



HALE  
CENTER  
THEATER  
OREM



# DEAR *Ruth*

COMEDY

PRODUCTION NUMBER 209

2018  
SEASON

Jan. 03 —THROUGH— Feb. 03

Annual  
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## HALE CENTER THEATER OREM

◇ PROUDLY PRESENTS ◇

# DEAR Ruth

WRITTEN BY: *Norman Krasna*

### STARRING

Dianna Graham • Becca Ingram • Marissa Scout Lanham  
Geoff Means • Mark Pulham • Josh Valdez

### SUPPORTING

Jasmine Fullmer • Cleveland McKay Nicoll  
Jenny Lynn Rasmussen • Garret Rushforth

### DIRECTOR

Barta Lee Heiner

#### COSTUME DESIGN

Kris Hansen-Call

#### ASSISTANT COSTUMER

Lori McClure

#### HAIR & MAKE-UP DESIGN

Janna Larsen

#### ASSISTANT HAIR & MAKE-UP DESIGN

Melinda Wilks

#### PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Meagan M. Downey

#### PROPERTIES

Linda Hale

#### TECHNICAL OPERATIONS MANAGER

Cole McClure

#### TECHNICAL DIRECTION

Cody Swenson  
Cody Hale

#### TECHNICIAN

Ryan Fallis  
Richie Trimble

#### SCENIC DESIGN

Bobby Swenson

#### HCTO MANAGING DIRECTORS

Linda Hale  
Cody Hale  
Cody Swenson  
Anne Swenson

#### LIGHTING DESIGN

Cody Swenson

#### SOUND DESIGN

Cole McClure

*Dear Ruth is produced through special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service.  
The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.*

Dear Ruth

# MAN'S MIND, ONCE STRETCHED BY **A NEW IDEA,** NEVER REGAINS ITS ORIGINAL DIMENSIONS

-OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES



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## ◇ CAST OF CHARACTERS ◇ IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

DORA.....	Jenny Lynn Rasmussen
EDITH WILKINS.....	Dianna Graham
MIRIAM WILKINS.....	Marissa Scout Lanham
JUDGE HARRY WILKINS.....	Mark Pulham
RUTH WILKINS.....	Becca Ingram
LIEUTENANT WILLIAM SEAWRIGHT.....	Josh Valdez
ALBERT KUMMER.....	Geoff Means
MARTHA SEAWRIGHT.....	Jasmine Fullmer
SERGEANT CHUCK VINCENT.....	Cleveland McKay Nicoll
HAROLD KLOBBERMEYER.....	Garret Rushforth





## ◇ SCENE SYNOPSIS ◇

TIME: 1944 ♦ PLACE: *The living room of the Wilkins home, Kew Gardens, Queens*

### ACT I

SCENE 1: Morning

SCENE 2: Same day. Five-fifteen P.M.

SCENE 3: Following morning. One-thirty A.M.

### INTERMISSION

### ACT II

SCENE 1: Same morning. Ten A.M.

SCENE 2: Later that day. Noon.

SCENE 3: Same day. Four P.M.

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# 2018 SEASON

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**DEAR**  
*Ruth*

COMEDY | Jan. 03 -THROUGH- Feb. 03



**THE LITTLE**  
**MERMAID**

MUSICAL | Feb. 16 -THROUGH- Apr. 14



**SENSE &**  
**SENSIBILITY**

COMEDY | Apr. 27 -THROUGH- Jun. 02



**Annie**

MUSICAL | Jun. 15 -THROUGH- Aug. 11




*Daddy Long Legs*

MUSICAL | Aug. 23 -THROUGH- Sep. 22



**ANYTHING**  
**GOES**

MUSICAL | Oct. 05 -THROUGH- Nov. 17



**A**  
**CHRISTMAS CAROL**

MUSICAL | Nov. 24 -THROUGH- Dec. 22

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Jasmine Fullmer

**JASMINE FULLMER**

*Martha Seawright*

Jasmine is trying to play it cool, but she is beyond excited to be in her first HCTO production. Hale yeah! She graduated from BYU with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting. Favorite theater credits include Stephano in *The Tempest*, Vera in *Dogville*, Mrs. Tarleton in *Misalliance*, and Kate in *Bedroom Farce*. Favorite pastimes include napping, traveling, and eating sushi. Shout out to the Fullmer/Wolfley 6, TGS, LB, and Chicky for always supporting her! [jasminefullmer.com](http://jasminefullmer.com)



