



HALE
CENTER
THEATER
OREM

The **IMPORTANCE**
of **EARNEST**
Being

COMEDY

PRODUCTION NUMBER 230

2021
SEASON

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HALE CENTER THEATER OREM

◇ PROUDLY PRESENTS ◇

The **IMPORTANCE** of **EARNEST**

STARRING

Alex Gunter • Jordan Nicholes • Adam Packard • Dylan Wright

SUPPORTING

Adrian Alita • Bob Bauer • Claire Eystone • Sasha Fazulyanov • Becca Ingram
Marcie Jacobsen • Jon Liddiard • Jayne Luke • Annadee Morgan • Anne Swenson
Kye Tanner • Clara Wright

DIRECTOR

Rodger Sorensen

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Meagan M. Downey

DIALECT COACH

Dianna Graham

TECHNICAL DIRECTION & SOUND DESIGN

Cole McClure

SET DESIGN & MASTER CARPENTER

Bobby Swenson

COSTUME DESIGN

MaryAnn Hill

HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN

Savanna Waldron

LIGHTING DESIGN

Ryan Fallis

PROPERTIES

Linda Hale

TECHNICIANS

Ryan Fallis & Richie Trimble

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HAIR & MAKEUP DIRECTOR

Melinda Wilks

ASSISTANT HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN

Bekah Wilbur

ASSISTANT PROPERTIES

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◇ CAST OF CHARACTERS ◇

JOHN “JACK” WORTHING Alex Gunter (*MWF*) • Adam Packard (*TTtS*)

ALGERNON MONCREIFF Dylan Wright (*MWF*) • Jordan Nicholes (*TTtS*)

GWENDOLEN FAIRFAX Clara Wright (*MWF*) • Becca Ingram (*TTtS*)

CECILY CARDEW Claire Eyestone (*MWF*) • Sasha Fazulyanov (*TTtS*)

LADY BRACKNELL Marcie Jacobsen (*MWF*) • Anne Swenson (*TTtS*)

MISS PRISM Annadee Morgan (*MWF*) • Jayne Luke (*TTtS*)

REVEREND CANON CHASUBLE, D.D. Adrian Alita (*MWF*) • Jon Liddiard (*TTtS*)

LANE / MERRIMAN Bob Bauer (*MWF*) • Kye Tanner (*TTtS*)

◇ ◇

◇ SCENE SYNOPSIS ◇

ACT I

Morning-room in Algernon Moncreiff's flat in Half-Moon Street, W.

ACT II

Garden at the Manor House, Woolton, Hertfordshire

INTERMISSION

ACT III

Morning-room at the Manor House

◇ DIRECTOR'S NOTE ◇

The high farce and witty dialogue of *The Importance of Being Earnest* helped make it Oscar Wilde's most enduringly popular play. In a way it's a "love letter," first performed on Valentine's Day of 1895 at the St. James's Theatre in London. Wilde subtitled it "A Trivial Comedy for Serious People," a phrase that points to the essence of the play. It is "serious" about being "trivial." It is fun for the sake of having fun.

Wilde wrote *Earnest* quickly in the month of August, 1894, while spending the summer with his family at the seaside resort town of Worthing, England. He spent two more months refining characters, farcical incidents, broad puns, nonsense dialogue, and non-sequiturs into what has come to be known as his "crowning achievement."

The opening night audience in 1895, according to one report, "included many members of the great and good, former cabinet ministers and privy councilors, as well as actors, writers, academics, and enthusiasts". Allan Aynesworth, who played Algernon Moncrieff, recalled that "In my fifty-three years of acting, I never remember a greater triumph than [that] first night."

Even though *The Importance of Being Earnest* is a farcical comedy that satirizes the social conventions of late Victorian London, it extends to us today an opportunity to enter a place of "make-believe" that invites us to step away from the COVID-induced desert of this world for a few short hours, and partake of a performance more real than food and drink, one that can transport our hearts and souls to a place of carefree enjoyment, strengthening us to go back to the desert and face the world again, refreshed and renewed.

