

ACTORS GUILD

OF PARKERSBURG PRESENTS

DRACULA

BASED ON THE BOOK BY BRAM STOKER

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NAPOLI'S

September 27, 28, October 4, 5, 11, 12 at 8 PM
October 6 at 2:30 PM and October 11 at Midnight

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Actors Guild of Parkersburg Presents

Dracula

By Steven Dietz

DRACULA is presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Originally produced by the Arizona Theatre Company Tucson/Phoenix, Arizona.
David Ira Goldstein, Artistic Director • Robert Alpaugh, Managing Director



THIS PROGRAM IS PRESENTED WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM

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Dramatic

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Place: London, England and Transylvania Time: 1897

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Renfield.....	R.J. LOWE
Lucy.....	MICHELLE TALBOTT
Mina.....	JAMIE BELLE KEARNS
Harker.....	JOSH MARTIN
Seward.....	J.T. SPIVY
Van Helsing.....	MICHAEL DOTSON
Dracula.....	DAVID SCHEIMANN
Maid.....	DONNA SPADER
Vixens.....	JESSICA BLANKENSHIP, TONI FABER, BRITTANI HILL
Attendants.....	CODI BRYANT, RONNIE TALBOTT, ANDREW WILLIAMS
Wolf.....	ANGEL

Crew

Director.....	JOHN HARRY LEE
Assistant Director.....	VERONICA FIELDS
Technical Director.....	ROD ODEN
Set Designer.....	ROD ODEN
Costume Designer.....	VERONICA FIELDS
Lighting Designer.....	ROD ODEN
Special Effects.....	JOHN GRADWOHL
Sound Designer.....	JUSTIN SCHMITZ
Stage Manager.....	SPENCER SEELEY
Sound Operator.....	BETTY DOTSON
Advisor.....	CHARLIE MATTHEWS
Production Assistant.....	NORA CORRA
Assistant Production Assistant.....	JANE MANCINI
Props Mistress.....	MARSHA MUELLER
Assistant Stage Manager.....	BILL SWEARINGEN
Special Events Planner.....	MARY LUCAS
Hair and Make-up Designers.....	VERONICA FIELDS, BRENNIA SMITH
Bookholder.....	CAROLYN HOLLENDONNER
Scenic Painter.....	BETH SOUR
Dialect Coach.....	ROBERT HOLLAND
Stage Running Crew.....	LARRY DEEM
Prop Running Crew.....	HEATHER COOPER
Set Construction Crew.....	GARY BATTON, DONNA LINSELL, JEAN NEWTON, JEFF NEWTON, JOHN NEWTON, CAST, CREW
Costume Crew.....	DONNA LINSELL, JANE MANCINI, DEBBIE SEELEY, LINDA SMITH
Dressers.....	DONNA LINSELL, JANE MANCINI, DEB SEELEY
Special Effects Makeup.....	BRENNIA SMITH
Lightboard Operator.....	SABRINA DYE
Actors Guild Photographer.....	JEFF BAUGHAN
Playbill Layout and Design.....	BRETT MEADE

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

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A Letter from the President



I AM NOT SURE ABOUT YOU, but when I was in school, this time of year always caused me just a bit of anxiety. I would wonder who my teacher was going to be, would my friends be in the same classroom, would I get lost trying to find the classroom, what if I overslept—like my Mom was ever going to let that happen. The good thing about it was every year after the first few minutes, I would realize that it did not matter who my teacher was (I learned to like them all), I would always find new friends, it was kind of hard to get lost with signs posted everywhere, and my Mom never once let me oversleep—no matter how hard I tried. My anxiety would pass and I would be so excited about a new beginning.

That is the way it is here at the Actors Guild each year around this time. We begin a new season with new plays, new musicals, new actors and hopefully new patrons. As we begin the 2013-2014 Season we also have a new technical director who will oversee all of the technical aspects of each of our productions. Rodney Oden, his wife Raquel and their three boys Tristan, Lucas and Jamie, come to us from Manistee, Michigan. Rod brings with him experience in set design, set construction, lighting and sound design. I am sure you will be pleased to see that he will continue the tradition of providing high quality sets that you have grown accustomed to from our very capable technical directors who have preceded him.

When it comes to new beginnings, it all comes down to realizing that the greatest challenge of completing anything is actually getting started. Within a short time the “new” wears off and it becomes just another part of our routine. Now that you have taken the first and most difficult step, you are here to enjoy Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*—I would invite you to make seeing each of the remaining productions of this new season a goal for yourself in the coming months.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gary McIntyre'.

