Story Theater Company Presents

Virtual Performances

March 5 & 6 at 7 pm
March 7 at 2 pm

Sponsored by Daniel P Divine, AAMS at Stifel

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THANK YOU!

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Story Theater Company is grateful to receive grant funding from many fantastic organizations. Through your support, we have been able to provide virtual programming through a pandemic. In fact, the show your are viewing today is funded in part by local option tax funds provided by the City of Ames through the Commission on the Arts (COTA) and by the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

Special thanks to the Iowa Arts and Culture Recovery Program. This grant is part of funds received by the State of Iowa through the federal CARES Act and allocated by Governor Kim Reynolds to the Iowa Art Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs. We thoroughly appreciate this funding!

Story Theater Company Presents

Choose Your Heist

By Dean O'Carroll

CAST

Choicemasters.....Josiah Teske and Madison DeLashmutt
Sequious.....Adriana Detrick
L'oeil.....Libby Gens
Magpie.....Addie Jurgens
Moonpie.....Clara Fields
Cowpie.....Ryan Henzi
Sullivan.....Ember Biggs
Lt. Elty.....Bethany VanDyk
Durfley.....James Marino

IMAGINATION TEAM

Ember Biggs
Clara Fields
Madison DeLashmutt
Julia Divine
Libby Gens
Addie Jurgens
James Marino
Josiah Teske
Bethany VanDyk

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....Ellie Seaton
Stage Manager.....Sydni Lapsley
Imagination Team Mentor.....Zoey Lazere
Production Manager.....Julia Feddersen

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Tween Theater Club

Teen Theater Club

Join us for Tween and Teen Club!

We feature opportunities for students to explore theatrical topics in a fun, safe environment. Teen and Tween clubs meet monthly throughout the year and weekly in the summer for ages 9-18.

@storytheatercompany

Get in on all the fun!
Sign up for our newsletter.

Choose Your Heist
Company Members

Adriana Ballew (Barb Sequious) is 18 and a senior at Ames High School. She has previously appeared on the STC stage in The Little Mermaid (Sea Ensemble), Mulan JR (Soldier), and Pirates of Penzance (Pirate), and was a costume assistant for Mary Poppins JR. Adriana's other theater experience includes playing a zombie in 10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse and appearing as an Irish dancer in the ISU Nutcracker. Her favorite activities include Irish dancing, singing, playing with her cat, and clarinet. Adriana says, "Enjoy the show!"

Ember Biggs (Sullivan/Imagination Team) is 15 and a freshman at Ames High School. Some of Ember's favorite past roles with STC include Puran Bhagat in The Adventures of Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, Robertson Ay in Mary Poppins JR, and Henry Peters in Trifles. When not performing, other activities Ember enjoys are playing Dungeons & Dragons, doing impressions, and playing with his dog. Ember adds, "Sometimes my jokes get a bit repetitive. Sometimes my jokes get a bit repetitive."

Madison DeLashmutt (Choicemaster/Imagination Team) is 17 and a junior at Ames High School. With STC, Madison has especially enjoyed performing in Elf The Musical JR (Chadwick), Twelfth Night (Maria/Set Team), and Mary Poppins JR (Mrs. Brill). She was also the props master for Freckleface Strawberry with CITE and has enjoyed being a part of the Ames High Madrigal Singers. Madison likes playing board games, drawing, reading, and playing the piano. Madison says, "What is my advice for the audience, you ask? I say, choose wisely... MWAHAHA!"

Julia Divine (Imagination Team) is 16 and a junior at Ames High School. Julia has worked on several STC shows, and a few of her favorite experiences include performing in Mary Poppins (Statue/Ensemble) and Beauty & The Beast JR (Narrator), and being the Assistant Stage Manager for Gooney Bird Greene. Julia has also appeared as Zaneeta in The Music Man and Bielke in Fiddler on the Roof, both with Ames High, and she was the choreographer for Junie B. Jones with CITE. When not performing, Julia enjoys dancing, sewing, photography, and baton twirling.

Clara Fields (Moonpie/Imagination Team) is 15 and a sophomore at Ames High School. She has appeared in several STC shows, with favorites including Beauty & The Beast JR (Ensemble), Gooney Bird Greene (Tricia), and Mary Poppins JR (Ensemble). Clara also performed in Ames High's production of The Music Man. In addition to theater, Clara enjoys drawing comics, swimming, playing piano, and reading/analyzing/obsessing over fantasy books. She adds, "Remember, kids, crime doesn't pay! (Unless, of course, you get away with it.)"

Libby Gens (L'oeil/Imagination Team) is 16 and a junior at Ames High School. A few of Libby's favorite past STC appearances include The Lion the Witch & the Wardrobe (Mother Christmas), Twelve Angry Jurors (Juror #8), and Beauty and the Beast JR (Silly Girl). Libby has also performed in CITE's production of Freckleface Strawberry and ISU's A Christmas Carol. Other things Libby enjoys are reading spectacular books, playing with her dog, Benny, and watching spectacular movies. Libby says, "The show is in your hands! What will you choose?"

