

COLLEGE THEATER
PRESENTS



MOUSETRAP

By Agatha Christie
Directed by Daniel Millhouse

OCT 3 - 20, 2024



Photo by Jason Adrian, courtesy of Suburban Living Magazine

Welcome to the MAC! Your home for entertainment.

I have worked in the performing arts for the entirety of my career and after 10 seasons at the MAC, I can unequivocally say our patrons are ***Simply the Best!*** The support you provide and the sense of community you have fostered make the

MAC such a special place for all who step through the doors. In honor of our patrons, the MAC is bringing you ***Simply the Best!*** in the 2024-2025 season. Get ready for an incredible year with the best shows.

Join us for a complimentary pre-show MAC Chat or Q&A following specific performances. Our arts center, located in a community college, offers over 60 student productions supported by professional lighting, sound, and costumes. These can be enjoyed at affordable costs, or you can attend our FREE programs like Music Fridays at Noon and our free International Global Film series in February. We hope to exceed your expectations with excellent service and special pre- and post-show engagement opportunities. These will help you connect with the artists and art forms more deeply. While you are here, don't forget to visit the Cleve Carney Museum of Art in the lobby to experience cutting-edge contemporary art. You can also enjoy our full-service concession area and gift shop.

After your visit, please stay connected with us by joining us on Facebook (AtTheMAC) or subscribing to our e-newsletter to find out about added shows, events, and special offers (www.AtTheMAC.org). We challenge you to try something new at the MAC and expand your cultural palate. Come see the New Philharmonic Orchestra or a Buffalo Theatre Ensemble play. Or join us this summer for the Hokusai exhibit. We are grateful for your presence here and we want to ensure that your visit is enjoyable. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to ask any of the staff and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Thank you for being a part of our community of arts enthusiasts and being ***Simply the Best!*** We can't wait to share these unforgettable experiences with you and hope you have a wonderful time. We look forward to entertaining you and seeing you at the theater.

Enjoy the show!

Diana Martinez
Director, McAninch Arts Center



“Great theater is about challenging how we think and encouraging us to fantasize about a world we aspire to.”

—Willem Dafoe
renowned American actor

Welcome to College Theater at the MAC

From the inception of planning College Theater productions, each season is built with the idea that both escapism and engagement theater are important for students to experience and our audiences to enjoy. Escapism theater allows us to escape from our daily turmoil and daily life, offering pure entertainment. Engagement theater focuses on the human condition and the burning quest for a solution—it is theater we do not easily forget and that changes us in some way, forever.

The mission of both escapism and engagement theater is to expose everyone to the great theater of the past as well as important theater of today. We’ve chosen an eclectic season including both escapism and engagement theater, culled after considering countless titles and varied genres. Above all, we’re most interested in training our students as artists, both on the stage and behind the curtain, engaging with students and community in our audience, as well. That is the power of live theater, which does not exist except in this live, ephemeral moment—it is an art that celebrates interaction—on stage, but also between stage and audience.

The 2024–2025 College Theater season is a perfect example of this exciting mix: *The Mousetrap*, *A Christmas Carol*, *It’s Only a Play*, and *A Christmas Carol*.

Thank you so much for supporting the voices of our talented students and power of live theater. We hope you join us again and again.

The Theater Faculty at College of DuPage

College Theater Presents

The Mousetrap

by **Agatha Christie**

Director

Daniel Millhouse

Scenic/Lighting Design

Richard Arnold, Jr.

Costume, Hair & Make-up Design

Kimberly G. Morris

Properties Design

Sabrina Zeidler

Sound Design

Fisher Parsons

Theater Department Chair

Amelia Barrett

Produced by special arrangements with
Samuel French, an imprint of Concord Theatricals Corp.

Support is made possible by a generous gift from the College of DuPage Foundation's
Dr. Donald and Helen (Gum) Westlake Fund for Student Productions.

Please note: This production contains adult themes and language
and has simulated strangulation/stage violence.

The use of recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of
photographs, either with or without a flash is strictly prohibited. Please turn off
all electronic devices, such as cell phones and watches.

Oct. 3-20, 2024
Studio Theatre

CAST LISTING (in order of appearance)

Mollie Ralston Jamiya Haynes
Giles Ralston..... Nicholas Washington
Christopher Wren Taylor Baird
Mrs. Boyle Lyn Myers
Major Metcalf Micheal Guzman
Miss Casewell..... Lauren Hauser
Mr. Paravicini Alexander Recchia
Detective Sergeant Trotter Will Lech

Time and Place: England, 1952

There will be a 15-minute intermission.

Dining Partners

**Eat, drink & enjoy -
MAC dining partners**

For all your pre-show meals and post-show bites, we are thrilled to be partnering with these neighborhood restaurants. Our dining partners offer MAC patrons exclusive discounts and special offers. All MAC ticket orders receive coupons to these local favorite restaurants!