Dianna Graham

**DIANNA GRAHAM**

*Edith Wilkins*

Dianna is SO happy to return to HCTO where she previously appeared in *Catch Me If You Can* and *Betty Blue Eyes*. When not on stage, she spends her days calendaring; mauling her husband and 4 children; and procrastinating the housework by singing, watching Netflix, and eating dark chocolate. Check out [diannagraham.com](http://diannagraham.com) for performing credits and clips. Much love and sincere gratitude to this marvelous theater company, and to David, Sophie, Aidan, Ian, and Mira for their support!

**BARTA LEE HEINER**

*Director*

Barta recently directed *See How They Run*, *Cash on Delivery*, and *Pillow Talk* at HCTO. Some of Barta's previous directing projects have been *Pride and Prejudice* at BYU and *Mary, Mary* at the Covey Center for the Arts. She has also performed in numerous regional theatrical and film productions: Florence Foster Jenkins in *Souvenir*, Verlene Bennion in *The Cokeville Miracle* and Nedra Rockwell in *Once I Was a Beehive*.

**BECCA INGRAM**

*Ruth Wilkins*

Becca is thrilled to be returning to HCTO. She was last seen here in *The Diary of Anne Frank* as Margot. Other favorite roles include Sarah in *Beau Jest* (HCTWV), Mary in *Mary, Mary* (Covey Center), and Oliver's Mother in *The Morales Family Circus*. She would like to thank Barta and the Hales for this opportunity, and she is most grateful to her husband for making it possible for her to be here.



Becca Ingram

**MARISSA SCOUT LANHAM**

*Miriam Wilkins*

Marissa is so happy to be back on the HCTO stage, and she is especially excited to be playing the same role her grandmother played 60+ years ago! Past credits include Eponine in *Les Misérables*, Molly Aster in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Brenda Strong in *Catch Me if You Can*, Little Red in *Into the Woods*, Luisa in *The Fantasticks* and Wendy Darling in *Peter Pan*. But right now, Marissa is living her dream role of being a mom to the cutest, sweetest, best baby ever. All my love to B and Ss.



Marissa Scout Lanham



Geoff Means



Cleveland McKay Nicoll



Mark Pulham



Jenny Lynn Rasmussen

**GEOFF MEANS**

*Albert Kummer*

Geoff is thrilled to be cast in his 3rd production here at HCTO! Most recently he was seen as Jonathan Forbes in HCTO's production of *Pillow Talk*. Other favorite roles include *See How They Run*—Lionel Toop (HCTO); *Oliver!*—Fagin (SJCT) and *The Drowsy Chaperone*—Adolpho (KTC). He grew up right here in Orem and now lives in South Jordan with his amazing wife (Lisa) and their four wonderful children (Bailey, Ian, Samantha and Spencer) who he thanks for all their love and support. Special thanks to this fantastic cast and crew. Enjoy the show!

**CLEVELAND MCKAY NICOLL**

*Sergeant Chuck Vincent*

McKay is a resident of Pleasant Grove, Utah (originally from SLC), and is currently attending UVU pursuing a BFA in musical theatre. A few past productions include: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Addams Family*, *Big Fish* (HCTO), *The Wizard of Oz* (Sundance), *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (UVU), and *Last Train To Nibroc* (Covey). He would like to thank his wonderful family for their support, the great production company here at HCTO, and Barta for this wonderful opportunity. He would also like to thank Chris Clark, Julie Sauve, Laurie Purser, and Amanda Crabb. "And viewers like you. Thank you."

