

Spring 1998

## Original One-Act Plays: Brady & Family Values Program [1998]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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USM Theatre Department  
Presents:

# **original**

**Brady**  
*by Sam Carner*

**Family Values**  
*by Carolyn R. Padula*

# **one-acts**

**Original Student One-Act Premieres**  
directed by William Steele and Thomas Power

**Oak Street Theatre, Oak Street, Portland**

## Directors' Notes

Nothing is quite as satisfying as working with exciting new dramatic material. Last year our original production of *Miss Nowhere Diner* won national awards and publication. This year we offer two very different short plays. Each of you participates with us in "birthing" these new works. The Playwrights welcome your comments and the directors greatly appreciate your support of this unique program.

-Thomas Power and William Steele  
Associate Professors of Theatre  
at USM

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### Please Note:

*Family Values* deals with domestic violence and incest.  
informational brochures regarding these issues  
will be available in the lobby.

## Program

### Brady

by Sam Carner  
directed by William Steele  
and Thomas Power

Willie  
Bill  
Nora

Kurt Ela  
Jason Waron  
Melissa Eltgroth

The living room of Bill Brady in a Trenton, New Jersey  
suburb in 1990.

## INTERMISSION

### Family Values

by Carolyn R. Padula  
directed by William Steele  
and Thomas Power

Allie  
Kass  
John  
Thomas

Wendy E. Getchell  
Elizabeth Chambers  
Jason Waron  
Kurt Ela

Kass's kitchen in her home on Bartlett Island in Casco Bay.  
Present, early afternoon.

## Design and Technical Team

Directors	Thomas Power William Steele
Scenic Designer	Charles S. Kading
Lighting Designer	Michael Reidy
Costume Designer	Susan E. Picinich
Costume Shop Supervisor	Christenia Alden-Kinne
Technical Director	Thomas C. Vail
Master Electrician	James P. Anderson
Stage Manager	Danielle Estes
Assistant Stage Manager	Samantha Kinne
Make up Assistant	Alexandra Munier
Dressers	Bonnie Harlow Virginia Day
Lighting Board Operator	Caleb Wilson
Sound Designer	James P. Anderson
Sound Board Operator	Daniel Bourque
Properties Supervisors	Teresa Roof Frank Taliento
Stitchers	Erica Essman Julianna Lagin-Nasse Students of Production Management Class
Deck Crew	Tavia Braiser Kim Morrill
House Manager	Alice Starr McFarland
Arts Promotions Director	Mary Snell
Arts Events Director	Emmanuelle Chaulet
Box Office Managers	Emily Binion Alice Starr McFarland
Theatre Office	Lillian S. Campbell
Graphic Design	Leigh Raposo Libby Barrett

## Design and Technical Staff

### Samuel Carner - Playwright

Sam Carner is currently a freshman at Yale University. Last year Sam spent his senior year of high school at USM where he wrote *Brady*, his first non-musical. Sam has written several musical comedies, including *What a Cat!* and *The Rise of FTR*, that have been produced at The Children's Theatre of Maine, Portland Stage company's "Little Festival of the Unexpected," other local venues, and SUNY Plattsburgh. Sam has produced, directed, and performed in some small productions of his work and has performed some of his songs at the Sweet Chariot Music Festival on Swan's island and at other local venues.

### Carolyn R. Padula - Playwright

Carolyn is a senior english/theatre major from Gorham, Maine. Her previous experience includes dramaturg and assistant adaptor for *The Rokujo Lady's Passion*, creative dramatic presentation for children on Martin Luther King's Day, and adaptor for an Amnesty International rally. She wishes to thank the Honors Program, the English and Theatre Departments, and the USM community. Also, special thanks to Anne Marie and to Kass, to my children, Aaron, Beth, Katharine, to Ray, Sandra, Wanda, and Christine, to my sisters and brothers, the beauty of the universe, for helping heal the broken places, and especially to my mother, Rachel Dunn Moores (1926-1981), for grabbing the TV, the gun, my brothers and sister and running from the darkness into the light.

