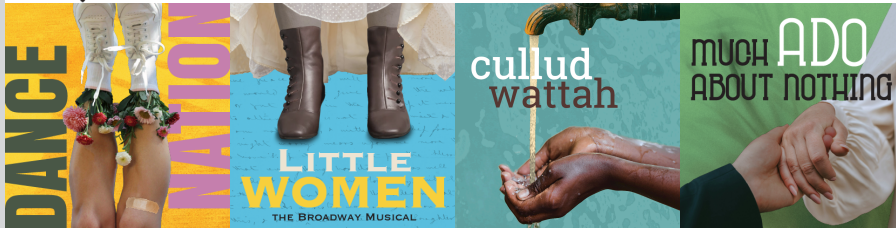




Department of Theatre and Drama

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 6, 2026

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to the 2025-2026 Theatre and Drama Graduates!

Christian Carter
Caleb Clark
Kile Crosby
Malika Daikawa
Teja Davis
Mandy Descorbeth
Allie Figueroa
Kelsey Fleckenstein
Kayla Fuller
Madison Gieryn
Mara Hansen
Justina Jing
Jack Jones
Dylan Juni

Maria Kolb
Indu Konduru
Maggie Krajnak
Lilie Larson
Alison Leff
Xuchen Li
Ziqi Li
Kina Murphey
Tate Nicholson
Willia Peterson
Chelsea Poppleton
Lydia Pulsinelli
Thea Quick
Eliza Rabe

Rachel Reichard
Sarah Rhoads
Amelie Rosenhagen
Warren Stern
Haley Street
Cooper Swanson
Amelia Thupvong
Niko Valcin
Ave Vystrcil
Arje Wilson
Xiner Wu
Jenny Yan
Yuwen Yang

WHAT'S NEW



Audition Announcement – *Urinetown: The Musical*

We are seeking bold, versatile performers for *Urinetown: The Musical*—a satirical, high-energy show that blends comedy, social commentary, and musical theatre styles.

Audition Requirements

1. Monologue (45–60 seconds)

Please prepare a contemporary comedic monologue (published).

Your monologue should:

- Be fully memorized and timed (no longer than 1 minute)
- Clearly demonstrate a strong objective/goal
- Show active pursuit (we want to see you doing, not just telling)
- Highlight your sense of timing, stakes, and character

2. Song (16–32 bars / approx. 30–60 seconds)

Please prepare a song in the style of *Urinetown*.

We are looking for:

- Strong storytelling and character choices
- Comfort with satire, irony, and heightened style
- Clear vocal technique and musicality

Style Guidance:

Urinetown is a musical that spoofs and pays homage to multiple musical theatre traditions. Consider material inspired by:

- Brecht/Weill (*Threepenny Opera*)
- Kander & Ebb (*Chicago*, *Cabaret*)
- Classic American musical theatre (*Guys and Dolls*, *The Pajama Game*)
- Gospel or revivalist influences
- Contemporary musical comedy with edge or irony

We ask that you not sing from *Urinetown*, but your selection should live in a similar tonal world—stylized, character-driven, and theatrically aware.

Music Requirements:

- Bring clearly marked sheet music in a 3-ring binder
- An accompanist will be provided
- Please ensure your music is in the correct key and well organized

What We're Looking For:

- Actors who make bold, specific choices
- A strong sense of play, satire, and theatricality
- Performers who can balance comedy with grounded intention
- Willingness to engage with the show's heightened, self-aware style

More information, including the sign up link for slots, will be available later this summer. Keep watching the newsletter for updates!

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Announcing the University Theatre 2026-2027 Season!

The Compass by Michael Rohd

October 15-25, 2026, Ronald F. Mitchell Theatre

October 13-23, 2020, Ronald E. Mitchell Theatre

Urinetown Music and Lyrics by Mark Holman, Book and Lyrics by Greg Kotis
November 19-22, December 3-6, 2026, Ronald E. Mitchell Theatre

She Kills Monsters by Qui Nguyen
March 4-14, 2027, Ronald E. Mitchell Theatre

Ushuaia Blue by Caridad Svich
April 15-25, 2027, Gilbert V. Hemsley Theatre

For details and information on additional projects visit the Theatre and Drama [website](#) and online [Callboard](#).