This show is dedicated to anyone who has ever fallen in love and either proposed or received a proposal of marriage. It is also dedicated to anyone who loves a good old farcical romp through an English or American countryside. And finally, it is dedicated to all who have seen and loved the story of *Earnest* or who are just now experiencing it for the first time. Welcome to the wonderful wacky world of *The Importance of Being Earnest!*

—Rodger Sorensen

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◇ WHO'S WHO ◇

ADRIAN ALITA

Reverend Canon Chasuble, D.D. (MWF)

Adrian is grateful to be making his HCTO debut. Years ago, he performed in *Over the River and Through the Woods* as well as *Beau Jest* back when HCT was in West Valley City. Since then he has earned a graduate degree in acting, performed at New Swan Shakespeare Festival and Cygnet Theatre in Southern California, coached at La Jolla Playhouse, directed in Lima, Peru, and currently teaches at San Diego State University (via Zoom).



Adrian Alita

BOB BAUER

Lane / Merriman (MWF)

Bob is ecstatic to be performing his first show with HCTO in one of his favorite shows. Bob teaches Drama and Film Studies at Provo High School and has for the last 15 years. He loves theatre and the power of performance to teach empathy and understanding. He has previously played David in *The Foreigner*, Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast*, Cinderella's Prince in *Into the Woods*, Sir Galahad in *Spamalot!*, and the titular Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde in *Jekyll and Hyde*. He sends his love to his girlfriend Hillary and his 5 children: Grace, Lili, Darcy, Max, and Eva.



Bob Bauer

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CLAIRE EYESTONE

Cecily Cardew (MWF)

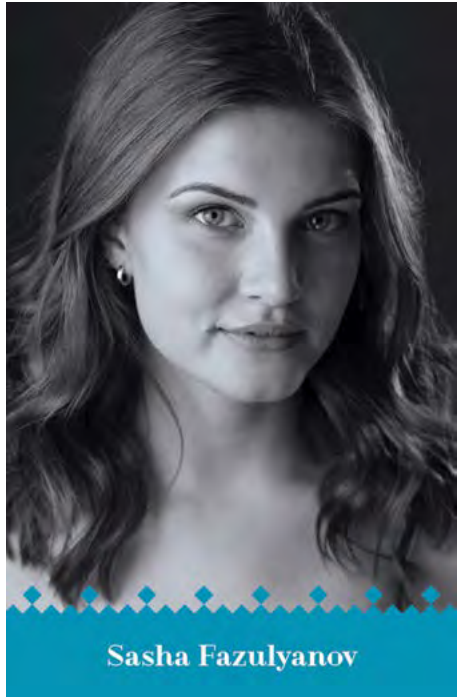
From Orem, Utah, Claire is a senior studying theatre education and English teaching at BYU. She was last seen on the HCTO stage as Amy in *Charley's Aunt*. Previous BYU productions include *Comedy of Errors*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Mr. Helmer's Wife*, and *Princess Academy*. She has also loved directing *God of Carnage*, and assistant directing *Little Shop of Horrors* at BYU. Special thanks to family, friends, and her fiancé who, unfortunately, is not named Earnest.



SASHA FAZULYANOV

Cecily Cardew (TThS)

Sasha is absolutely thrilled and grateful to be back on the stage! She was last seen at HCTO as Pamela Wright in *Man with the Pointed Toes* at the start of 2020. Some other recent credits include the Ensemble in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (HCTO) and *Wonderland* (BYU). Sasha is a junior at BYU in the Music Dance Theater program and plans to move to NYC upon graduating. In her free time, she loves going to hot yoga, learning Russian, tutoring math, and baking bread. Enjoy the show! [@sashafazulyanov](#)



ALEX GUNTER

John "Jack" Worthing (MWF)

Alex is charmed and delighted to see you out enjoying a night of quality theatre. You look well. Have you lost weight? Your hair? Well, certainly something. Oscar Wilde has written a wonderful play for us in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and the cast & he certainly could not be more enthusiastic about performing it for you. After being born in Walnut Creek CA, Alex attended the Los Angeles campus of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts; not immediately, of course.

Sasha Fazulyanov



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Alex Gunter

Newsies was his first enchanting experience working with HCTO, and in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, he's found an equally delightful experience. Hold onto your masks and enjoy.

