

Connection. Collaboration. Creativity. This is what the Theatre and Dance department is all about and it's fantastic to be back on our stages with an even deeper appreciation for live performance in the present moment. We don't intend to simply 'return to normal' this season. We bring with us lessons and reflections that have challenged the very notions of how we exist. With insights gained, our family of creative artists strive to create extraordinary, innovative approaches to inaugurate performances that resonate with you, our audiences, on today's most pressing issues. Together. Connecting. Collaborating.

HEATH HANSUM AND KELLY KNOX, INTERIM CHAIRS



CREATIVE MOVEMENT WORKSHOPS

Creative movement workshops and dance program for kids are offered at least once each semester. FREE and open to the public, these interactive dance hours allow children to explore their imaginations through movement as led by students of the Dance Program. For more information please contact Kelly Knox, Director of Dance at 577-3500.

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

Francis Blackchild
Post-doctoral fellow

Paula D. Davis
Costume design and history

Ian Evans
Entertainment technology assistant

Katie Hanes
Academic assistant

Heath J. Hansum, director of theatre
Lighting and sound design

Er-Dong Hu
Dance technique and theory

Anjalee Deshpande Hutchinson
Acting, directing, devising

Mark Hutchinson, director of theatre
Technical coordination, stage management

Kelly Knox, director of dance
Dance technique and theory

Jennifer Lippert
Assistant costumer

Dustyn Martincich, chair (on leave)
Theatre and dance technique and theory

Pam Miller
Costume studio manager

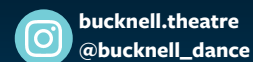
Bryan M. Vandevender
Theatre history, theory

F. Elaine Williams
Scenography

Generous support by the Bucknell Association for the Arts, the Richard A. Klein Theatre and Dance Endowment, the Lisa Lu Foundation, the Skvarla Family, and the Benson Fund have made guest artists' residencies, master classes, and workshops for our 2020-21 artistic season possible.

TICKET INFORMATION All seating is general admission. Tickets (Main Stage \$12 regular or \$7 for students, senior citizens, and children; Showcases \$7 all ages) are available by calling 570-577-1000, online at bucknell.edu/BoxOffice or at any Campus Box Office location: **Weis Center**, Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; **CAP Center**, Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Mobile tickets purchased may be processed up until show time. If available, tickets may be purchased on the night of the performance beginning one hour before the curtain rises. All ticket sales begin Aug. 26 at 10 a.m. All patrons agree to abide by Bucknell University's health and safety guidelines.

Bucknell.edu/TheatreAndDance • Bucknell.edu/BoxOffice



Bucknell
UNIVERSITY

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF

THEATRE & DANCE



Time to take off the masks!

2021-22 ARTISTIC SEASON



FALL 2021

FIRST YEAR SHOWCASE

ANXIOUS PEOPLE!

By Carol Y. Lee
Directed by Abby Strayer '22

Friday, Sept. 17 and
Saturday, Sept. 18 at 7:30 p.m.
Harvey M. Powers Theatre – \$7

Anxious People! by Carol Lee is a brand new play that explores the human condition. What makes us nervous, upset, embarrassed, heartbroken? When can we find these valuable moments of connection that remind us that we are not alone? The First Year Show is a community-driven production, open to all first year students regardless of prior experience. Through vignette style writing, this ensemble show is the perfect opportunity to learn more about theatre on campus, meet new first years with similar interests, and create that connection that will last throughout college.

“Headed toward a place of connection.”
– playwright Carol Lee

THEATRE MAINSTAGE

CRUMBS FROM THE TABLE OF JOY

by Lynn Nottage
Directed by Dr. Jaye Austin Williams

Thursday, Oct. 21 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m. and
Sunday, Oct. 24 at 2 p.m.
Tustin Studio Theatre – \$12/\$7

Crumbs from the Table of Joy tells the story of the Crump family - a recently widowed father, Godfrey, who heads up north to Brooklyn, New York from Florida in 1950, with his two daughters, Ernestine and Ermina. Ernestine, from whose perspective the story unfolds, wants to become a writer. She bonds fiercely with her dead mother's sister, Lily, who has already migrated north in search of a life beyond the formidable struggles black people are facing every which way, and a platform upon which to fight against them. Godfrey, in search of a sense of belonging to wrench him from his grief, takes solace in the teachings of Father Divine. Young Ernestine studies these two survival strategies and draws some conclusions of her own when, by play's end, we find she has foreseen more of the twists and turns to come than we could ever dare imagine.

THEATRE MAINSTAGE

APPROPRIATE

by Brandon Jacob
Directed by Professor Anjalee Deshpande
Hutchinson

Friday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 23 at 2 p.m. and
Monday Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m.
Tustin Studio Theatre – \$12/\$7

Jenkins, takes us on a journey to a decaying Southern plantation home whose deceased patriarch leaves behind an unexpected legacy for his estranged children returning to divide up the estate. The grown children include a disgraced high school principal, a wealthy New York businessman, and the problematic youngest brother who climbs through a window after having been disconnected for over a decade. In addition to bringing their own baggage to this dysfunctional family reunion, each sibling brings their new family members, including a wife, children, and a fiancé. As they begin the process of painstakingly going through the contents of their father's years of hoarding to give, sell or throw away his treasures they come across a disturbing photo album. One which contains nothing but page after page of photos of black men being lynched. The family's discovery about their father cuts right to the heart of their identities; as individuals, as a family, and as a part of an American history they thought they understood. Part ghost story, part family drama, part black comedy; *Appropriate* offers an unflinching look at one American family and their very own racial reckoning.

