



The **MUSICAL** **COMEDY** **MURDERS** *of* **1940**

A PLAY BY
**John
Bishop**

DIRECTED BY CINDY GENDRICH

	FRI	SAT	SUN	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
SEPT	20	21	22	26	27	28	29
	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	2:00 PM	7:30 PM	2:30 PM	7:30 PM	2:00 PM

PERFORMED ON THE TEDFORD STAGE

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

What a beautiful whirlwind of a time we have had making this little confection for you! *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* is all about plot, entertainment, and fun, and making it has been a fabulous escape for us. I hope it is for you, too—that you will enjoy these campy, delicious characters, that you'll be pulled along by the plot's satisfying twists and turns, and that you'll find it smart and silly in equal measure.

I keep saying this show feels *Noises Off* met *Knives Out*, but the truth is that John Bishop has written a fantastic mashup of about a hundred different murder mysteries and comedies. The result is, I hope you'll agree, great fun, and its own original self. Enjoy!

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This statement honors the land on which Wake Forest University now resides and the land on which the original campus resided. This land served for centuries as a place for exchange and interaction for Indigenous peoples, specifically Saura (saw-ra), Catawba (ka-tah-buh), Cherokee (chair-o-kee), and Lumbee (lum-bee) in this location and Shakori (shu-kor-ee), Eno (ee-no), Sissipahaw (sis-suh-pa-hah), and Occaneechi (oak-a-nee-chee) in the original campus location. Today Wake Forest continues to be a place of learning and engagement for Indigenous students, faculty, and staff regionally, nationally, and globally.”

INFORMATION

In consideration of everyone in the theatre, especially the cast who have rehearsed for weeks, please observe the following:

- Turn off and put away your cell phone or any device that might ring, buzz, or light up.
- Laptops are not allowed; pens and paper are great alternatives for taking notes.
- Copyright laws prohibit recording in any format of any performance. Flash photography can be especially hazardous to performers and is a distraction to the rest of the audience.
- Eating and drinking (other than water) are never allowed inside the theatre.
- **No admission (or re-entry) during the performance!**

Thank you, and enjoy the show!

This show runs approximately 2 hours with a 10-minute intermission.

Wake Forest University Theatre presents

The
**MUSICAL
COMEDY
MURDERS**
of 1940

a play by John Bishop

September 20-22 & 26-29, 2024

Director
Cindy Gendrich

Scenic Designer
Kyle Ransbottom (*12)

Costume & Hair/Makeup Designer
Jacquelyn Loy

Sound Designer
Sarah Cadena* ('25)

Lighting Designer
Vir Gupta* ('25)

Dialect & Vocal Coach
Leah Elyce Roy

Fight Choreographer
Michael Kamtman

Assistant Director
Zac Anderson*† ('25)

Stage Manager
Abby Parr* ('26)

CAST

HELSA WENZEL.....Riley Phillips*‡
ELSA VON GROSSENKNEUTEN.....Annabelle Daly
MICHAEL KELLY.....Patrick Eaton
PATRICK O'REILLY.....Will Rothschild*
KEN DE LA MAIZE.....Patrick Fenlon*
NIKKI CRANDALL.....Isabella Biricik
EDDIE MCCUEN.....Casey Salzman*
MARJORIE BAVERSTOCK.....Aderinola "Nola" Adepoju*
ROGER HOPEWELL.....John Mark Stowers*§
BERNICE ROTH.....Ellie Howell*

*denotes Anthony Aston Players member

‡denotes Presidential Scholar in Theatre

§denotes Presidential Scholar in Dance

The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940 is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC,
servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Produced on Broadway by Bill Wildin
Originally produced by the Circle Repertory Company, New York City
Original Music by Jeremy Landig

WAKE THE ARTS CENTER

When you imagine life on a college campus, you probably think of a place filled with smart, inventive people having inspiring conversations about every subject imaginable. The Wake the Arts Center exists to foster just that.