### Charles S. Kading - Set Designer

Charles has taught design and stagecraft at USM for 15 years. His professional credits include *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*, *Dark River*, and *Keely and Du* for Mad Horse Theatre; *My Fair Lady* and *Cabaret* for Maine State Music Theatre; *Big River* and *Cabaret* for Philadelphia's Walnut Street Theatre; and *Noises Off* and *Bliethe Spirit* at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. He also worked extensively at The Alley Theatre in Houston where his credits include the US premiere of Alan Ayckbourne's *Henceforward*. In addition, Charles has designed scenery for the Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Cabaret Repertory Theatre and Portland Stage.

### Michael Reidy - Lighting Designer

Michael is a member of the Mad Horse Theatre Company and lives in Portland. He has worked and lived in such various locations as New York, Los Angeles, Pittsburgh and Bigfork, Montana. Previous work at Mad Horse as a set designer includes *King Lear*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *All My Sons*, 2, *Down the Road*, and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*. Other recent projects in Maine include Portland Opera Repertory Theatre's *Madame Butterfly & Carmen*, Maine State Music Theatre's *Forever Plaid*, Maine Summer Dramatic Institutes' *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Pericles*, *Prince of Tyre*, Portland Symphony's *Magic of Christmas* and the inauguration of Governor Angus King. Turning the clock back farther, Michael worked on Steven King's *Pet Cemetery*, was a consultant art director for Disneyland, and received degrees from Carnegie-Mellon University and California Institute of the Arts. He received a 1997 Maine Arts Commission fellowship for his set design work.

**Susan E. Picinich - Costume Designer**

Susan joined the USM Department of Theatre faculty in 1987 and has since designed costumes for 40 University productions. She has an MFA degree from the University of Michigan and previously taught at SUNY Albany and Western Illinois University. Last season Susan designed *Private Lives* at Portland Stage Company. She is a member of the ensemble at Mad Horse Theatre and most recently designed their productions of *Oh Coward*, *Scotland Road*, and *King Lear*. Other credits include five seasons at Maine State Music Theatre, *Chamberlain* and *Evita* in 1996. In New York, Susan supervised the costume shop at Manhattan Theatre Club, did craft work for Broadway's *Beauty and the Beast*, and worked on the films *The Juror* and *Sabrina*.

**Christenia Alden-Kinne - Costume Shop Supervisor**

Christenia has worked with the USM Department of Theatre for the past 13 years both as an instructor and as supervisor of the costume shop. A graduate of Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., Chris did graduate work at the University of California at Davis and Trinity University through the Dallas Theatre Center, focusing both in acting and costume design. She recently had her world premiere musical fantasy, *Sweet River*, performed here at USM, at Deertrees Theatre in Harrison, and also at the Maine State Festival in Brunswick.

**Thomas C. Vail - Technical Director**

Tom has been in Maine all his life. He was the technical director of USM for four years during the early 80's. He has worked with most of the theatres in Southern Maine, including Schoolhouse Arts Center, Biddeford City Theatre, Portland Players, Portland Stage Company and most recently he was the T.D. at Mad Horse Theatre two seasons ago where he designed *Oh Coward* and *Misery*. He is also the T.D. of the Deertrees Theatre in Harrison. He is very happy to be back at USM. Special Thanks To: his wife, Mari, and their children John, David, Christa and Jared.

**James P. Anderson - Master Electrician**

James, of Kittery, is a senior theatre major at USM. Previous experience includes being a carpenter at Portland Stage Co., lighting grip at Portland Stage Co., master electrician at UMFK and for USM's *Boys Next Door* and *As You Like It*, lighting designer for the USM Student Theatre Ensemble and for the USM Dance Festival, lighting designer/roadie for *Gypsy Amber*, a touring rock band, director of *Rumplestiltskin* for UMFK drama club, and a stage manager for *The Glass Menagerie* at UMFK. Other experience at USM includes playing Zeus in *The Flies*, Teddy Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and a policeman in *Tartuffe*. He also played Howard Benedict in *Applause*, a chair pusher in *Our Town*, and The Miller in *Rumplestiltskin*.

**Danielle Estes - Stage Manager**

Danielle, of Skowhegan, is a senior theatre major at USM. Her previous roles at USM include Ismene in *Oh! Antigone*, the Head in *Pippin*, Suzanne in *The Marriage of Figaro*, and the Little Miss in *La Ronde*. This summer Danielle played Sylvia (the dog) in *Sylvia* at Lakewood Theatre. She was last seen as Sheila in *The Boys Next Door*. She also placed as a semi-finalist in the Irene Ryan scholarship award acting competition.