GARY MCINTYRE
President of the Board of Trustees

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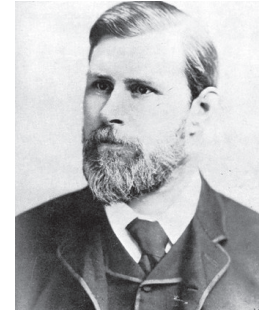
M-T-W-F: 9am - 7pm • Th: 9am - 9pm • Sat: 9am - 6pm • Sun: 9am - 5pm



Director's Note

WRITE TO YOU FROM THE MIDST of an enormous shadow. A shadow cast by history, legend, and myth. It is the shadow of Bram Stoker.

Stoker was a man of the theatre, serving as famous actor Henry Irving's business and tour manager for twenty-five years. He wrote *Dracula* over a period of seven years, writing only during his summer vacations. It is altogether fitting then that *Dracula* has found a home not only in book stores, but on the stage and in film. The stage presents an audience with the same conundrum faced by the reader of the novel: pieces of a story; fragments and clues, left partly unassembled; events awaiting a detective.



BRAM STOKER

Stoker wrote the book during the period of the Jack the Ripper murders and the trial of Oscar Wilde for gross indecency. The character of *Dracula* is based, partially, on Vlad the Impaler, the imperious Henry Irving, Oscar Wilde, and the eccentric poet Walt Whitman. Whomever the inspiration, Stoker presented the world with a character that has fascinated readers and audiences for 116 years.

Dracula first appeared on stage in 1927 with Bela Lugosi as the count, a role he repeated in the film version of 1931. A revival of the play in 1977 starred Frank Langella and ran on Broadway for three years and was followed by a film version in 1979. The most recent version was released in 1992 by the director Francis Ford Coppola. A few months ago the novel was on a list of the one hundred best novels of all time.

Proof of *Dracula*'s enduring power is in the numerous incarnations offered to a ravenous public. *Dracula* has appeared in more films than any literary character: thirty and counting. Tonight's performance is the third stage version and was written in 1996. There exist five musical versions, ten television adaptations, one radio play, three songs, two comic book versions, seven video games, and one pinball game. The list staggers the mind. Currently there are three vampire programs on television and NBC has announced an October start for a new series, entitled, of course, *Dracula*.

I would be remiss not to thank my talented and dedicated cast and my strong right arms: Nikki, Nora, Spencer, Rod and all the rest of the crew who work tirelessly to make tonight's production possible.

As the Count himself would say, "Welcome to my house! Enter freely and of your own will". Your host, a haunting being, waits for you... a brilliant, seductive, fanged beast who wants to suck the blood from your throat. Hide from that. So, sit back, try to relax and enjoy *Dracula*.

JOHN LEE
Director, *Dracula*



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The Bayley Award

The “Bayley” was established by the Actors Guild with a two-fold purpose: first, to honor one of our “founding mothers” and most influential members – Suzanne Bayley. The other function of the Bayley Award is for our membership to express an annual, public “thank you” to an individual, group or business in the community for services to the Guild above and beyond the call of neighborly duty.

Our most recent Bayley Award was granted to the Khalil Family.

The Khalil Awards

For many years Dr. Ghassan Khalil and his family have made an annual contribution to ensure the continuation of live theater in our community and have championed the importance of the arts in our lives. The Khalil Awards were established to honor the Outstanding Production and the Outstanding Performance of each season. An anonymous panel consisting of persons who have seen every show of the previous season selects the recipients of these awards.

The Actors Guild of Parkersburg would like to congratulate director Charlie Matthews and the entire cast and crew of *Tuesdays with Morrie* as the Best Show for the 2011-2012 season. Receiving the honor for Best Performance was John Lee, for his portrayal of Morrie in *Tuesdays with Morrie*.

The Grace-Marie Merrill Award

Melody Carson is the most recent recipient of the Grace-Marie Merrill Award for exceptional volunteerism to the Actors Guild of Parkersburg. The award is named for a former drama teacher at Parkersburg High School who was an early member of the Guild, where she acted in and directed plays.

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Actors Guild Membership 2013-2014



To become a voting member of the Actors Guild, contact Susan Schuchts at sschuchts@yahoo.com or 304-488-8401. Membership meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at 7 P.M.

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Who's Who in the Cast & Crew

JESSICA BLANKENSHIP (Vixen) has appeared in *On Borrowed Time*, *Prelude to a Kiss*, and *In the Beginning* at the Actors Guild of Parkersburg. Other productions include: *Leading Ladies*, *Into the Woods*, *The Red Velvet Cake War*, *The Boys Next Door*, and *The Full Monty*. Jessica appeared in *The Sound of Music* at MOVP and other collegiate productions. She has co-starred in the local film, *The Christ Complex*. Jessica is a DJ at Results Radio on Froggy 99, under the moniker Jessica Swimson; co-host on the Morning Drive with John D Green and the Green Team.