Drawing together artists, scholars, students, faculty, and staff from every corner of our campus, the Wake the Arts Center uses performance and visual art collaborations—with Chemistry, Religion, History, Politics, Math, Romance Languages, Neuroscience, Documentary Film, and really anything else you can think of—to give us all a place, a time, and a reason to talk to each other about the things we care about

MISSION

The Wake the Arts Center at Wake Forest University is a hub that delivers on the promise of Pro Humanitate by creating community and providing funding support for all faculty, staff and students through experiential learning opportunities and creative research. Building upon the already high quality of artistic work at Wake Forest, the Wake the Arts Center ignites the disciplinary and interdisciplinary power of the arts to invigorate the intellectual, artistic, and cultural life of the university. The Wake the Arts Center leads with inclusive, diverse, and equitable practices to ensure Wake Forest is a place where the Arts thrive, and are available and accessible to all.

CONNECTION TO REAL-WORLD PROBLEMS

Wake Forest University's Wake the Arts Center operates with the beliefs that the Arts belong to everyone—young or old, rich or poor, able bodied or disabled, neurodiverse or neurotypical, and that the foundation of a robust liberal arts education fosters an arts-rich experience. The arts reflect the world we live in and provide space, time and a reason to discuss topics that are challenging or often difficult to understand. The Wake the Arts Center inspires, challenges, creates joy and supports the creative scholarship of our faculty, staff, and students while continuing to expand our community of campus and external partners and advocates.

Recent projects like our longstanding collaboration with undergraduate theatre and graduate counseling students supported a learning environment for potential scenarios in professional counseling. Our partnership with Winston-Salem's OUT at the Movies Film Festival celebrated underrepresented voices and stories through film. A musical and visual art collaboration commemorating the Holocaust brought together colleagues from the Lam Museum of Anthropology, the Department of Music and the Office of Admissions, breaking down barriers between offices on campus and modeling the mission of Pro Humanitate.

As catalysts for good in the city of Arts and Innovation, the Wake the Arts Center invests in the arts as a tool to build inclusive communities of mutual excellence. We are dedicated to responding to inequities and concerns from our community leading with an arts-based mindset.

EXPERIENTIAL AND INTERDISCIPLINARY LEARNING

The Arts are inherently interdisciplinary and experiential—empowering members of the Wake Forest community to engage in and address many topics which cross over broad societal and campus boundaries. Wake Forest has had a long history of supporting interdisciplinary arts programming, beginning in 2010 with the formation of IPLACe (Interdisciplinary Performance and the Liberal Arts Center). In the last four years, the Interdisciplinary Arts Center (newly renamed the Wake the Arts Center) has fueled 87 interdisciplinary projects, through course enhancements, performance projects, guest artist visits, commissioned works, exhibitions, panel discussions, receptions, lectures, and research and conference support, demonstrating the teacher-scholar model in action. Our application process is straightforward and fair. Projects are received and evaluated on a rolling basis by our advisory committee, usually within 48 hours.

GET INVOLVED

We hope you enjoy today's event & leave inspired! We invite members of the WFU and greater Winston-Salem communities to propose projects that will invigorate the intellectual and cultural life of the university with interdisciplinary projects both large and small. Please visit our website wakethearts.wfu.edu if you would like to find out more about the Wake the Arts Center, submit a proposal, or find out about supported events.

