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Bus Stop Program

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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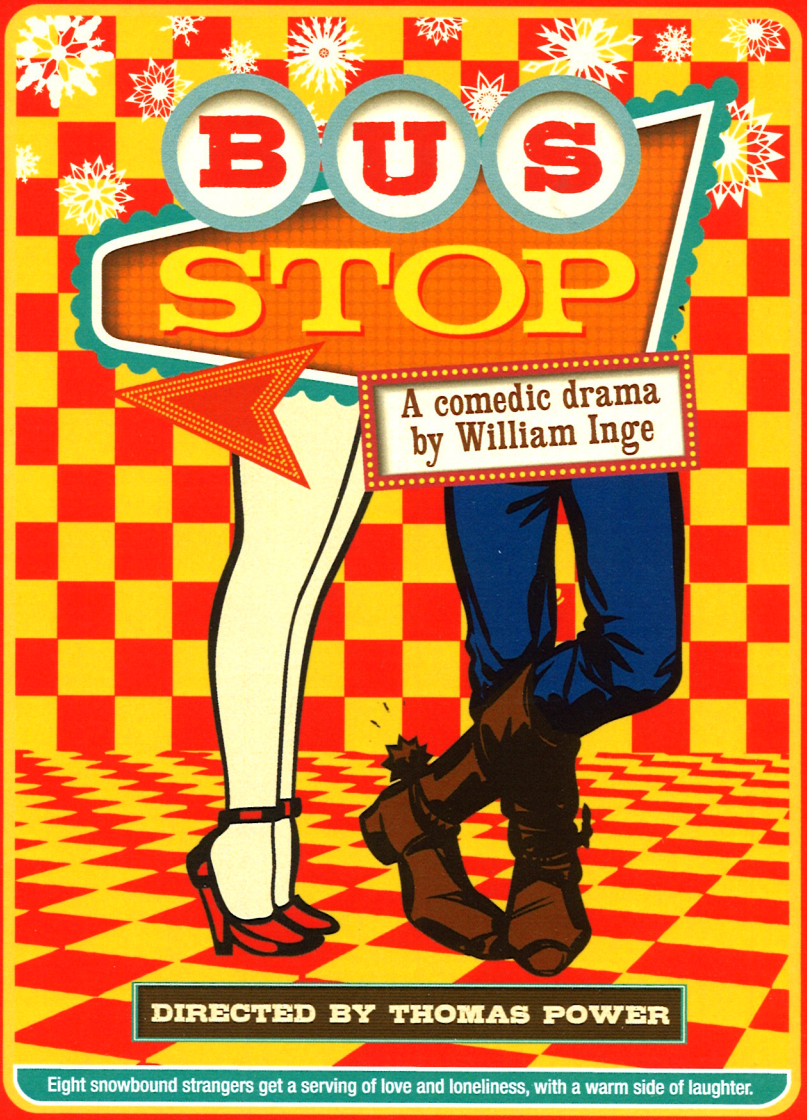
USM Theatre



October 31 – November 9, 2014

Friday, Oct. 31 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 2 at 5 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 5 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 9 at 5 p.m.

MAIN STAGE, RUSSELL HALL, GORHAM

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

The Kennedy Center

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The *Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival*™ 47, part of the *Rubenstein Arts Access Program,* is generously funded by **David and Alice Rubenstein**.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; the National Committee for the Performing Arts; The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; and Beatrice and Anthony Welters and the AnBryce Foundation.

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.

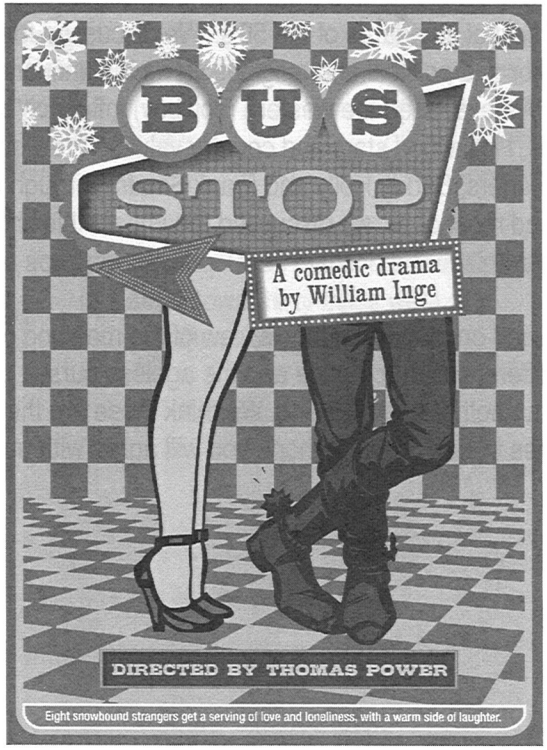
Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 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.