BECCA INGRAM

Gwendolen Fairfax (TTHS)

Becca is excited to be back on stage with some of her very favorite people! She was most recently seen at HCTO in *Charley's Aunt* and *Dear Ruth*, and has enjoyed various roles such as Sarah in *Beau Jest* (HCTWV), and Mary in *Mary, Mary* (Covey Center). After receiving her BFA in acting from BYU in 2012, she completed an internship at the Shaw Festival in Ontario, Canada, and returned to BYU as an adjunct faculty member for several years. Another one of her favorite experiences has been parenting her young children alongside her incredible



Becca Ingram

spouse. She is especially grateful for her wonderfully supportive family, without whom this would all be quite impossible!

MARCIE JACOBSEN

Lady Bracknell (MWF)

Marcie has a BFA in Music Dance Theatre from Brigham Young University. While a student at BYU Marcie toured with the Young Ambassadors and performed in numerous musicals including *West Side Story*, *Evita* and *Chess*. Most recently Marcie played Dolly Levi in *Hello, Dolly!*, Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*, & Kala in *Tarzan*. Other roles include Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, The Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* & the title role in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Marcie's favorite role is mother to her daughters Jennafer & Hannah! She'd like to dedicate this show to her dear, supportive papa, Owen!



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Marcie Jacobsen



Jon Liddiard



Jayne Luke

JON LIDDIARD

Reverend Canon Chasuble, D.D. (TTNS)

Jon is delighted to be joining this talented cast! He was last seen on the HCTO stage as Colonel Brandon in *Sense & Sensibility*. For the last six years he has been teaching High School Theatre at Providence Hall in Herriman. Directing credits include *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Addams Family*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Twelfth Night*, *Little Women*, *Romeo & Juliet*. Performing credits include: Flince in *The Jawbone's Daughter*; Azdak in *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*; Reverend Hale in *The Crucible*; Cholly Lomax in *Major Barbara*; Ferdinand in *The Tempest*; Oliver in *As You Like It*; Chris Keller in *All My Sons*; Gentleman Caller in *The Glass Menagerie*; and Sylvius in *As You Like It*. Jon received his MFA in Acting from the University of Tennessee and his BFA in Acting from BYU. He would like to express his thanks to Roger Sorensen for his friendship, and for his generous heart.



Annadee Morgan

JAYNE LUKE

Miss Prism (TTNS)

Jayne loves working at HCTO. She has played Grandma in *The Addams Family*, Abby in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and her very favorite, Abuela Claudia in *In the Heights*. Jayne is dedicating her performance to her lifelong friend, Jerry Elison who in his 89 years gave the opportunity to do theater to literally thousands of people, young and old. And he did it all for love.

ANNADEE MORGAN

Miss Prism (MWF)

Chances to work with a script as intelligent, clever, and outrageously hilarious as *The Importance of Being Earnest* don't come along very often, and Annadee is ecstatic! Then add that to a wonderful cast, director, and production team, and it's an actress's dream. Some of her favorite roles include

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Jordan Nicholes

Edith Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* and Siobhan in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. She was last seen at the HCTO as Mrs. Dashwood and Anne Steele in *Sense and Sensibility*. Love, love, love to her ever supportive family.

JORDAN NICHOLAS

Algernon Moncreiff (TTHS)

Jordan is excited to be returning to another role at HCTO in one of his favorite plays. He was previously seen on this stage as Mrs. Bumbrake/Teacher in *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Other recent credits include Orsino in *Twelfth Night*, Dromio of Syracuse in *Comedy of Errors*, and Freddie in *Noises Off*. He received a BFA in Acting from BYU in 2016. He's glad you've made it to the theater tonight and hopes you enjoy your evening and the show.



Adam Packard

ADAM PACKARD

John "Jack" Worthing (TTHS)

Adam is very happy to be back on the HCTO stage with an amazing cast and team. Adam works as an Onboarding Technician at Weave Technology in Lehi, Utah. His recent credits include Charles Wykeham in *Charley's Aunt* at HCTO and Alex in *The Time Traveler's Radio Show: Season One*, available January of 2021 wherever podcasts are found. Adam would like to thank his family for their continued support, and would like to thank you for coming to see this wonderful show and indulge in a night of theatre. In the words of Oscar Wilde himself, "I regard theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being."