**MARK PULHAM**

*Judge Harry Wilkins*

What a great way to start out the New Year! Mark is glad to be back and playing another 'fatherly figure.' For the past 4 years he has enjoyed kicking off the New Year with all the fun loving patrons at HCTO. Once again, he's in the 1940's playing a dad to yet another crazy couple of daughters. In *Kiss and Tell* his daughter married a soldier behind his back, now in *Dear Ruth* he's realizing a soldier might be the best bet for his daughter to marry. Mark has been 'playing' around at HCTO from its beginnings and is grateful that he's still able to join in the fun! He wants to thank friends and family for giving him the support they always offer, and a shout out to this fine cast and crew who have made this holiday season a complete joy. Happy New Year...and always take time to laugh!

**JENNY LYNN RASMUSSEN**

*Dora*

Jenny is *thrilled* to be returning to this side of the HCTO stage after a long hiatus. She was last seen in two of HCTO's 2010 productions: as Mrs. Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*, and as Miss Maudie in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. In her other life, Jenny works behind the scenes as an employee of Archive Costumes and occasionally as a backstage dresser, both jobs she thoroughly enjoys. She studied English Literature and French at BYU, and is the mother of three very grown-up, very bright, talented and good-hearted human beings: Maxwell, Abby, and Paige. Neverending thanks go out to these three humans and to Mom & Dad Lynn, for their stalwart love and support!



Garret Rushforth

**GARRET RUSHFORTH**

*Harold Klobbermeyer*

Garret is excited to be joining the wildly talented cast of *Dear Ruth*. This is his HCTO debut. Recent roles include Wilbur in BYU's production of *Charlotte's Web* and Grumio in Renaissance Now's production of *Taming of the Shrew*.

**JOSH VALDEZ**

*Lieutenant William Seawright*

Josh is very excited to be in such a fun and hilarious show. He was most recently seen at HCTO in *Betty Blue Eyes* as Mr. Nuttal. Some of his other favorite shows at HCTO have been *Peter Pan* (Peter), *In The Heights* (Sonny), *Catch Me If You Can* (Agent Dollar), and *Urinetown* (Billy Boy Bill). Josh graduated from UVU with a Theatre Performance degree. He would like to give a shout out to his family, Michael, and his pups Toby and Cora.



Josh Valdez



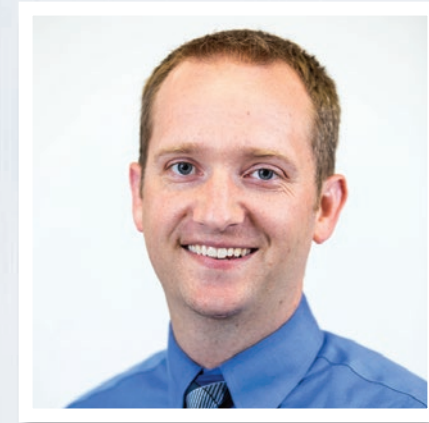
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DEAR RUTH

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# ◇ INTERESTING FACTS ◇

**1** Although she wrote many successful plays, *Dear Ruth* was not written by Ruth Hale! Ruth said of *Dear Ruth* that she thought it was the perfectly written comedy and that she sure wished that she had written it!



▲ Above: Nate & Ruth Hale

**2** In *Dear Ruth*, Bill has just completed 25 missions before coming home to visit Ruth. Most crews made it 8–12 missions before being either shot down or disabled.