Bus Stop

by William Inge

Directed by Thomas A. Power



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

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Director's note

William Inge's *Bus Stop* is a glimpse of human behavior from 1955. Historically, Ike was president, smoking was in, gender correct language was unheard of, rotary dial phones were new and the revolution of the 60's was too far ahead to even contemplate. So, you may ask, what drew us to do such a dated play?

The company of *Bus Stop* met this question of merit nearly every night of rehearsal. We talked about male assumptions of women's virtue, about the language and sexual standards of the 50's. We discussed the sometimes abusive behavior and political and religious views that influenced social relationships. We examined the western (cowboy) influence on the period through movies, Hollywood stars and country values. We viewed Marilyn Monroe, Roy Rogers, Buddy Holly and Frank Sinatra through our landscape of investigation and most of all, we discussed the impact this show might have on you, our audience.

Finally we focused on playwright Inge's view of the meaning of love, generational differences in romance and the ageless pursuit of personal connection with another human being. We think these are the redeeming, universal themes in *Bus Stop* and hope you will agree with us.

T. Power

Bus Stop

by William Inge

Directed by Thomas A. Power

Scenic Design:	Christopher Price
Lighting Design:	Shannon Zura
Costume Design:	Joan Larkins Mather
Sound Design:	Shannon Zura
Hair and Makeup Design:	Alyssa Rojecki
Original Music:	Martin Bodenheimer

The action of the play takes place in a roadside diner
in a small town thirty miles west of
Kansas City, Kansas.

It is March 1955.

Act I

A March night. 1 A. M.

Act II

A few minutes later.

Act III

2 Hours later, about 5 A. M.

There will be two brief intermissions –
total running time approximately 1 hour 45 minutes.

Cast & Crew

Characters in order of their appearance

Elma Duckworth, a waitress	Caroline O'Connor
Grace Hoylard, owner of the diner	Elinor Strandskov
Will Masters, a sherriff	Josh Cohen
Cherie, a chanteuse	Alyssa Rojecki
Dr. Gerald Lyman, a former college professor	Caleb Lacy
Carl, a busdriver	Lake Bellavance
Virgil Blessing, a ranch hand	Martin Bodenheimer
Bo Decker a young rancher and cowboy	Dalton Kimball
Musicians	Martin Bodenheimer Thomas Campbell

Production Staff

Production Manager:	Shannon Zura
Stage Manager:	Kelsey Michaud
Technical Director:	Perry Fertig
Carpenters:	Sean Arsenault, Martin Bodenheimer, Josh Cohen, James Futter, Alison Loughlin, Kelsey Michaud, Courtney Pomerleau, Kamdra Prendergast, Calvin Sprague, Elinor Strandskov, and the students of Stagecraft and Stagecraft Practicum
Properties Master:	Callie J. Cox
Properties Construction:	Sarah Kennedy
Master Electrician:	Martin Bodenheimer
Electricians:	Caleb Lacy, Megan Maguire, James Futter and the students of Lighting Practicum
Projections:	Shannon Zura, Sarah Kennedy
Costume Construction:	Kyle Carver, Robert Dall, Katie Delcourt, Kylie Grandjean, Jenn Jensen, Shelby Martin, Katie Webb
Dramaturg:	Pamela Yvette Smith

Production Crew

Assistant Stage Manager:	Casey Wilson
Deck Crew:	Brittney Cacace, Brittany Burke
Wardrobe:	Braden Socquet
Light Board Operator:	Hollie Pryor
Sound Board Operator:	Mary Hutchens