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Mexican Restaurant

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Latin + Fusion

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager Corinna Rodriguez*

Assistant Stage Managers Lyn Myers, Will Lech

Dialect Coach Amelia Barrett

Fight/Intimacy Director Michael Dias

Technical Director/Scene Shop Manager..... Sabrina Zeidler

Technical Coordinator Richard Arnold, Jr.

Scene Shop Crew..... Gail Creighton, Sameer Datta, MeiXi DiBernardo,
Trinnity Feliciano, Brandon Delgado Gomez,
Mack Lechtenberg, Vinny Scanio, Emily Sheehan, Harry Smith, Kaden Van Lerbergh

Board Operators..... Brandon Delgado Gomez, MeiXi DiBernardo

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Assistant Costume Shop Manager Gretchen Woodley

Costume Shop Assistants Lynn Borge, Natalie Cross, Z Fritz
Will Lech, Courtney Lily

Wardrobe Will Lech

* 2024-2025 John Belushi/Second City Scholarship recipient
 ◇ Fall 2024 BTE Assistant Stage Management Scholarship

* * * * *

AUDITIONS – AUDITIONS – AUDITIONS

College of DuPage Theater is holding auditions for spring productions

It's Only a Play

By Terrence McNally
Directed by Daniel Millhouse

Our Town

By Thornton Wilder
Directed by Amelia Barrett

Auditions for both productions will be held on

Friday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 25 at 1 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 26 at 12 p.m. (callbacks, if necessary)

For more information, see AtTheMAC.org/auditions

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Are you ready for a night full of twists, turns, and secrets? Welcome to *The Mousetrap*, where nothing (and no one) is quite what it seems!

As we gather to experience Agatha Christie's enduring classic, I am reminded of how this play continues to resonate with contemporary audiences. At its heart, *The Mousetrap* is a mystery that thrives on tension, secrets, and unexpected revelations. Yet, beyond the suspense, it investigates much deeper themes of identity, isolation, and the lasting consequences of our past choices.

In our increasingly connected world, it is ironic how isolated we often feel. The characters in *The Mousetrap* are physically trapped by a snowstorm, but today we can feel similarly cut off in a digital landscape that often fosters mistrust and carefully curated personas. This production emphasizes that sense of isolation, both external and internal, highlighting how our efforts to conceal our true selves or our past inevitably lead to suspicion and unease.

The play also speaks to the present moment's grappling with justice, morality, and historical reckoning. Are we ever truly able to escape the consequences of our actions, or do they linger, demanding resolution? In a time when society faces complex questions about accountability, *The Mousetrap* offers a reflection on the human desire for closure, truth, and redemption.

We hope this production keeps you on the edge of your seat, not only with its clever twists but also by engaging your thoughts on trust, deception, and the power of the past. Just as these characters must confront their hidden truths, perhaps we too will reflect on the masks we wear and the histories we carry.

I invite you to sit back, enjoy the ride, and maybe, just maybe, crack the case before the final curtain falls!

~DM

CAST PROFILES

Taylor Baird (Christopher Wren) Second COD production. Favorite credits include *The Tempest* (Caliban), *Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Doo-Wop* (Grovel).

Micheal Guzman (Major Metcalf) Sixth COD production; *Ocean 9-1-1* (Brody), *A Christmas Carol* (Shopper), *Twelfth Night* (Fabian/Sailor), *Good Kids* (Tanner) and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Neville Landless); Favorite credit is *Singin' in The Rain* (Ensemble) at J. Sterling Morton West High School.

Lauren Hauser (Miss Casewell) Second COD production; *Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Doo-Wop* (Vicky).

Jamiya Haynes (Mollie Ralston) First COD production. Haynes is a COD Peer Mentor, Flava board member, and is in the COD Chamber Singers.

Will Lech (Detective Sergeant Trotter) First COD production. Favorite credits include *Clue: On Stage* (Professor Plum) at Wheaton Warrenville South High School and *The Wizard of Oz* (The Cowardly Lion) at West Chicago High School.

Lyn Myers (Mrs. Boyle) Second COD production; *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Martha). Favorite credits include *Renfield* (Miss Mina), *Agnes of God* (Agnes) and *Whose Life is it Anyway* (Claire) as a finalist in Duet Acting at the American Forensic Association National Tournament. Myers has appeared in a variety of local and national television commercials.

Alexander Recchia (Mr. Paravicini) First COD production. Favorite credits include *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Captain Stache) at The Avery Coonley School, *David Copperfield* (Murdstone) and *Clue* (Wadsorth) at Fenwick High School.