▲ Above: "My God! If Only I Could Get Out Of Here" Originally published in Bell, Ernest, ed. (1910) War on the White Slave Trade: Fighting the Traffic in Young Girls

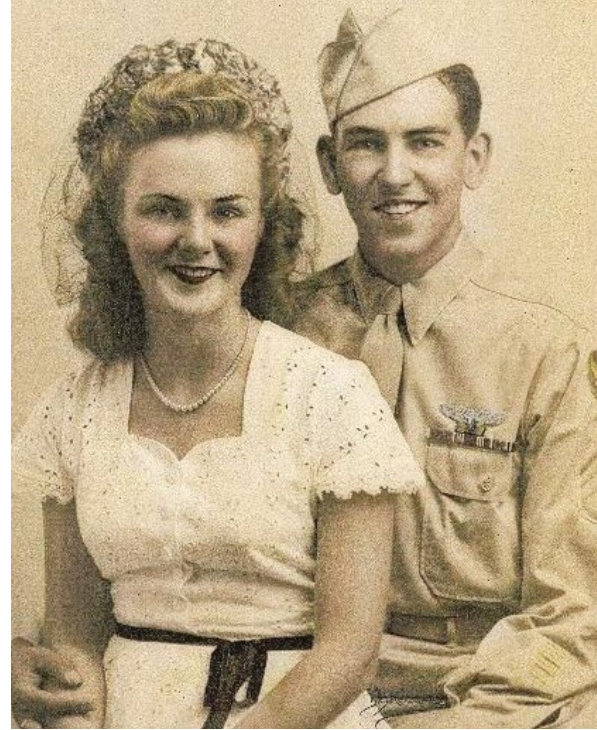
The limit of 25 missions was set to both inspire the men, as well as be a benchmark for combat fatigue, the higher ups believing that any more than 25 missions would take their toll physically and mentally on the crews. However, of those who flew in the original 25-mission bomber tour of 1942–43, only 10% survived.



▲ Above: The crew of the B-26 "Mad Russian" from the 386th Bomb group of the 9th Air Force division. January 1944

**3** The Mann Act from 1910 is named after Congressman James Robert Mann of Illinois, and in its original form made it a felony to engage in interstate or foreign commerce transport of "any woman or girl for the purpose of prostitution or debauchery, or for any other immoral purpose."

**4** With the beginnings of World War II, marriage rates skyrocketed. According to J.R. Woods and Sons, a ring company, marriage rates increased 250% after the Selective Service Act was passed and continued to climb. After the draft, marriage rates increased another 25%, and after Pearl Harbor rates rose 60% higher! This rate rose dramatically for many reasons; some married because they were impatient, some married to receive money from the government, and others married because they



could die at war. It is thought that some married to avoid the draft, since men with dependents were deferred until 1942. Whatever their reasons, marriage increased at a rate unseen in the past.

**5** The original production of *Dear Ruth* opened on Broadway on December 13, 1944. It was a big hit, running for 680 performances. Film rights were sold for a reported \$450,000 with the condition that a movie not be made until the play finished a two-year run. The very successful film starred Joan Caulfield and William Holden.

◀ Left: Unnamed newlywed photo



▲ Above: A war-time poster sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars

◀ Left: Poster for the motion picture version of *Dear Ruth*



## ACTING

### BEGINNING ACTING (GRADES 2-6)

**WHAT:** Students will participate in a once a week class where our professionally trained faculty takes them through a variety of theater skills: auditioning, stage combat, improvisation, dance, musical theater, puppetry and more.

**WHEN:** Mondays, Jan. 22nd – Apr. 16th from 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

**COST:** \$150 per semester

*A final performance is included.*

### BEGINNING ACTING (GRADES 7-12)

**WHAT:** Students will participate in a once a week class where our professionally trained faculty takes them through a variety of theater skills: auditioning, stage combat, improvisation, dance, musical theater, puppetry and more.

**WHEN:** Mondays, Jan. 22nd – Apr. 16th from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

**COST:** \$150 per semester

*A final performance is included.*

### MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP (GRADES K-4)

**WHAT:** Students participate in a once a week class where our professionally trained faculty will help each student explore the techniques of music theater performance.