Administrative Staff

Coordinator Of Arts Promotion:	Erin Bartoletti
Performing Arts Operations:	Lori Arsenault
Theatre Administrative Specialist:	Lil Campbell

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Quinn Farwell
Ashley Rose
Curtis Willard

Ushers:
Ian Allen
Elizabeth Darragh
Kassandra Girard
Wyatt Grondin
Jake Hammond
Lily Kapiloff Michael
Mazur
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The Theater Project
JP Gagnon & High Output Portland
Portland Stage Company
Jere "Lunchbox" Dewaters
Miss Portland Diner

Cast Biographies

Lake Bellavance (Carl)
Lake Bellavance is a senior theatre major at USM. He has been in several shows in his time here, one of them being *A View from the Bridge* which was also directed by Tom Power. Lake wants to take his career to wherever it's willing to take him.

Martin Bodenheimer (Virgil)
Martin is a junior theatre major from Oxford, MS. He was in USM's production of *Orlando* directed by Meghan Brodie and *The Cripple of Inishmaan* directed by Tom Power. He stage managed USM's production of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Martin also starred in a production of *The Talented Mr. Ripley* which played in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Josh Cohen (Will)
Josh Cohen is a 3rd year marketing student at USM. This is his second main stage appearance at USM. Previously he was seen as Babby-Bobby in last year's *The Cripple of Inishmaan*. Most recently Josh was seen in *Open Casket* as Mitchell. He'd like to thank the production team for all of the hard work they do to make a USM show run.

Dalton Kimball (Bo)
Dalton is a senior theatre Major who is thrilled to be working on another fantastic production here at the University of Southern Maine. Dalton was most recently seen in *The Cripple of Inishmaan* as JohnnyPateenMike.

Caleb Lacy (Dr. Lyman)
Caleb Lacy is very happy to be returning to the Main Stage at USM's Department of Theatre. Previous roles at USM include: Chairman in*The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, Aldolpho in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and Judge Gaffney in *Harvey*. Other roles include Swanbeck, *The Legend of Jim Cullen* (HRTC), Mayor, *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (Portland Players), Franz, *Spring Awakening* (MSMT), Soldier/Dennis, *Sunday in the Park with George* (HRTC). Caleb would like to thank the cast, crew, director and especially the faculty of USM's Department of Theatre for these last four years of hard work and dedication.

Caroline O'Connor (Elma)
Caroline is a part time USM student, and a staff writer at the Portland Phoenix. She performed in USM Department of Theatre's production of *In the Underworld* last spring, and has worked with various theater and film groups around Southern Maine. She plans to attend the American College Theater Fest in the spring, and would like to thank Tom for casting her in *Bus Stop*, the cast, and the creative team for all their hard work.

Alyssa Rojecki (Cherie, Hair and Makeup Designer)
Alyssa Rojecki is a 4th year theatre major at the University of Southern Maine. Her most recent roles at USM include Chorus Girl in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, The Doctor in *Night Sky* and Alice in *You Can't Take it With You*. You may recognize Alyssa as Alison in *Bingo! The Winning Musical*, Estelle in *The Full Monty*, Alice in *You Can't*

Take It With You and Pickles in *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* at Biddeford City Theater Opera House, or as Miss Lily St. Regis in *Annie* at Lyric Music Theater. When she isn't on stage she is helping with hair and makeup or directing student-written shows. She would like to thank her friends and loved ones for all of their support and director Tom Power, cast and crew for this valuable experience. Enjoy the show!

Elinor Strandskov (Grace)
Elinor Strandskov is a senior theater major and holds an A.S. degree in Filmmaking from the Minneapolis Community and Technical College. Acting credits include Mammy in *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, Rosine in *In the Underworld* at USM, Sarah in *Dear Sarah* at The Brick Store Museum; and The Russian Spy in the short film *Look at These Clocks*. Elinor is originally from Minneapolis, Minnesota and currently resides in Portland, Maine.