DANCE SHOWCASE

FALL DANCE SHOWCASE

Saturday, Nov. 13 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Harvey M. Powers Theatre – \$7

The 2021 Fall Dance Showcase marks the first stage performance of dance at Bucknell in almost two years. The Powers Theatre will ignite with movement ranging from contemporary ballet to modern to jazz and more. This vibrant concert presents the work of adjunct professor Ryan McMullen, professor Kelly Knox and a host of selected students debuting expressive, spirited choreography. Eva Munshower' 20 reinstates the dynamic piece she began in the spring of 2020 and emerita Bisonette captain Ariel Antoine, '20 returns to set a collaborative work between a cast of showcase dancers and the Bisonettes Dance Group. In addition, student groups and dance classes take part in a production that truly showcases the wealth of dance on the Bucknell campus. Join us for the long-awaited return of live concert dance!

THEATRE SHOWCASE

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW(S)

By William Shakespeare
Directed and Adapted by Katharine
Cognard-Black '22

Friday, Saturday, Sept. 24-25 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 26 at 2 p.m.
Bucknell Hall – Free

Taking a fresh look at Shakespeare's classic but challenging play *The Taming of the Shrew*, director/ adaptor Katharine Cognard-Black '22 will be exploring three interpretations of select scenes from the play and will provide distinct, and sometimes even contradictory ideas, about gender dynamics within the play and in Shakespeare's work. Cognard-Black's new adaptation examines and questions the play's complex depictions of gender and identity within a contemporary context.

“Shakespeare’s plays do not answer questions; they are not definitive about characters, themes, and concepts. Rather, they raise questions that are subject to interpretation of every new century, every director, every reader, and every sensibility.”

– Emma Smith, author of *This is Shakespeare*

DANCE MAINSTAGE

FALL DANCE CONCERT

Directed by Er-Dong Hu

Friday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m.
Harvey M. Powers Theatre – \$12/\$7

Thanks in part to a generous donation by the Lisa Lu Foundation, the Bucknell Dance Program celebrates Chinese artist Li Zhou Chen, a distinguished choreographer who trained at the Beijing Dance Academy and taught for over twenty years in the esteemed dance program of TCU. Mr. Chen returns to Bucknell to set a work of musically ebullient choreography. New York artist Janice Rosario, on faculty at the Alvin Ailey School, brings her nationally recognized choreography to the stage in a Bucknell premiere. Professor Hu will debut an expressive work that reflects on his Chinese heritage and Professor Kelly Knox explores notions of connection and isolation. In addition, accomplished student choreographers Erin Jengo-Quirk, Tyler Luong and Caitlyn Schuette will all contribute new pieces to complete an evening of inspiring dance.

COCKTAIL THEATRE

ONE ACT PLAYS

Come and enjoy an evening of 10 minute plays from our Directing 1 students

Monday, Tuesday, Dec. 6 -7 at TBA
Tustin Studio Theatre – Free

The cocktail one act plays are the final projects for our Directing 1 students. Come and enjoy these always entertaining 10 minute plays.



SPRING 2022

THEATRE MAINSTAGE

WINTER TBA

Directed by cfrancis blackchild

Friday, Saturday, Monday, Feb. 25, 26, 28
at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 27 at 2 p.m.
Tustin Studio Theatre – \$12/\$7

Join us for an evening of theatre that examines women in relationship to each other and society as they navigate around cultural constraints in search of a deeper meaning of self.

THEATRE MAINSTAGE

FUN HOME

Book and Lyrics by Lisa Kron
Music by Jeanine Tesori
Directed by Dr. Bryan M. Vandevender

Friday, Saturday, Monday, April 8, 9, 11
at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 10 at 2 p.m.
Harvey M. Powers Theatre – \$12/\$7

Adapted from Alison Bechdel's graphic memoir of the same name, *Fun Home* depicts Bechdel engaged in the act of remembering as she illustrates her family history, particularly the years in which they operated a funeral home in Beech Creek, Pennsylvania. The past and present intermingle as she observes key events from childhood and late adolescence, such as recognizing her queerness, processing her first sexual experience, and coming out to her family. Throughout the musical, Alison confronts her uneasy relationship with her father, a closeted gay man who died of an apparent suicide. By analyzing the past, the artist attempts to discern the ways in which she and her father were appreciably dissimilar and considerably alike. *Fun Home*, the winner of the 2015 Tony Award for Best Musical, is an earnest and poignant coming-of-age story that poses questions about desire, recognition, claiming identity, and living authentically.

DANCE SHOWCASE

CHOREOGRAPHER'S SHOWCASE

Directed by Er-Dong Hu

Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 23 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Tustin Studio Theatre – \$7

The Dance Composition course headlines the show with each student presenting carefully crafted choreography on a talented cast of Bucknell dancers. The pieces are concise and impactful, interspersed with performances by student groups: The Bisonettes, The Bison Girls and others in addition to the students in dance technique classes. Alumna, Ridhi Sahani '18 returns along with faculty and student works to fill the stage for a fast-paced evening of mixed styles and high energy.

DANCE MAINSTAGE

SPRING DANCE CONCERT

Directed by Kelly Knox

Friday, April 29 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 30 at 7:30 p.m.
Weis Center For The Performing Arts – \$12/\$7

Spring blossoms, sunny skies, and invigorating dance live on the magnificent Weis Center stage. Javier Padilla and his company, The Movement Playground return from New York to create cutting edge choreography along with new faculty and student pieces in a variety of styles for the season's grand finale.