CODI BRYANT (Attendant) is appearing for the first time ever in a play or theatre. He is an engineering student at WVU-P. Codi is excited to get an acting career off the ground and work with such a talented group. Thank you.

MICHAEL DOTSON (Van Helsing) has been a Guild veteran since 1984. Most memorable onstage experiences include *Baby, 1776*, *Man of La Mancha* (1992 and 2010), and *Cotton Patch Gospel*. He was Musical Director of *The Civil War*; *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*; *Big River*; and *Into the Woods* among others. Mike served as Musical Director/Director of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. He resides in Parkersburg with his wife Betty, basset hound Bela, and cats Stubby and Persi. Mike is branch manager of C.A. House Music.

TONNI FABER (Vixen) grew up on a dairy farm in rural upstate NY. Her parents instilled in her a love of nature, horses, and all manner of critters. She majored in biology and art, eventually attending the Medical University of South Carolina to become a dentist. She now practices with Dr. H. Talbott Tebay and Associates, preferring to serve the needs of children and young adults. She recently entered an art piece in the Upcycling PAC Regional Show and won the People's Choice Award for "Mother Earth's Nightmare". Her significant other, Yair, is a biomedical scout for G.E. Tel Aviv, Israel.

BRITTANI HILL (Vixen) has recently been seen on the Guild stage in *Hairspray*, *All Shook Up*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Full Monty*, and *Avenue Q*. She has also been involved in shows all over the Mid-Ohio Valley, such as *A Piece of My Heart* (MOVP); *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Piece of My Heart*, *Grease, 4am*, and *Alice in Wonderland* (PHS); *Guys and Dolls*, *Anything Goes*, *Cinderella*, *High School Musical*, *Curtains*, *The Boyfriend* (Smoot Theatre); and *The Unexpected Guest* (WVU-P). She has come to love spending time at the Guild and meeting new people in each production along the way.

JAMIE BELLE KEARNS (Mia) is appearing in her first Guild production. Her theatre experience includes *Evil Doings at Queen Toot's Tomb*, *Wiley and the Hairy Man*, and competitive theater in high school. She lives in Mineral Wells and teaches English at Ripley High School. Becoming involved in community

theatre has long been a goal of Jamie's and she found herself with the time and energy to turn her goal into a reality. She is thrilled to be part of the production of *Dracula*. Jamie would like to thank her amazing family and friends for their constant love, support, and encouragement.

R.J. LOWE (Renfield) directed last season's *The Full Monty* and *Alice in Wonderland* and played Princeton/Rod in *Avenue Q*. Previously he directed *The Rocky Horror Show*, played Edna Turnblad in *Hairspray*, directed/appeared in MOVP's popular *Nunsense A-men* for which he won the coveted Khalil Award for Best Production and Best Performance of the season, and received "Outstanding in Performance" honors for his portrayal of Alvin Kelby in *The Story of My Life*. Other appearances include *Leading Ladies*, *Seussical*, and *Monky Business* as well as many others too numerous to list. He attended the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City.

JOSH MARTIN (Jonathan Harker) has been seen on the Guild stage in *Avenue Q*, *The Full Monty*, *The Secret Garden*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, *Leading Ladies*, *The Story of My Life*, *RENT*, *Man of La Mancha*, *It's the Reel Thing*, *Big: The Musical*, *The Civil War*, *Seussical*, and *Monky Business*. Additional Guild Credits: Served as director for *All Shook Up* and *The Boys Next Door*; and music director for *Hairspray* and *The Rocky Horror Show*. Other Credits: *The King and I*, *Rumors*, and music director for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (PSHS) and *Little Shop of Horrors* (PHS).

DAVID SCHEIMANN (Dracula) has been involved with community theatre for most of his life, but vanished from the stage for the past few years. Like a true child of the night, playing "bad guys" comes naturally to him, and he has enjoyed sinking his teeth into roles like Mean Ol' Owen Musser (*The Foreigner*), Sinister Dr. Carelli (*Black Coffee*) and Diabolical Jonathan Brewster (*Arsenic and Old Lace*). In the world of the living, David works at Washington State Community College in the area of student success; a career that is decidedly **not** evil.

DONNA SPADER (Maid) is appearing on the Guild stage for the first time. She is an RN for Jackson County Developmental Center here in Parkersburg. She is from a town called Leeds in England, and came to America in 2004. She has always wanted to perform in a play, and feels honored to be performing alongside a very talented cast and crew of *Dracula!* Donna would like to thank her family and friends for the love and support she feels so lucky to receive, and looks forward to more opportunities in the future with the Actors Guild!

J.T. SPIVY (Seward) has appeared in *Beauty and the Beast*, *In the Beginning*, *Ten Little Indians*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Prelude to a Kiss*, *Alice in Wonderland*, and *The Full Monty* at the Actors Guild. He participated in Guild Builders for two years. At Ohio Valley University, he played John in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*, and performed in *The Foreigner*. J.T. currently teaches English at Edison Middle School.