Anne Swenson

ANNE SWENSON

Lady Bracknell (TTHS)

In January of 1990 Anne married Cody. In May of that same year they, along with the Hales opened the theater you're sitting in tonight. 31 years, four kids and what feels like a million productions later she's realized that Grandma Hale was right when she said that you are never as happy as when you are using your talents. Love to CLS. To MFH—I've missed you!

KYE TANNER

Lane / Merriman (TTHS)

Kye's start in theater came at an early age. His love of the stage started to mature in High School, even though his first lead in a musical was a mute! Since then he has continued to contribute to the arts through acting, set design, and anything that makes people laugh. He recently returned to the stage after building a successful insurance/



Kye Tanner



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Clara Wright

finance business and helping his wife raise their 3 kids. Some of Kye's favorite roles have been: Officer Barrell in *Urinetown*, Weasel in *Newsies*, and Fat Joseph in *MisCast*. Kye would like to thank his wife and kids for still acknowledging him in public amidst years of purposeful embarrassment.

CLARA WRIGHT

Gwendolen Fairfax (MWF)

Clara is so glad to be back on the HCTO stage for her third production. A recent graduate of the BYU BFA Acting program, a few of Clara's credits include Annette in *God of Carnage* (BYU), Judy in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (BYU), Ela Delahay in *Charley's Aunt* (HCTO), Mrs. Roeder in *Radium Girls* (BYU), and William Davidson in *Mary Stuart* (BYU). She is happy to count this as her eighth wonderful show with her incredible husband, Dylan.



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Dylan Wright

DYLAN WRIGHT

Algernon Moncreiff (MWF)

Dylan is a recent graduate of BYU's BFA Acting program and is thrilled to be in his second show at this wonderful theatre. Recent credits include Christopher Boone in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (BYU), Babbs in *Charley's Aunt* (HCTO), Arthur Roeder in *Radium Girls* (BYU), and Mortimer in *Mary Stuart* (BYU). He is the recipient of the NAPAT National Classical Acting Award, the Irene Ryan Region 8 National Finalist Award, and the Kennedy Center national award for Distinguished Performance of an Actor in a Leading Role, for *Radium Girls*. He loves sharing the stage with his incomparable wife, Clara!

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The IMPORTANCE
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COMEDY | Jan. 06 -THROUGH- Feb. 13



Dirty Rotten
SCOUNDRELS

MUSICAL | Feb. 26 -THROUGH- Apr. 10



Jane Austen's
EMMA

MUSICAL | Apr. 23 -THROUGH- Jun. 05



THE SOUND
OF MUSIC

MUSICAL | Jun. 18 -THROUGH- Aug. 07

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THE
39 STEPS

An illustration in a stylized, Art Deco-inspired style. It features two silhouetted figures in a dark, industrial setting. One figure stands on a platform, holding a small glowing orb, while the other leans over a ledge, holding a briefcase. In the background, a large, golden, circular mechanical structure with a glowing center is visible against a dark blue background with radiating lines.

COMEDY | Aug. 20 -THROUGH- Sep. 25



THE
**HUNCHBACK
OF NOTRE DAME**

An illustration in a stylized, Art Deco-inspired style. It features a silhouette of a figure, likely Quasimodo, standing on a ledge or balcony. The background is a vibrant, colorful stained-glass window with floral and geometric patterns in shades of purple, red, yellow, and blue. The scene is framed by dark, angular architectural elements.

MUSICAL | Oct. 08 -THROUGH- Nov. 20



A
CHRISTMAS CAROL

An illustration in a stylized, Art Deco-inspired style. It features a central figure with a red face and a white beard, wearing a white robe, holding a large, glowing candle. To the left, a woman with long, flowing orange and yellow hair is shown in profile. The background is dark blue with golden stars and a large, stylized white shape that resembles a letter 'A' or a decorative element. The overall mood is festive and dramatic.

