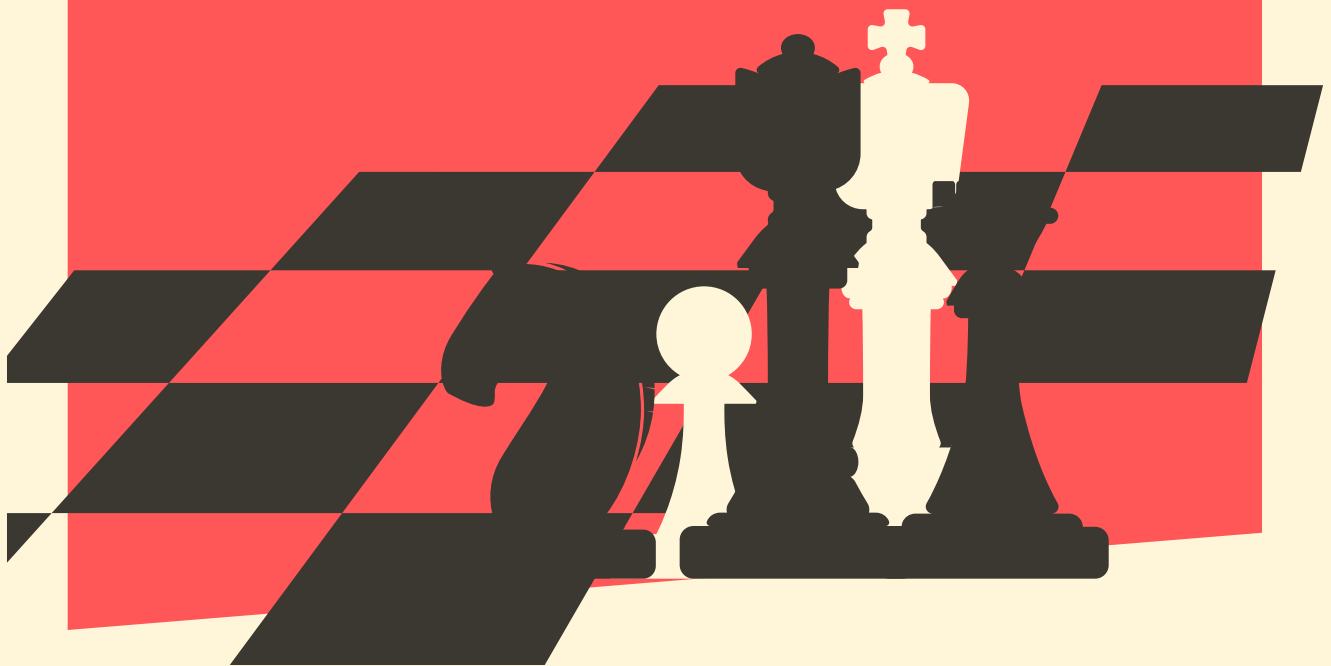


# Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School

**AM  
MID-WINTER**



February 2nd, 2024

Starting at 6:00 PM

Welcome to the 11-12th grade Theatre Mid-Year production. Students have spent the past month workshopping scenes from published plays, exploring the theme of power in relationships. Through character development, text analysis, and research in theatre history and literature, they have selected material to showcase their artistic growth. Tonight, students will breathe life into their characters, honoring the world of the play.

On behalf of CASA's Theatre Department, we extend our gratitude to The Whitaker Center and its staff for their hard work, and most importantly, to CASA's community.

### **Artistic Team**

**Director:** Lauren Callen

**Stage Manager:** Silvi Kaplan

**Assistant Stage Manager:** Willow Polosky

**Trigger Warnings:** Use of Prop Guns, Implied Drinking, Implied Drug and Alcohol Use, Implied Domestic Abuse, and Minor References to Substance Abuse.

# **SELECTED SCENES**

Baby in the Bathwater by Christopher Durang  
Melody Carsey as Helen  
Name as Character

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde  
Beth Shickley as Lady Bracknell  
Brayden Abel as Jack Worthing

The School for Scandal by Playwright  
Nola Cusick as Sir Peter Teazle  
Rose Wentzel as Lady Teasle

Suburbia by Eric Bogosian  
Sydney Smith as Jeff  
Willow Polosky as Tim

The Odd Couple by Neil Simon  
Brody Verlin as Oscar  
Kai Civello as Felix

Dinner with Friends by Donald Margulies  
Oliver Nicotera as Karen  
Camille Montgomery as Beth

Proof by David Auburn  
Dynasty Jackson as Catherine  
Dakota Chestnut as Claire

All This Intimacy by Rajiv Joseph  
Silvi Kaplan as Franny  
Nora Sullivan as Jen

Motherf\*\*ker with the Hat by Stephen Adly Guirgis  
Emily Cruz as Veronica  
Carmelo Alvarez as Jackie

# ACTOR BIOS

**Brayden Abel:** Brayden is a 11th grader at CASA. He is a huge fan of music and enjoys writing it. He is very happy to be here and excited to show what he's learned in the past few months. He was last seen as Jay Kurnitz in Lost in Yonkers. He would like to thank his parents for always supporting him and Ms. Callen for pushing him to be his best.