Production Biographies

William Inge, Playwright
William Inge's Kansas boyhood is reflected in many of his works. Inge was born in Independence on May 3, 1913. In 1943, he moved to St. Louis, Missouri, where he worked as the drama and music critic for the St. Louis Times. Within three months he had completed *Farther Off From Heaven*, which was produced by Margo Jones in Dallas. Inge returned to a teaching position at Washington University in St. His next effort evolved into a play that earned Inge the title of most promising playwright of the 1950 Broadway season. The play was *Come Back, Little Sheba*.

In 1953, *Picnic* opened at The Music Box Theatre in New York City. *Picnic* won Inge a Pulitzer Prize, The Drama Critic Circle Award, The Outer Circle Award, and The Theatre Club Award. Inge's next success came in 1955 when *Bus Stop* opened at The Music Box Theatre in New York City. Directed by Joshua Logan, the film version of *Bus Stop* was released by Fox in 1956 with Marilyn Monroe, Don Murray and Eileen Heckart in starring roles. Inge's fame continued to grow as *The Dark at the Top of the Stairs*, a reworking of his first play *Farther Off From Heaven* opened on Broadway. In 1960, Inge's first screenplay, *Splendor in the Grass* was filmed in New York. It starred Natalie Wood, Pat Hingle and newcomer Warren Beatty. *Splendor in the Grass* was a triumph for Inge and won him an Academy Award for Best Screenplay.

Inge died on June 10, 1973 at his home in Hollywood, where he lived with his sister, Helene. He was 60 years old. He was buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery in his hometown of Independence, KS. His headstone reads simply, "Playwright.

Thomas A. Power, Director
Professor Thomas A. Power, director, teacher and playwright is recognized nationally in TeachersCount and has collaborated with notable theatre artists during his tenure here at USM. He is the recipient of a number of awards for play writing including *Small Talk*, *The Bridge* and *Grannia*, the musical. Professor Power is a member of the Dramatist Guild.

Christopher Price, Scenic Designer
Christopher Price works in theater, radio and television as a director, a scenic designer, an actor and a voice artist. Maine credits include work with The University of Southern Maine, Portland Stage Company, The Theater Project, The Public Theater and The Mad Horse Theater Company. He has narrated performances with The Portland Symphony, MPBN, The Portland Ballet and The Atlantic Chamber Orchestra and voiced numerous audio books and radio dramas. He holds a Master's Degree from The Harvard University Graduate School of Design and lives in Portland.

Shannon Zura, Lighting and Designer
Shannon recently designed the set for Opera House Arts' *Brilliant Traces*; the lights and sound for Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble's *Leading Ladies*; lights for Penobscot Theatre's *Wit* and Big Picture Show's *Switch Triptych*; the lights and the sound for Opera House Arts' *Last Gas*; the sound for Portland Stage Company's *Veils, Hidden Tennessee,* and *God of Carnage*; and the set for PORTopera's *La Fille du Regiment* and InterAct Theatre Company's *Black Pearl Sings*. Shannon holds an M.F.A. in Lighting Design from Temple University and is an associate professor of theatre at the University of Southern Maine.

Joan Larkins Mather, Costume Designer
Joan Larkins Mather, assistant professor of theatre, Department of Theatre Chair, received a MFA in Costume Design at California State University, Fullerton. She joined USM's faculty in 2012 and teaches in the areas of costuming and makeup. In addition to designing costumes for many of the USM Department of Theatre shows, she has designed for the Public Theatre, Stonington Opera House Arts, Bath Shakespeare Festival, and Theatre at Monmouth. Before moving to Maine, she designed costumes for Western Stage, Good Company Players, Maples Repertory Theatre, Cabaret Repertory Theatre, and the Central California Ballet. Other professional work includes costume construction at Maine State Music Theatre Rentals, PORTopera, the American Conservatory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre; the Utah Shakespeare Festival, Cal Shakes and the Great River Shakespeare Festival. Her designs for *A Mid-Summer Night's Dream* at Truman State University were featured in the 2005 World Stage Design Exhibition in Toronto.

Kelsey Michaud, Stage Manager
Kelsey is a sophomore theatre major at the University of Southern Maine. She is thrilled to be stage managing her first production here at USM. Her previous credits include assistant stage managing USM Theatre's production of *In the Underworld* last spring, as well as USM's Student Performing Artist's show *Dog Sees God.* She also served as deck crew in *Night Sky*.