We are grateful for the support of patrons whose partnership ensures a thriving arts community on our campus continues to grow. If you are interested in supporting the work of Wake the Arts, and/or our departments & programs, please contact: Beth McAlhany in College Advancement at mcalthab@wfu.edu or 336-758-4272.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director of Theatre.....	Corey Gilliam
Technical Director.....	Thomas Williams
Costume Studio Manager.....	Alice Burton Barsony
Costume & Wardrobe Technician.....	Jacquelyn Loy
Audience Services Coordinator.....	Leslie Spencer
Academic Coordinators.....	Lara Ianni, Lu Anne Simpson
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Bennett Haara*, Gabby Miller*‡
Properties Head.....	Callie Wittmann*‡
Assistant Scenic Designer.....	Riley Shanaghan*§
Head Electrician.....	Kevin Frazier
Electricians.....	Corey Gilliam, Vir Gupta*, Sarah Cadena* Margaret Williams, Alyssa Cheng*, Addie Vogt* Gabby Miller*‡, Emma Engle*, Bennett Haara*, Callie Wittmann*‡ Ethan Anderson, Trammell Kotchen, Conner Hunt Liwen Zhang, Allison Sweeney, Yijia Fu, Mati Romagnoli
Scene Shop Assistants.....	Gabby Miller*‡, Thomas Bauserman, Sarah Cadena* Callie Wittmann*‡, Celina Seo*, Riley Shanaghan*‡, Bradley Jiang*
Additional Production Support.....	Gertie Vance*‡, Ethan Anderson, Mati Romognoli* Jiaying Song, Christopher Wallace, Will Hess, Connor Hunt Bennett Haara*, Callise Young, MacKenzie Himel, Yijia Fu Natalie Howell*‡, Anna Schiltz, Allison Sweeny, Taylor Nisbit*
Costume Design Assistant.....	Maggie Payne*
Costume Studio Assistants.....	Tatiana Bicalho, Grace Clark, Nina Clayton* Sadie Macdonald, Maggie Payne*, Alyssa Worley, Yue Yu
Wardrobe Supervisor.....	Jacquelyn Loy
Hair, Makeup, & Wardrobe Crew.....	Emma Engle*, Kat Petty
Deck Crew.....	Camden Clem
Light Board Operator.....	Gertie Vance*‡
Sound Board Operator.....	MacKenzie Himel
Photographer.....	Bill Ray III
Social Media Assistant.....	Zac Anderson*‡, Natalie Howell*‡, Ella O'Neill-Bryant
Front of House Managers & Staff.....	Aderinola "Nola" Adepoju*, Zac Anderson*‡ Ashley Christian*, Dami Dawodu, Sara Goncalves, Hayley Ochoa
Playbill Assistant.....	Zac Anderson*‡
Ushers.....	Anthony Aston Players, APO Service Fraternity WFU Dance Company, Theatre & Dance students

*denotes Anthony Aston Players member

‡denotes Presidential Scholar in Theatre

§denotes Presidential Scholar in Dance

SPECIAL THANKS

David Phillips and Werner Goetzinger
Beth Homan
Chris Yon and Taryn Griggs

Brantly Shapiro
University of North Carolina School of the Arts
Moose 3D Printing

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January 1 - September 20, 2024

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Susan Conley	Carl & Louise Monroe	Margaret Scales	Shan Woolard

[†]Wake Forest alumni

Tune and Doom!

A Musically Mysterious Word Search

Z	U	H	E	O	E	N	M	M	R	B	V	N	N
N	R	E	Z	I	A	M	A	L	E	D	E	I	E
R	R	E	D	E	N	O	O	V	I	D	S	N	E
A	E	K	I	A	V	Y	E	I	N	S	M	I	E
S	G	K	E	L	L	Y	H	A	R	O	P	E	S
L	O	D	T	I	E	M	T	E	E	E	K	O	A
E	R	R	E	N	O	O	I	K	I	N	N	E	C
H	I	R	R	K	O	R	N	D	Y	N	I	J	K
I	O	A	N	H	O	N	D	S	I	V	F	N	O
K	E	O	N	J	A	E	C	I	N	R	E	B	O
K	B	A	R	E	Y	J	N	T	O	M	E	O	B
I	M	A	S	N	R	I	V	U	R	Y	I	G	A
N	M	I	E	M	N	K	E	N	G	F	N	O	L
G	R	O	S	S	E	N	K	N	E	U	T	E	N

OREILY
BERNICE
MANHOOTAN
ROPE
DIVOONE
MARJORIE

GROSSENKNEUTEN
EDDIE
BOOKCASE
GUN
KEN
ROGER

DELAHAIZE
NIKKI
KELLY
DIETER
KNIFE
HELSA

LOVE AND INFORMATION

by Caryl Churchill

Directed by
Stephen Wrentmore

Nov. 1-2 & 7-9 at 7:30 pm
Nov. 3 & 10 at 2:00 pm
Tedford Stage

Tickets on sale October 15.
theatre.wfu.edu
336-758-5295



Fall Faculty & Guest Artist Concert

Directed by Nina Lucas Rice

Dance faculty and guest artist
choreographers include Nina Lucas
Rice, Chris Martin, Sam Shapiro,
Trisch Casey, and Tina Yarborough
Liggins

November 21-23 at 7:30 PM
November 24 at 2:00 pm
Tedford Stage

Tickets on sale November 12.
theatre.wfu.edu 336-758-5295

