #1451 in the Waukee Community School District. Beyond that, his experience includes SHREK: The Musical at Waukee High School, where he won two Outstanding IHSMTA awards for his work as a Assistant Stage Manager & Co-Sound Designer and Operator. He was also the Projections Designer for Bob: A Life In Five Acts and mentors Lights/Sound to 6-9th graders' at Waukee. He is eager to manage & witness SUMMER SHORTS perform for its amazing display of creativity from Actors & Directors alike.

THE ARTISTS

Chelsea Haaland (Mentor) currently works as the Related Arts Curriculum Facilitator at Waukee Community Schools. The SUMMER SHORTS production marks her DMYAT debut. Outside of administrative work, she has directed numerous productions such as Legally Blonde, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, and Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella at Waukee High School, and The Wiz at Hoover High School. She has most recently acted as Katherine in Des Moines Playhouse's production of Freaky Friday the Musical. She is also on the Education Staff at the Des Moines Playhouse & adjudicates for the IHSMTA program. Outside of theatre, she loves to spend time with her husband Thomas & two dramatic children, Liliana & Grayson. Chelsea is most excited to watch these young directors "represent the future of arts - we are in good hands!"

Megan Lenstra (Mentor) has recently moved to the Des Moines area from Dubuque, Iowa, to follow her dream to teach Speech & English at Waukee High School. The SUMMER SHORTS productions marks her debut with DMYAT. Her experience includes assistant directing a few production including Will & Whimsy at Waukee Theatre Arts Prairieview and Cabaret at TheatreUNI. She also acted as an Asst. Coordinator & Ensemble Member for To Touch The Moon with TheatreUNI. Outside of the theatre world, Megan coaches/judges IHSSA Speech Team, reads absolutely anything & everything, and loves to travel when possible. In this process, she's been inspired by her motto to "be comfortable with being uncomfortable" to constantly allow herself to grow as both a leader and as a person amongst these six aspiring directors.

SPECIAL THANKS to the student directors for their bravery and risk-taking in a new experience, and to the DMYAT families for enabling the return of live theatre for our students.

DONORS

We extend our warmest thanks to the following people who have made financial and significant in-kind donations to Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. We cannot succeed without their help. To consider making a tax-deductible gift to our nonprofit organization, we invite you to visit www.dmyat.org for more information.

This list includes the most recent gifts made by our many generous supporters between January 2020 and July 18, 2021.

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CALLBACKS will be held Sunday, August 1 from 2-4pm.

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