Perry Fertig, Technical Director
In addition to his work at USM, Perry has served as technical director for PORTopera and works as a stagehand with IATSE Local 114. He is also a flying director for Foy Inventerprises, most recently flying *Mary Poppins* for Ogunquit Playhouse and Maine State Music Theatre. Previously, he worked in Philadelphia for Ursinus College, the FringeArts Festival, and the Philadelphia Theatre Company.

Pamela Yvette Smith, Dramaturg
Pamela Yvette Smith is a junior theatre major here at USM, minoring in media studies. Past positions at USM include the speech therapist for the production of *Night Sky* and Mrs. Muller for the production of *Doubt*, dramaturg for *The Cripple of Inishmaan* and assistant stage manager for the productions of *Orlando* and *Hedda Gabler.* She is a recipient of the Grannia Theatre Scholarship and the Millard Theatre Scholarship, a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society, member of USM Mentorship Program and Veterans of Foreign Wars, and she has served 20 years of active duty for the United States Army. Pamela is a native of Claxton, Georgia and wishes to express her sincere gratitude to God, her family, and friends for their continuous support and love.

Callie J. Cox, Properties Master
Callie J. Cox, a junior theatre major, is pleased to be working on her eleventh USM mainstage production, and her seventh as props master. Most recent credits include *The Well of Horniness*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and *Doubt*. Callie is also heavily involved in the Student Performing Artists both on and offstage, serving as co-production manager/props master and appearing onstage in their most recent production *Beyond Belief*. Outside of USM she has worked in many capacities, most recently as an Art Intern on an independent film *Five Nights in Maine* with the New York based production company Loveless. She is thrilled to have yet another opportunity to work on props and looks forward to many more in the future.

Casey Wilson, Assistant Stage Manager
Casey Wilson is a sophomore theatre major here at USM and is so happy to be working as the assistant stage manager for *Bus Stop*. She has been on wardrobe crew for past shows including *The Cripple of Inishmaan* and *In the Underworld*. Casey would like to thank the cast and crew for welcoming her into their production and wishes everyone to break all the limbs on the show!

USM Department of Theatre Circle of Friends

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The Department of Theatre acknowledges the various supporters who help us in a multitude of ways. Thank you for your generous contributions to the artistic and academic mission of our faculty, staff and students. If you can see yourself in one of our gift levels below, please join our circle of friends with a donation. For more information, contact the Theatre Box Office at (207) 780-5151, or donate online at usm.maine.edu/theatre. Your support of the arts will ensure that we can continue presenting vibrant theatrical performances in the community. Your donation is tax deductible.

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Sheila Bukowski
Charles S. Kading
James Pizzo
Ms. Polito

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Anonymous
Kathleen Ashley
Elizabeth Bischof
Cynthia Brown
Thomas Butterfield
Valerie Carter
Norrie Chamoff
Landroche Cory
Tom Despres

Stage Manager, continued
Georgann Dickey
Howard Faulkner
Joyce Taylor Gibson
Peter Holm
Bruce Johnson
Alan Kaschub
Assunta B. Kent
Maydean Kimball
Juliana J. L'Heureux '83
Richard Lavoie
Sarah McClain
Dana McDaniel
Cathy McKelway
Melissa McKenzie
Thaddeus Moriarty
Elizabeth Phipps
Kathleen F. Potts '85
Margaret Poulin
Stephanie Publicker
Pat Red
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Friday, September 19 at 8 p.m.
Sponsored by *USM School of Music Advisory Board*

Old-Fashioned Outdoor Band Concert
USM Concert Band
Conducted by Peter Martin
Saturday, September 27 at 1 p.m.
On The Green outside of Corthell Hall
Sponsored by *ARAMARK*

25 Years at USM!
Laura Kargul, piano
Friday, October 17 at 8 p.m.
Sponsored by *Dr. Dahlia and Arthur L. Handman*

Spring Awakening
Book & Lyrics by Steven Sater
Music by Duncan Sheik
Directed by Edward Reichert
Friday-Sunday, October 31 - November 2
Sponsored by *Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution*

USM Youth Ensembles
Fall Instrumental Concert
Thursday, November 13 at 7 p.m.
Merrill Auditorium, Portland
Sponsored by *Macy's*

Not Your Grandpa's Jazz
Micah Maurio and Barry Saunders with the
USM Faculty Jazz Ensemble
Friday, November 21 at 8 p.m.