**Carmelo Alvarez:** Carmelo is a Senior at CASA. He has been a part of the theatre program since the beginning of his sophomore year. In tonight's showcase, He is proud to appear in this performance as Jackie from Motherf\*\*ker with the Hat by Stephen Adly Guirgis. He is further breaking through and being more confident this year and becoming more self-encouraged to perform in class and on stage. It would not be this way if it weren't for my amazing teacher, Ms. Callen for pushing me and encouraging me to do so. Though some days I fall back she is there to push me to do the best I can. I would also like to thank my peers for also being a big source of encouragement and inspiration to me in class.

**Melody Carsey:** Melody is a Senior at CASA and is extremely excited to be sharing her scene with the world; performing as Helen from Baby with the Bathwater. Melody is currently performing as Natalie in Next to Normal with Theatre Harrisburg as well as performed as Chad in Almost, Maine in last year's mid-year showcase. The mid-year performance process provided Melody with many opportunities to expand her knowledge and skills and encouraged her to take risks. She would like to thank her scene partner Moses, her peers, her teachers, and her family for supporting her throughout her high school career and pushing her further than she ever imagined.

# ACTOR BIOS

**Dakota Chestnut:** Dakota is a junior at CASA. She is thrilled to be performing as Claire from Proof. This is Dakota's first year in CASA's program and is excited to share her talents and abilities on stage. Dakota would like to thank her mom for supporting her throughout everything, Ms Callen for helping her use her abilities to her full extent, and her friends for all the support and encouragement.

**Kai Civello:** Kai is a senior at CASA. For tonight's performance, he will be performing as Felix Ungar from The Odd Couple by Neil Simon. Kai has been in CASA's Theatre program since 9th grade, and would like to thank his family, friends, and staff for supporting his creative endeavors. Kai would also like to give a special thank to his scene partner Brody, who has helped out a lot during the midyear process and has been a good deal of fun to work with. Kai plans to continue pursuing theatre in college.

**Emily Cruz:** Emily is a Senior at CASA and has been in the Theatre program since 9th grade. She started doing Theatre in 6th grade and has loved it ever since. She will be portraying Veronica from one of her favorite plays The Motherf\*\*ker with the Hat. She feels very grateful to her friends and family who have supported her and is excited to perform for them tonight. She is also very grateful to have Ms.Callen as a teacher because she is amazing.

**Nola Cusick:** Nola is a junior at CASA and is very excited to be performing for tonight's production. She was last seen in CASA's production of Rent and has previously performed with the Halifax Drama Club. Outside of school, Nola is part of the student council, marching band, and indoor guard. She would like to thank her family, friends, and Ms. Callen for supporting her through her journey.

# ACTOR BIOS

**Moses Handy:** Moses is a senior at CASA and is performing in his first Theater Mid-year! He has been performing in the school's musicals (Rent & Addams Family) as a visual art student and has joined theater at the end of this year. He's very excited to join the process and is very proud of his friends for the amazing work that they're putting on tonight and is thankful for his family and all who have come to see him perform.

**Dynasty Jackson:** Dynasty is a 11th-grade student, and this is her third year in the theatre program at CASA. Dynasty is very excited to be performing with CASA again. The Midyear process has been an amazing experience for Dynasty because she gets to explore complex relationships through her character, Catherine. Dynasty would like to thank her whole support system: Eliana, Dad, Micah, Mom, Mom Ashely, and Spirit for inspiring her everyday they've been in her life. Dynasty would like to give a special thanks to Ms. Callen for always teaching her to be above her best.

**Silvi Kaplan:** Silvi is a senior at CASA. This is her second year in the CASA theatre program. She's super excited to be able to play Franny in All This Intimacy, one of her favorite plays! She's previously made appearances in Open Stage's productions, including Rock Musical (Sam) and Gamut theatre productions, including The Borgias; it Dwells in the Blood (Felice). She is so grateful to have this chance to share what she's learned from the midyear process. She would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Callen for all of her support and encouragement, her scene partner, Nora, as well as her family and friends for hyping her up for tonight!

# ACTOR BIOS

**Camille Montgomery:** Camille is a Senior at CASA, she has been attending CASA in the theatre program since her freshman year. She is very excited to be performing in tonight's mid-year production. She will be portraying Beth from the play Dinner with friends. She has been in past CASA productions such as The Addams Family (ancestor), The Red Ticket (Eloise), Tea Party (Poppy) and Birdbath (Frankie). She would also like to give a special thanks to her theatre teacher Ms. Callen. Ms. Callen has helped her grow as an actress and learn more about theatre. She would also like to thank her friends and family for supporting her as she has grown as an artist.