Nicholas Washington (Giles Ralston) Seventh COD production; *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Teddy Brewster), *Miss Bennett: Christmas at Pemberley* (Student Stage Manager), *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (A Dead Man, Gordon), *Born Yesterday* (Sen. Norval Hedges), *The SpongeBob Musical* (Larry the Lobster, Gary Snail, Sponges, S Devotee, Pirates, Anemones), *The Dining Room* (Howard, Ted, Paul, Chris, Standish, Guest).

CREATIVE & PRODUCTION PROFILES

Daniel Millhouse (Director) is thrilled to be continuing his position at College of DuPage as an Assistant Professor. This is Millhouse's seventh production with College Theater. Recent directing credits for College Theater include *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Do-Do*. Previously, Millhouse worked as an Adjunct Professor at the College of DuPage, the CCPA at Roosevelt University, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison (where he was awarded the University Housing Honored Instructor Award). Along with teaching and directing, Millhouse has worked as a professional actor throughout the world. His primary theater credits include shows with Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Michigan Shakespeare Festival, Great Lakes Theater, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, and The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. You may have also seen him on an episode of *Chicago Fire* or in the *Call of Duty* video game franchise. You can hear his voice on podcasts as well, including *The Vanishing Act* and *The Onion's: The Topical*. He received his MFA in Acting/Directing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his BS in Theater Arts from Eastern Michigan University. Millhouse is currently the Interim Associate Artistic Director for Buffalo Theatre Ensemble. He is grateful for this opportunity to work and collaborate with everyone here at the College of DuPage.

Richard Arnold, Jr. (Scenic/Lighting Design) is excited to join the creative team at the College of DuPage. Prior to coming to COD, he spent 15 years teaching Theatre Design and Technology at Elmhurst University. Beyond teaching, he has designed over 100 theatre productions around the Midwest. Additionally, he spent several years working in other areas of the entertainment industry, designing and producing corporate events, concerts, television commercials, as well as exhibits for several Chicagoland museums. He is a member of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology and the Illinois Theatre Association.

Kimberly G. Morris (Costume, Hair and Make-up Design) is pleased to continue her work at College of DuPage. Prior to joining the crew at COD, she spent 13 years as a freelance costume, makeup, wig and properties designer throughout Chicago and the east coast. She is a company member of Babes with Blades Theatre Company where she has designed for many of their productions. She has also designed for Stage Left Theatre, Fox Valley Repertory, Ball State University, American

CREATIVE & PRODUCTION PROFILES

Shakespeare Center, Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, Heritage Repertory Theatre, Tecumseh!, Wilmette Arts Center, NWHS and MEHS.

Fisher Parsons (Sound Design) is an Audio Production Specialist for the McAninch Arts Center. Before making the jump to working at College of DuPage, he was a Production Manager and Audio Engineer at Evanston Rocks and the Arcada Theater where he engineered sound for various artist. When not mixing audio or recording, you can find him on stage at The Second City or in the pit orchestra on guitar for various theatrical productions throughout the Chicagoland area.

Sabrina Zeidler (Properties Design, Technical Director) is thrilled to be working with the MAC as the Technical Director of College Theater. Her previous work at COD has been seen as the Technical Director and Properties Designer for the DuPage Opera Theatre, Technical Director for Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, and various design roles for College Theater. She is the former Stage Manager for the New Philharmonic Orchestra. Zeidler was previously the Technical Director and a resident designer for Hinsdale South High School. She is a graduate of Elmhurst University with a BA in Theatre - Stage Management, Design and Technology, and Theatre Arts Administration.

Amelia Barrett (Theater Department Chair) is a professor of theater at College of DuPage. Barrett has most recently directed COD productions of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *Good Kids*. Professionally, she has directed multiple Buffalo Theatre Ensemble productions, where she is Interim Managing Artistic Director and a member of the acting ensemble. As an actor, she has appeared with other local, regional, and international companies. She is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association as well as the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Radio and Television Artists. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in acting and a Graduate Certificate in Laban Movement Analysis.

Corinna Rodriguez* (Stage Manager) First COD production. Favorite credits include *Badger* (Eleanor), *Chicago* (Featured Ensemble) and *She Kills Monsters* (Fight Ensemble) all at Wheaton North High School.

*Rodriguez is a John Belushi/Second City Theatre Scholarship recipient.



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Friends of the MAC

The Friends of the MAC is a family of those who have decided that a world-class performing and visual arts center should reside in their community. Ticket sales provide only 42 percent of our \$4 million operating budget. It is through the support of College of DuPage and through the generous gifts from patrons and local businesses that we can keep art in our museum and on our stages.

Your Gift to the MAC

- Brings nationally and internationally renowned artists to our community
- Supports our SchoolStage program that annually offers affordable arts experiences to thousands of schoolchildren
- Provides students and community members the opportunity to interact with artists
- Enhances quality of life in our community

Without the generous support of the Friends of the MAC, we would not be the beacon for the arts in DuPage County. We gratefully thank our friends, and we invite others to join them.