Ryan Henzi (Cowpie) is 15 and a sophomore at Ankeny Centennial High School. Ryan's previous STC experience includes James & The Giant Peach (James), Pirates of Penzance (Pirate), and Beauty & The Beast JR (Chip). Ryan has also performed with the Des Moines Playhouse, where favorite past roles include Ralphie in A Christmas Story, and with Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre, where he played Snoopy in You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown. Besides performing, Ryan also likes playing Nintendo games, fishing, and hanging out with friends.

Addie Jurgens (Magpie/Imagination Team) is 14 and in 8th grade at Ames Middle School. Some of Addie's favorite STC experiences include playing a soldier in Number The Stars, Sam in Elf The Musical JR, and a plate in Beauty & The Beast JR. Addie also enjoys participating in her church's Christmas productions, where a favorite past role was Indie in A Very Indie Christmas. When not performing, she likes listening to Waterparks, watching Brooklyn 99, reading dystopian/fantasy novels, and consuming tomato soup. Addie says, "When you water water, it grows."

James Marino (Durfley/Imagination Team) is 17 and a junior at Gilbert High School. This is both his third teen show and his third show in general with STC. Outside of STC, he has performed in the Gilbert High School performance of The Music Man as well as the Variety Show. James says, "I'm relatively new to theater, but I've come to really enjoy it, and STC has helped to fuel that passion. I also enjoy playing music, writing, and thinking about movies that I want to make (but probably won't make). I hope you have a good time watching this show. Hopefully all of our goofs will be top notch. ENJOY THE SHOW!!!"

Josiah Teske (Choicemaster/Imagination Team) is 17 and a junior at Gilbert High School. Josiah first appeared on the STC stage as First Officer in James & The Giant Peach in 2014. Other favorite roles include Orsino in Twelfth Night and Matthews in Elf The Musical JR. With other performing arts groups, Josiah has been in The Best Christmas Pageant Ever and Bye Bye Birdie. When not performing, he enjoys writing, drawing, eating, sleeping, procrastinating, meditation, and experimenting with new hobbies. Josiah says, "It took me... longer than I'd like to admit before I realized that the Cosmopolitan Museum of Art doesn't actually exist."

Bethany VanDyk (Lieutenant Elty/Imagination Team) is 16 and a junior at Gilbert High School. She has appeared in 12 STC shows, and some of her favorite roles include Malvolio in Twelfth Night, the Queen Cobra in The Adventures of Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, and Ethel Cole in How the Vote Was Won. When not performing, Bethany enjoys reading, writing, and daydreaming. Bethany says, "I like your socks."

Choose Your Heist
Staff Members

Julia Feddersen (Production Manager) is an STC alum with a theater degree from Northwestern College in Orange City, IA. Favorite STC credits include directing The Spell of Sleeping Beauty, Jack & The Three Sillies, and Gooney Bird Greene. Julia also currently serves as STC's Managing Director. In addition to theater, other things she loves include tea, trampolines, decorating things, and—especially—Jake. Julia is usually either enjoying summer while it lasts or patiently waiting for summer again.

Sydni Lapsley (Stage Manager) is a senior at Iowa State University and is excited to be working on her first Story Theater Company production. Outside of theater, Sydni also enjoys cooking, writing, and painting. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Zoey Lazere (Imagination Team Mentor) is a recent Iowa State University graduate with a B.A. in Art and Design and a minor in Performing Arts. Originally from Ames, Iowa, she participated in Story Theater Company growing up and has loved continuing to work with them while at ISU. She has recently worked on Sometimes the Rain Sometimes the Sea, Dry Land, Climate Change Theatre Action: Lighting the Way, and Iowa Odyssey (Or How We Got to Here) through ISU Theatre. She has also worked as Design Mentor, Props Master, and Teen Club Instructor for Story Theater Company.

Ellie Seaton (Director) just graduated from Iowa State University and this is her first time working with Story Theater Company. Originally from Mason City, Iowa, Ellie has been involved with the performing arts since the age of nine. During her time at Iowa State, Ellie primarily focused on improvisational comedy and performed with Iowa State's premier improv group, Grandma Mojo's Moonshine Revival, for three years. Outside of theatrical endeavors, she is known for her love of A24 films, funny t-shirts and Jonah Hill. She is so excited to work with Story Theater Company and hopes that you enjoy Choose Your Heist!

PLAY A PART!

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www.StoryTheaterCompany.org

Story Theater Company is planning to resume in-person programming while doing everything within our power to maintain a COVID-safe environment for all participants.

Summer Camp registration opens March 15.
Register online at storytheatercompany.org

Drama Exploration
June 14-18, 9:00 - 12:00, Entering grades 1-3
This half-day workshop is a perfect introduction for young theater artists. With a focus on creative exploration, we'll discover a few basic acting ideas through games and activities. We'll also get to do crafts, play with music and movement, and imagine all sorts of things together in the spirit of Daniel Moreton's funny and endearing tale, "Marti and the Mango."