**Oliver Nicotera:** Oliver is a Senior at CASA. They have been in the Theatre program at CASA since their freshman year in 2020-2021. They will be portraying Karen from Dinner with Friends in tonight's show and are very excited to show what they have been working on! They have been in several shows at CASA including Closer (Alice) and Rent (Ensemble). They have also been in shows at Open Stage such as A Christmas Carol (Fan), Rock Musical (Dani), and Heathers (Principal Gowan). Oliver would like to shout out Ms. Callen for being an amazing theatre teacher and helping them grow as an actor, as well as Ms. Christ for showing them that math doesn't have to be scary. They would also like to shoutout their Mom for always supporting them and being there for them this year. (love you mom! <3)

# ACTOR BIOS

**Willow Polosky:** Willow is a Senior at CASA and has been attending CASA since her Junior year. Willow is very excited to portray the role of Tim from SubUrbia for her Senior Midyear. Willow is very grateful for the opportunities CASA has given her such as roles in Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf (Honey) and experiences with collaborating with other people like in CASA Live! Willow would like to thank her scene partner Sydney for teaching her connection and teacher Ms. Callen for teaching her months of invaluable theatrical knowledge. She also wants to thank her friends and family for always being there to support her and specifically her Mom for sacrificing so much for Willow to have these amazing opportunities.

**Beth Shickley:** Beth is super excited to be doing her third mid-year performance at CASA. She is a junior with a fiery passion for theatre and was last seen in the musical production of RENT at CASA as Benny. Beth would love to thank her friends and family for all their support and love throughout the years.

**Sydney Smith:** Sydney is a senior at CASA. She has been attending CASA since her freshmen year. She is thrilled to be portraying the role of Jeff from SubUrbia for her last midyear production. She is extremely grateful for the opportunities she has received from attending CASA. She would like to thank Ms. Callen, her scene partner, her theatre classmates, her friends, and her wonderful family!

**Nora Sullivan:** Nora is in 11th grade at CASA, she is very excited to perform in this show. This is her 5th performance at CASA, along with many other performances in other places. She would like to thank her friends, family, and Ms. Callen for all of their support. Special thanks to Silvi Kaplan for being a wonderful scene partner during the process of studying All This Intimacy.



# ACTOR BIOS

**Brody Verlin:** Brody is an 11th grader at CASA. This is his 19th performance on stage and 5th performance with CASA. He has thoroughly enjoyed working on the character Oscar, and he hopes he can do *The Odd Couple* justice. He would like to thank Kai for being a fun and adaptive scene partner, Ms. Callen for being a wonderful teacher and mentor, and his family for supporting all of his acting endeavors. Special thanks to Ki for being a wonderful girlfriend and huge supporter. By request, make sure to crowd Brody with praise, gifts, and flowers after the show.

**Rose Wentzel:** Rose is a junior at CASA, from the Susquenita School District. This is her third year at Capital Area School for the Arts. Rose will be playing Lady Teazle from *School for Scandal*.

# **SPECIAL THANKS**

CASA Charter School Board of Trustees  
CASA Charter School Foundation  
CASA Administration, Faculty, and Staff  
The Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts  
Jen Paul, Event Management  
Karen Gasser & Matt Mitra, Lighting Designer  
Bill Hartmann & Cole Medley, Sound Designer  
Mick Corman, Film Production

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**9-10 VISUAL ARTS**  
5-7 P.M.  
CASA

**9-10 MUSIC**  
APRIL 8TH, 2024  
6:30 P.M.  
THE WHITAKER CENTER

**9-10 CREATIVE WRITING**  
APRIL 8TH, 2024  
6:30 P.M.  
THE WHITAKER CENTER

**9-10 THEATRE**  
APRIL 9TH, 2024  
6:30 P.M.  
THE WHITAKER CENTER

**9-10 DANCE**  
APRIL 9TH, 2024  
6:30 P.M.  
THE WHITAKER CENTER

**9-10 FILM**  
MAY 2ND, 2023  
6 P.M.  
WEST SHORE THEATRE

**CASA LIVE!**  
MAY 23RD & 24TH  
7 P.M.  
THE WHITAKER CENTER

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Rhonda Brunner	Interim CEO
Amanda Rhinehart	Principal
Destinie Hills	Administrative Assistant

## **FACULTY & STAFF**

Stefanie Adlon	World Language
T.J. Boyer	Music
Dasha Brown	Creative Writing
Lauren Callen	Theatre
Dan Cook	Visual Arts
Mick Corman	Film & Video
Katie Flood	English
Kaleigh Killian	Mathematics
Erica Leonard	Social Studies
Brian Massey	English
Molly Misgalla	Dance
Eileen Morano	Science
Tonya Resto	School Counselor
Adam Shickley	Special Education
Ann Stillwater	School Nurse
Krista Werner	Special Education