MICHELLE TALBOTT (Lucy) is thrilled to be a part of this incredible cast and she thanks the entire directing team for casting her in this show. Michelle has previously been seen in *The Who's Tommy* (Dancing Lass) and *Oklahoma!* (Gertie) at AG. Michelle's regional credits are Huntington's Outdoor Theatre's, *Annie Get Your Gun*, (Chorus) and Huntington Fifth Avenue Theatre's *Annie* (Boylan Sister), *West Side Story* (Jet Girl) and *Gypsy* (Hollywood Blonde). She is very thankful to her friends, family, and husband Ronnie, for their love and support.

RONNIE TALBOTT (Attendant) has worked in stage, film, and screen. Regional credits include *West Side Story*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Annie*, *Gypsy*, and *Footloose*. Locally he worked on *RENT* (Assistant Director), *Lion in Winter*, *The Reel Thing*, *Pippin*, *Wizard of Oz*, and many more Guild shows. Ronnie has appeared in the films: *Chip&Zach*, *Maneater*, *Burning Annie*, and *Spider-Man 3*. He is most well known for a prominent role in the eleventh season of the hit CBS show *Big Brother*. Ronnie would like to thank his friends, family, and especially his wife Michelle!

ANDREW WILLIAMS (Attendant) is a graduate of Parkersburg High School. He has been seen in shows like *Night of the Living Dead*, *Wake Up Call*, *Radium Girls*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *All Shook Up*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Full Monty*, and most recently, *The Pirates of Penzance*. Enjoy the show!

JOHN HARRY LEE (Director) was awarded the Khalil Best Actor Award for his performance in *Tuesdays with Morrie*, a feat which was repeated in March at the SETC Regional Festival. He received an Outstanding Directing Certificate for *The Story of My Life* at OCTA. He has been named a Distinguished West Virginian by Gov. Arch Moore for his script *Eden on the River*, a musical version of the Burr/Blennerhassett events. Last year he was in the film *The Doughboy*. And over the Labor Day weekend he was elected to the OCTA Hall of Fame for his contributions to theatre.

VERONICA (NIKKI) FIELDS (Assistant Director) an Actors Guild veteran, has appeared on stage in *I Ought to be in Pictures*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *The Dinner Party*, *Rumors*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, and *The Red Velvet Cake War*. She costumed *Leading Ladies*, *Man of La Mancha*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, and *Into the Woods* and was assistant director for the *The Octet Bridge Club* and *The Lion in Winter* and directed *Hairspray*.

ROD ODEN (Technical Director) is thrilled and honored to be joining the AGP for their 2013-2014 Season! Whether for the audiences on a professional stage or teaching youth in a technical workshop, Rod is proud to have over fifteen years experience in a variety of venues, genres and audiences. With a strong background in theatrical design and lighting, Rod has designed on stage from Los Angeles to Michigan, and virtually every type of venue. His recent work includes *Peter Pan*, *Annie*, *Blithe Spirit*, and *King and I*. Other favorites include *Chapter Two*, *Working*, *The Robber Bridegroom*, *Rumors*, and *Miracle on 34th Street*.

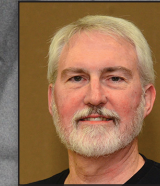
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Blankenship



Codi
Bryant



Michael
Dotson



Tonni
Faber



Brittani
Hill



Jamie
Kearns



R.J.
Lowe



Josh
Martin



David
Scheimann



Donna
Spader



J.T.
Spivy



Michelle
Talbott



Ronnie
Talbott



Andrew
Williams

*Don't believe for a moment that he is killing the young.
He is costuming angels.*

-JEAN COCTEAU

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In Memoriam

In loving memory of the following individuals, generous donations have been made on their behalf.

The Actors Guild wishes to honor their lives and expresses its gratitude for their contribution to the arts.

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Opening in November

BASED ON THE BELOVED, TIMELESS FILM, this heartwarming musical adaptation features seventeen Irving Berlin songs. Veterans Bob Wallace and Phil Davis have a successful song-and-dance act after World War II. With romance in mind, the two follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters en route to their Christmas show at a Vermont lodge, which just happens to be owned by Bob and Phil's former army commander.



The dazzling score features well known standards including "Blue Skies", "I Love A Piano", "How Deep Is the Ocean", and the perennial favorite, "White Christmas."

Nov. 22, 23, 29, 30 and Dec. 7 at 8 PM

Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and 8 at 2:30 PM

SPECIAL THANKS

- Wal-Bon - Napoli's ∞ Flowers by Obermeyer's Florist
- Lee Rector ∞ Harris Family Dentistry ∞ Mary Lucas
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