ACADEMICS



Still looking for **summer classes**? The **Department of Theatre and Drama** has several exciting options - **online and in person!**

Dip your toes in the world of theatre with online offerings **Theatre 100: Experiencing Theatre** and **Theatre 200: Acting Skills for Life**.

Get hands on training in our studios with **Theatre 220: Scenic Studio Practicum** and **Theatre 221: Costume Studio Practicum**.

Go [here](#) to enroll!

And check out Theatre and Drama Fall 2026 classes including:

Theatre 100 Experiencing Theatre
Theatre 130 Fundamentals of Theatrical Design
Theatre 219 Topics: Experience Design for the Theatre
Theatre 256 Video Games as Performance: A Historical Perspective
Theatre 341 Fundamentals of Improvisation
Theatre 357 Introduction to Theatre for Cultural and Social Awareness
Theatre 363 Costume Design I
Theatre 366 Stage Lighting I

Enroll in these courses and more [here](#).

FACULTY/STUDENT NEWS

Diane Ballweg
Theatre,
The Stream

May 1, 2, 7, 8
7:30 p.m.

May 2, 9
2:00 p.m.

Music & Book
by James Valcq

Lyrics & Book
by Fred Alley

Based on a Film by
Lee David Zlotoff

Directed by
Stephen G. Tabor
Musical Director
Dr. J. Adam Shelton



Teaching Faculty **Stephen Tabor** directs the musical *The Spitfire Grill* at Edgewood University, running May 1-9 in the Diane Bellweg Theatre.

Click [here](#) for more information and to buy tickets.

INTERNSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Deadlines Approaching for Applications for Summer Internships!

Opportunities can be found on the Career Center website under "[Gain Experience](#)" or you can always make an appointment with a [Career Advisor](#).

Explore internships, jobs, and other resources at the School of Education Career Center's [Gain Experience](#) page.

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



We are pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 2026 Comparative Drama Conference.

[Click here to register.](#)

We look forward to welcoming you to Madison, Wisconsin, **July 9–11, 2026**. Below are key details for registration, lodging, and presenter participation. Take advantage of Early-Bird Rates through May 15th!

Additional information is available on the CDC website, or you may contact us at cdc2026@theatre.wisc.edu with questions.

Presenters are required to pre-register.

Please register for the attendance type (in-person or virtual) indicated with your conference acceptance. Accepted papers are expected to be presented at the conference and are not read in absentia.

For full conference details, including registration rates and hotel accommodations, visit: <https://theatre.wisc.edu/comparative-drama-conference-cdc/>

You can also follow conference updates on [Facebook](#).

If you have further questions, please get in touch with us at cdc2026@theatre.wisc.edu.

The Comparative Drama Conference (CDC) is hosted by the Department of Theatre and Drama and PLACE in the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, with additional support from the Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies Program (ITS) in the College of Letters & Sciences.



Student Support Funding Opportunities

Do you want up to \$150 to use towards attending this year's Comparative Drama Conference?

Submit your form responses as soon as possible! This year, this funding will be given out to students that meet the requirements listed in the Google Form, on a first come basis. This form will be live as long as we have funding to provide.

See details on the conference in the section below.

Deadlines are approaching soon! Apply today! Click on this [Google Form](#) for more info and to apply.

COMING SUMMER 2026:

NERDY PRUDES MUST DIE

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY STARKID

Music and Lyrics by **Jeff Blim**, Book by **Nick & Matt Lang**, Orchestrations by **Matt Dahan**

AUDITIONS

FOR SIGN-UPS, INFO, CALENDAR & MORE:

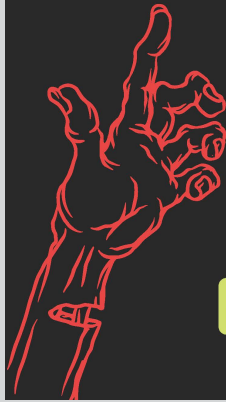


Directed by **Ava Jessie Childs** in
collaboration with **InterMission Theatre**

PERFORMANCES JULY 23RD-26TH



STARKID



Nerdy Prudes Must Die

Music and Lyrics by Jeff Blim
Book by Nick & Matt Lang
Orchestrations by Matt Dahan