**WHEN:** Fridays, Jan. 19th – Apr. 20th from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**COST:** \$150 per semester

*A final performance is included.*

### MUSICAL THEATER WORKSHOP (GRADES 5-7)

**WHAT:** Students participate in a once a week class where our professionally trained faculty will help each student explore the techniques of music theater performance.

**WHEN:** Fridays, Jan. 19th – Apr. 20th from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

**COST:** \$150 per semester

*A final performance is included.*

### THEATER ARTS HOME SCHOOL (8-11 YEARS)

**WHAT:** Students will participate in a once a week class where our professionally trained faculty will teach auditioning skills, characterization, improvisation, vocal work and scene work. The class will end with a final performance.

**WHEN:** Mondays, Jan. 22nd – Apr. 16th from 10:00 am – 11:30 am

**COST:** \$175 per semester

*A final performance is included.*

### THEATER ARTS HOME SCHOOL (12-16 YEARS)

**WHAT:** Students will participate in a once a week class where our professionally trained faculty will teach them to increase their skills in all areas of theater. The class will end with a final performance.

**WHEN:** Mondays, Jan. 22nd – Apr. 16th from 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

**COST:** \$175 per semester

*A final performance is included.*

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◇ COMING SOON ◇



# THE LITTLE MERMAID

MUSICAL Feb. 16 THROUGH Apr. 14



# SENSE & SENSIBILITY

COMEDY Apr. 27 THROUGH Jun. 02

## TICKETING & THEATER POLICIES

- ◆ Doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance—all seats are reserved—you must be in your seat prior to the performance
- ◆ Late-comers will be seated at the house management's discretion (*Hale Center Theater Orem accepts no responsibility for inconvenience to late-comers*)
- ◆ No children under the age of 4 or babes-in-arms
- ◆ No cell phones, pagers with alarms or other electronic devices
- ◆ Video and audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited
- ◆ No outside food or drink
- ◆ Free parking in our lot or on the street (*TESORO will tow your car*)
- ◆ Restrooms are located at the rear of the theater and downstairs
- ◆ Exits are located in the front and rear of the theater
- ◆ Season Ticket holders must make reservations early for each show. *HCTO is not responsible for missed plays.*

## ADVERTISING & INFORMATION

- ◆ For advertising and promotional opportunities, contact Jim Murphy at 801.440.9500
- ◆ For audition schedules, acting and music class schedules and additional theater information visit our website at [hcto.org](http://hcto.org)
- ◆ For fundraising information for your organization contact LaRene Tinney at 801.226.8600
- ◆ For general information and ticket reservations please call the Box Office at 801.226.8600

### Production Staff for Dear Ruth

DIRECTOR: Barta Lee Heiner  
 COSTUME DESIGN: Kris Hansen-Call  
 ASSISTANT COSTUMER: Lori McClure  
 HAIR & MAKE-UP DESIGN: Janna Larsen  
 ASSISTANT HAIR & MAKE-UP DESIGN: Melinda Wilks  
 PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER: Meagan M. Downey  
 PROPERTIES: Linda Hale  
 TECHNICAL OPERATIONS MANAGER: Cole McClure  
 TECHNICAL DIRECTION: Cody Swenson, Cody Hale  
 TECHNICIAN: Ryan Fallis, Richie Trimble  
 SCENIC DESIGN: Bobby Swenson, Cole McClure  
 HCTO MANAGING DIRECTORS: Linda Hale, Cody Hale, Cody Swenson, Anne Swenson  
 LIGHTING DESIGN: Cody Swenson  
 SOUND DESIGN: Cole McClure  
 MASTER CARPENTER: Bobby Swenson

### Archive Costumes: a Division of HCTO

MANAGER: Kris Hansen-Call

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 VOCAL SCHOOL DIRECTOR: Amanda Crabb  
 VOCAL SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS: Amanda Crabb, Lori Meldrum, Bailee Morris, Sonja Poulter, David Smith, Brandalee Streeter, Marcie Yacktman

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