MUSICAL | Nov. 28 -THROUGH- Dec. 23

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MINI-MUSICAL WORKSHOP

WHAT: So you want to be in a musical?! Well, now's your chance! In this camp, students will be given lines to memorize, dances and music to practice and perfect, and a chance to perform in a mini musical at the end of the month!

WHO: Ages 6-14

WHERE: Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West in Orem)

REGISTRATION: Registration available now!

COST: \$160

INSTRUCTOR: Kelly Coombs

NOTE: Masks will be required for all participants.

SESSION 1

WHEN: January 11th - February 4th; Mondays and Fridays from 4:00pm - 5:30pm.

SESSION 2

WHEN: March 1st - March 26th; Mondays and Fridays from 4:00pm - 5:30pm.

SESSION 3

WHEN: May 3rd - May 28th; Mondays and Fridays from 4:00pm - 5:30pm.

COMEDIC ONE ACT

WHAT: So you want to be in a play? Well, now's your chance! In this class, you will be given a role in a short, non-musical play to perfect and perform at the end of the month on the HCTO stage! You will learn acting techniques, partner work in scenes, and teamwork as an ensemble.

WHO: Grades 2-9

WHEN: January 12th - January 28th; Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 2:00pm-3:00pm.

WHERE: Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West in Orem)

REGISTRATION: Registration available now!

COST: \$160

INSTRUCTOR: TBA

NOTE: Masks will be required for all participants.



YEAR-ROUND CLASSES

PRIVATE LESSONS

WHAT: This includes three 30-minute private voice, acting, or guitar lessons and one master class each month.

WHO: All ages

WHEN: Determined by instructor

WHERE: Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West in Orem)

COST: \$135–\$165/month

REGISTRATION: Continuous year-round. Email linda@haletheater.org for more details

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ACTING INSTRUCTORS: *Kelly Coombs & Ben Henderson*

GUITAR INSTRUCTOR: *Benjamin D. Hale*

Classes are offered continually year-round. Sign up by calling the Box Office at 801-226-8600 or by emailing Linda Hale at linda@haletheater.org

For more information and to register for classes, go to:

<https://tickets.haletheater.org/events>

Sessions are limited to 20 students, and masks will be required. More details for time, place, and safety procedures are available at the link.

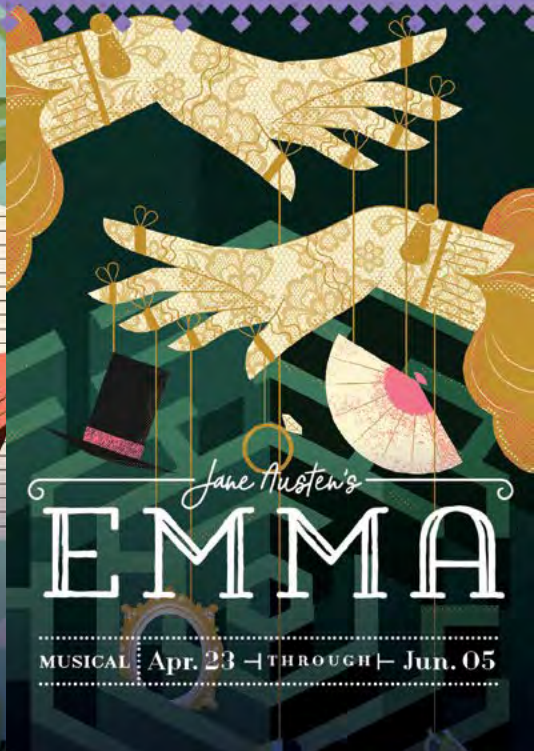
◇ COMING NEXT ◇

◇ COMING SOON ◇



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MUSICAL Feb. 26 —THROUGH— Apr. 10



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EMMA

MUSICAL Apr. 23 —THROUGH— Jun. 05

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- ◆ Doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance, all seats are reserved, and 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
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- ◆ Restrooms are located at the rear of the theater and downstairs
- ◆ Exits are located in the front and rear of the theater
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- ◆ For advertising and promotional opportunities, contact Joseph Branca at 801.835.1380
- ◆ For audition schedules, acting and music class schedules and additional theater information visit our website at hcto.org
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