Joyous Sounds for a Festive Season
USM Chamber Singers
Conducted by Robert Russell
Tuesday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m.
Williston-Immanuel United Church, Portland
Sponsored by *Norway Savings Bank*

More Than A Little Night Music
24th Annual Holiday Scholarship Gala
Friday, December 5 at 6 p.m.
Abromson Community Education Center, Portland

USM Youth Ensembles
Fall Choral Concert
Thursday, December 11 at 7 p.m.
Sponsored by *Macy's*

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The USM Department of Theatre is a vibrant community of artists and scholars who value collaboration, imagination, and excellence. We mentor our students through their undergraduate years and prepare them for a competitive job market. At USM, Theatre majors learn by doing.

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Professional Preparation

In Theatre Workshop, a one-credit course that students take each semester, students prepare for life after graduation by creating and fine-tuning resumes and cover letters, exploring graduate school and learning from guest speakers working professionally in the field and representing a variety of careers.

Students also have the opportunity to design or direct productions at USM. Our graduates go on to work as professional actors, designers, directors, technicians, and educators.

Many of our faculty and alumni work under Screen Actors' Guild and Actors' Equity Association contracts and at venues such as the Cherry Lane Theatre (NY); the Fulton Opera House (PA); the Good Theatre (ME), InterAct Theatre Company (PA); Maine State Music Theatre (ME); Opera House Arts (ME); PORTopera (ME); State Ballet of Rhode Island (RI); Tulsa Opera (OK); Utah Shakespeare Festival (UT); and the Walnut Street Theatre (PA), to name just a few. Countless graduates of our program are living around the country, relocating to Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles for professional careers.

Many of our majors choose to pursue graduate careers not only in Theatre, but also in disciplines outside of Theatre, a testament to the rigorous liberal arts education provided to our Theatre undergraduates. Recent Theatre graduates have been accepted into diverse graduate programs including University of Kansas's MA in Theatre, Boston University's MFA in Lighting Design, Simmons College's MS in Library & Information Science, and Antioch University's MEd in Arts Education.

Department of Theatre
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Russell Hall, Gorham
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2013-228P

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Saturday, Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 7 at 5 p.m.

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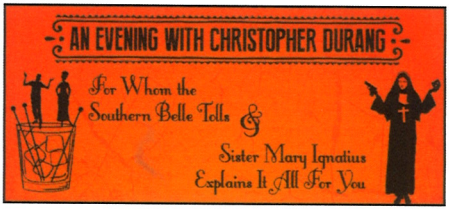
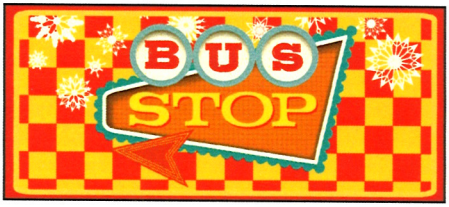
USM Theatre

2014-2015 Season

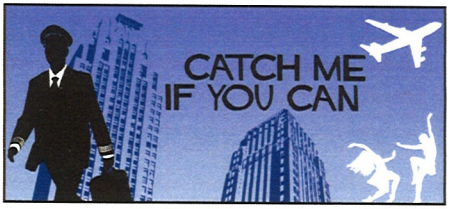
September 25-28, 2014
A comedic radio play by Holly Hughes
Directed by Meghan Brodie



February 6-15, 2015
One act comedies by Christopher Durang
Directed by William Steele



October 31-November 9, 2014
A comedic drama by William Inge
Directed by Thomas Power



March 13-22, 2015
A musical with book by Terrence McNally
Score by Marc Shaiman & Scott Wittman
Directed by Wil Kilroy
Musical Direction by Edward Reichert
Co-production with USM School of Music

December 4-7, 2014
An original performance
Directed by Maria A. Tzianabos

April 17-26, 2015
A comedy by William Shakespeare
Directed by Assunta Kent

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