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Donor may choose to direct gifts to the Arts Center Endowment or the MAC-tastic Treat Seats – Tickets for Kids & Families Endowment. Donations made to these MAC Endowments, our “savings accounts,” go into principal secured, invested accounts that will provide ongoing support for arts programs and arts accessibility for years to come.

The McAninch Arts Center and the College of DuPage Foundation can also provide you with information on planned giving options, gifts of stock, IRA Charitable Rollovers and other giving opportunities.

For complete details, visit the MAC Box Office or contact the College of DuPage Foundation at (630) 942-3088 or foundation@codfound.org.

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Volunteer at the MAC

We are always looking for enthusiastic, dedicated, reliable and customer service-oriented people to become Volunteers serving as ushers, greeters and docents at our events.

Volunteers provide invaluable service by assisting guests to their seats, answering questions and most importantly creating a welcoming environment for our guests.

Volunteers are unpaid, but that doesn't mean you won't be rewarded. The cultural perks you'll enjoy as a volunteer include vouchers for every shift worked offering discounts to use at the MAC Box Office and invitation to our annual volunteer appreciation dinner including prizes and gifts.

Visit AtTheMAC.org/Volunteer to fill out an online application and for more information on requirements and qualifications. Applications accepted year-round.

Questions or for more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Rob Nardini: email nardinir@cod.edu, phone (630) 942-3705.



HOUSE NOTES

- Cameras and recording devices are not allowed in the theater and are prohibited by our contracts with the artists.
- Smoking is not permitted in the theater or on campus.
- For your comfort and security, all backpacks and large bags must be checked.
- Please turn off all cell phones and any other alarms while in the theater.
- Emergency phone number at COD Police Department for after-hour calls is (630) 942-2000.
- Latecomers seated at discretion of the House Manager.
- Groups of 10 or more may contact (630) 942-3026 or grouptix@cod.edu to arrange for group discounts.
- If you notice a spill in the theater, please notify an usher.
- McAninch Arts Center volunteers are people who assist the house staff in areas of ticket taking, ushering and general management during performances. To get involved, call (630) 942-3705.
- For **Americans With Disabilities Act** accommodations, call (630) 942-2141 (voice) or (630) 858-9692 (TDD).
- **Infrared Assistive Listening Devices:** For audience members who desire audio amplification of performances, headsets with individual volume controls are now available. You may check out the headsets at the Box Office with a driver's license. *Underwritten by a generous gift from The Knowles Foundation.*

MAC STAFF LISTING

MAC Administrative Staff

Director of the McAninch Arts Center.....	Diana Martinez
Business Manager	Cassi Fanelli
Project Manager	Kari Schoettle
Assistant Business Manager	Brianna Garcia
Curator, Cleve Carney Museum of Art	Justin Witte
Assistant Curator.....	Julia Walker
Marketing and Patrons Services Coordinator	Janey Sarther
Graphic Designer.....	Wendy Melgar
Director of Development for Cultural Arts.....	Jon Nadel
Education and Community Engagement Coordinator.....	Mandy Rakow
Office Manager/Events Coordinator	Morgan Bainbridge
Student Clerical Assistant.....	Kate Cadag

MAC Box Office and Front of House Staff

Box Office Manager	Julie Elges
Assistant Box Office Supervisors	Elise Wash
Box Office Assistants.....	Patrick Garon, Joanne Hunt
Patron Services Manager	Tom Murray
Assistant Patron Services Supervisor	Deborah Kolek
House Manager/Volunteer Coordinator	Rob Nardini

MAC Resident Professional Ensembles

Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Interim Managing Artistic Director	Amelia Barrett
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Interim Associate Artistic Director	Daniel Millhouse
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble, Business Manager	Bryan Burke
New Philharmonic, Music Director and Conductor	Kirk Muspratt
New Philharmonic, Associate Conductor and Librarian	Benjamin Nadel
New Philharmonic General Manager	Paula Cebula
New Philharmonic Personnel Manager.....	Karen Dickelman

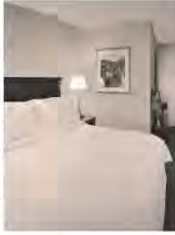
MAC Design and Technical Staff

Technical Production/Lighting/Sound Coordinator.....	Richard Arnold, Jr.
Technical Theater Assistant Coordinator	Sabrina Zeidler
Costume and Make-up Design Coordinator	Kimberly G. Morris
Assistant Costume Coordinator and Stitcher	Gretchen Woodley
Production Manager	Joe Hopper
Sound and Lighting Specialist.....	Ben Johnson
Lighting Production Specialist	Elias Morales
Audio Production Specialist	Fisher Parsons
Events Production Specialist/Tech. Director – BTE	Caitlyn Woods
Stage Hands	Bobby Bryan, Zak Zubka



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