Directed by Ava Jessie Childs

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS [AUDITION FORM](#) PRIOR TO AUDITIONS. FORM WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR. THANK YOU! :)

AUDITIONS: Sunday, May 3rd 10:00am-2:00pm // Monday, May 4th 6:00-9:00pm

CALLBACKS: Tuesday, May 5th 6:00-9:00pm

[SIGN UP LINK](#)

Preparation Materials:

32 bars or approximately 1 minute of contemporary musical theatre. Comedic material is encouraged. We will not have an accompanist, so please provide your own track or be prepared to sing a capella. We will have a bluetooth speaker, but please feel free to bring your own to avoid delays.

1 minute memorized monologue, comedic or dramatic, though comedic is encouraged due to the nature of the show.

NOTE: We are also accepting video auditions. Please send the above materials with an intro slate to intermissiontheatre@gmail.com and ajchilds@wisc.edu by Saturday, May 2nd at 11:59. Once you submit an audition, we will send you the audition form for more information from you.



FOUR SEASONS THEATRE

Auditions for Four Seasons Theatre's 2026-2027 Season

2026-2027 Auditions for the FST Outreach Program, Leading Ladies of Stage & Screen, and our April 2027 Symphonic Concert

In person auditions will take place on Sunday, May 3 in the afternoon and evening. Auditions will be held at a downtown Madison venue with street parking available for free nearby. The audition location will be sent by email on the evening of Thursday, April 30.

Advance audition signup is required.

Visit the [FST Auditions page](#) for "FST General Audition Info" and the link to sign up for an in person audition slot. Read the Audition Info document for more on the video submission option.

Auditions for *All is Calm*

All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914 will have a separate process for auditioning with first round auditions by video only. Visit the [FST Auditions page](#) for the link to a Google Folder with show information, music cuts by voice type, and a short monologue.

No sign up is required for *All is Calm* auditions.

Get Free Studio-Quality Headshots with the Iris Air Photo Booth at the Wisconsin Business School

The Iris Air photo booth is now available for WSB employees, students, and the campus community. It is located on the second floor between the central elevators and the Learning Commons, just above the West Atrium.

The Iris is available any time Grainger Hall is open. Simply press the touch screen to begin and follow the prompts. Each session takes about 4-5 minutes and your photos are delivered instantly via email. We ask that WSB students and employees use their wisc.edu email address when signing in.

Need help getting started? Want a walk through? Just a quick question? Email wsbirisadmins@office365.wisc.edu or click [here](#).

Help Students Navigate Food Insecurity

25% of School of Education graduate students are food insecure (more than 3 times the general US population).

25% of students at UW Madison report being food insecure.

International students, who cannot receive financial aid and often cannot work in the United States, are struggling with hunger.

How you can help:

- Know resources and communicate them to students (newsletters, CANVAS module, etc.)

[Basic Needs Student Support website](#)-many resources beyond food, such as housing, internet/technology, childcare, healthcare etc.

[Campus Food resources](#)

- Use the [Free Food Alert App](#)

If you have left over food from an event, this app allows you to share it with those who sign up for alerts.

- Volunteer at the campus [Open Seat Food Pantry](#)

The pantry is run by volunteers, mostly students. It closes when there are not folks to keep it stocked and open.

Volunteering needs no training and can be as little as 1 hour. Sign up for a shift [here](#).

Resource for Students

UW-Madison has launched a new resource for students that gathers together information and resources for everything from food and health issues to housing and IT help. Visit <https://basicneeds.students.wisc.edu> to learn more.

More Student Opportunities

Be on the lookout for casting calls for Student Film projects!

Check the [Student Opportunities](#) page on the department website for audition announcements, jobs (on campus and off), performances, and more.

HAPPY END OF THE 2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR!

The newsletter will be taking a break for the next few weeks. But we'll be back late summer with special editions for announcements and information on auditions, classes, performances and more. So stay tuned!

Have an announcement to share? Send to publicity@theatre.wisc.edu. Submissions received by Friday will be considered for inclusion in the following week's newsletter.