**Samantha Kinne - Assistant Stage Manager**

Samantha, of Cumberland is a freshman theatre major at USM. Last summer she performed with the Originals in *The Wiz* at the Saco River Grange Hall. She was last seen in *The Boys Next Door* as three separate characters.

**Jason Bannister - Props**

Jason is a junior theatre major from Lewiston, Maine. He was a company member this summer at the Saxtons River Playhouse in Vermont which produced *Gypsy*, *Harvey*, *A Chorus Line*, and *West Side Story*. USM credits include Barry in *The Boys Next Door*, Silvius in *As You Like It*, Dakota in *Miss Nowhere Diner*, Dirce in *Redemption* for which he was an Irene Ryan Nominee, and Ensemble in *As Is*. Regional credits include Wilder in *Cross-Dressing in the Depression* at the Oak Street Theatre, M. Morse in *The Nutcracker* with the Portland Ballet Company, and the featured role in the film *It's Official*. Jason's next project is to prepare for competition in the American College Theatre Festival as an Irene Ryan Nominee.

## Cast

**Wendy E. Getchell - Allie**

Wendy, of Portland, is a theatre major at USM with a concentration in directing and choreography. Previous roles at USM include: *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Mustard seed), *Quilters* (Daughter), *A Dream of Canaries* (Desaparacido), *Oh Antigone!* (Chorus Leader), *Purple Breasts* (Doctor Harris), and *Sweet River* (Sylvan). Choreography credits include: the 1995, 1996 and 1997 Dance Festivals, and *A Dream of Canaries*. A recipient of the Chris Meanor Scholarship (dance), Wendy danced with Randy James of Dance Works at the 1996 Portland Dance Festival. She will be directing *The Effects of Gamma Rays on the Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds* at USM this spring.

**Elizabeth A. Chambers - Kass**

Elizabeth, from Orono, ME, is a freshman theatre major at USM. She played the role of a tree in the department's recent production of *As You Like It*. She was also the assistant stage manager for *The Boys Next Door*.

**Kurt Ela - Thomas/Willie**

Kurt is a sophomore theatre major from Fryeburg, ME. He is a transfer student from Hartwick College in Oneonta, NY where he played Calmaccio in *Mandrachula*, and First Man in *Closer Than Ever*. Previous roles were Jesus in *Godspell*, Joseph in *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Billy in *Anything Goes*, and many assorted roles in different One-Acts. Last year he received best actor and best newcomer awards for his roles at Hartwick. His first role at USM was First Lord in *As You Like It*. Kurt would like to thank his family, Bill and Tom for giving him a chance, and Danielle and Sam for all their support.

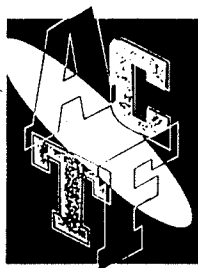
**Jason Waron - John/Bill**

Jason is a junior theatre major. His other roles at USM consist of Mr. Puffy in *The Poor of Portland*, Ensemble Member in *As Is*, Simon Vierling in *Redemption*, a SPA original production, and Adam/William in *As You Like It*. He is a recipient of the Grannia Theatre Scholarship, and he thanks his parents and friends for their support.

**Melissa Eltgroth - Nora**

Melissa, from Machias, is a freshman theatre major, and this is her first role at USM. Theatre experience in high school includes *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Puck in *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, 1001 *Arabian Nights*, makeup in *Great Expectations*, and Narrator in *This Is Not a Pipe Dream*. Musical Theatre experience includes Maisie in *The Boyfriend*, Sister Robert-Anne in *Nunsense II*, Marty in *Grease*, Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and June in *Gypsy*.

the kennedy center



american college  
theater festival

**The Kennedy Center  
American College Theater Festival XXX**

**Presented and produced by the John F. Kennedy Center  
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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). 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 KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KC/ACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, in the spring of 1998.

Last year more than 900 productions and 18,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

These plays are entered in the Michael Kanin Playwriting Awards Program and are being considered for the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award and the New Short Play Awards Program.