Introduction to Theater
June 21-25, 9:00 - 4:00 pm, Entering grades 3-5
Tacky the Penguin and his five closest friends are just living their normal penguin lives in the snow, when one day they meet a group of dangerous penguin hunters! How can they convince the hunters to leave them alone? Based on the beloved book "Tacky the Penguin" by Helen Lester, this workshop will explore basic acting and staging techniques with plenty of hilarity thrown in.

Acting I: The Boy Who Cried Wolf
June 28-July 2, 9:00 - 4:00, Entering grades 4-6
Roy is just watching his sheep one day, when Pearl shows up with a mischievous plan....involving lots of sheep, some fake wolves, some real wolves, and all of Roy's family! Join us for this creative retelling of the classic story, and build your performance skills along the way. We'll learn about themes like plot, character, and staging as we work together and have some fun.

Spot On! Improv Comedy
July 6-9, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Entering grades 7-10

Ready to practice thinking on your feet? This four-day intensive is a great way to build your skills and confidence in the most impromptu form of theater! We'll dig into the principles of improv and play with scenes, games, and character choices to create storylines on the spot. No scripts here!

Backstage Magic
July 6-9, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Entering grades 7-12
This is your chance to discover the secrets of theatrical design. Step behind the curtain and get your hands on the details of elements like costumes, props, lights, set, and sound. In this four-day workshop, you'll get to experience everything from design theory and process to actually running a tech board. (It really is kind of magic!)

Outside The Box: A Devised Theater Experience
July 12-16, 9:00 - 4:00 M-Th; 9:00 - 5:30 F, Entering grades 8-12
Our popular devised theater workshop is back in an all-new, redesigned format! With inspiration from music, literature, and visual art, we'll spend this week devising a wide variety of unique theatrical performances. Get ready to act, move, improvise, and create in a highly collaborative ensemble setting. Featuring lots of room for every kind of theater artist, this one-of-a-kind experience is one you don't want to miss.

Acting II: Check It Out
July 19-23, 9:00 - 4:00, Entering grades 6-8
"Check It Out" is a collection of scenes exploring the twists and turns of life as a middle schooler. Designed for every experience level, this workshop will dive into topics like acting techniques, script analysis and character development. Featuring a variety of themes and ideas, "Check It Out" presents a perfect way to grow your theatrical skills in several different directions.

Musical Theatre
July 26-30, 9:00-4:00, Entering grades 8-12
What does it look like to "act" a song or "sing" a scene? This is STC's classic musical theatre workshop with an emphasis on music and text interpretation, healthy use of voice, selection of material, and audition techniques. Each student participates in ensemble pieces as well as solo material, and we'll finish the week with a cabaret performance.

Story Creation Experience
Aug 2-6, 9:00-12:00 , Entering grades 4-7
In this half-day workshop, we will explore topics like improv, plot building, and character work to create stories from scratch. We'll write down ideas, act things out, and perform a series of original short works at the end of Thursday's workshop time. This session is a unique combination experience we think you'll want to join!

Story Theater Company Board of Directors

Story Theater Company is led by a dedicated team of volunteers from the Ames community. Each member is elected to a two-year term and sits on a variety of different committees to oversee the continued development of Story Theater Company, and to ensure its longevity.

Board of Directors

Traci Reetz, President
Kiersten Naberhaus, Vice President
Sue Ann Peters, Treasurer
Tina VanDyk, Secretary

At-Large Members:

Meg Davis
Amy DeLashmutt
Amy Divine
Nancy Evans
Megan Jurgens
Mike Sulzberger
Mat Wymore

Our Mission

Story Theater Company offers quality theatrical opportunities for area children and provides them with positive role models who teach the fundamentals of theater in a welcoming environment that encourages self-confidence, responsibility, teamwork, and inclusion of all.

Corporate Supporters, Show Sponsors, & Granting Agencies

Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau Community Grant Program
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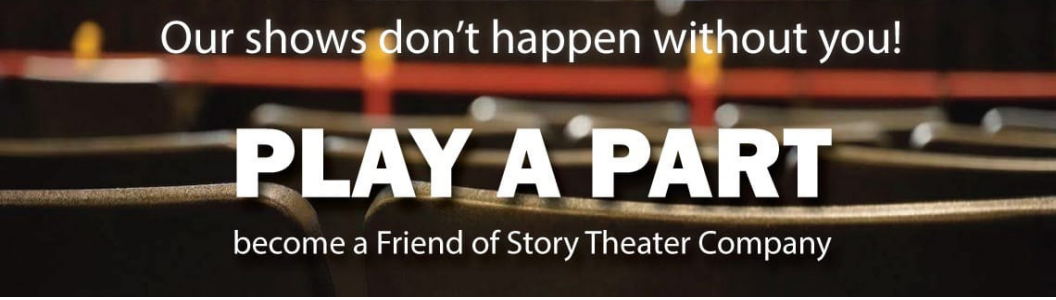

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