

A DOLL'S HOUSE

*Written by Henrik Ibsen • Adapted by Frank McGuinness
Directed by Dawne Swearingen-Meeks*

February 20-23

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday at 2 p.m. • Culp Theatre**

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 **ACU THEATRE**
transforming artists

Statement of Misson

The Abilene Christian University Department of Theatre is committed to providing quality training and opportunity for the disciplined theatre artist in a nurturing environment that models Christian values .

****This production deals with heavy themes and content that may be triggering to viewers.
ACU Theatre has NO INTENDED INSULT to ANY CULTURAL GROUP.****

Cast

Nora Helmer.....Layla Leveret (u/s Zoe Dobratz)
Torvald Helmer.....Spencer Kasselmann (u/s Matthew Lietz)
Krogstad.....Malachi Havens (u/s Collin McKean)
Mrs. Linde.....Courtney String (u/s Chaya Powell)
Dr. Rank.....Ty Naicker (u/s Jackson Wilder)
Anne-Marie.....Denim Atkins (u/s Brooke Bott)
Helene.....Sarah Gabel (u/s Lila Griffith)
Messenger.....Jackson Wilder

Production Team

Director.....Dawne Swearingen-Meeks
Assistant Director.....Laci Jackson
Costume Designer.....Catherine Baumgardner
Head Shop Assistant.....Rachel McNiece
Head Dresser.....Hannah Galambos
Dressers.....Hannah Galambos, Lila Griffith, Matthew Lietz
Patti Maisano, Chaya Powell, Will Thompson
Wig Stylist.....Nora Vellis
Costume Shop Crew.....Logan Beckwith, Olivia Cromis, Zoe Dobratz
Patti Maisano, Megan Sloane, Ani Villanueva, Amelie Beegle, Brooke Bott
Cori Kissick, Matthew Lietz, Bee Peyton, Chaya Powell, Kendall West,
Eva Barnard, Katie Breedlove, Lila Griffith, Mason Snyder,
Courtney String, Kylie West

Production Team Continued

Costume Shop Assistants.....	Denim Atkins, Amelie Beegle, Brooke Bott, Hannah Galambos, Lila Griffith, Ainsley Houghton, Matthew Lietz, Patti Maisano, Maya Padilla, Bee Peyton, Chaya Powell, Courtney String, Will Thompson
Scenic Designer.....	Gary Varner
Assistant Scenic Designer.....	Zola Feasel
Technical Director.....	Josh Hervey
Props Master.....	Katie Breedlove
Props Crew.....	Imogen Long
Sound Engineer & Qlab Operator.....	Faith Betts
Lighting Designer.....	Kinsey Herbel
Associate Lighting Designer.....	Ashton Taylor
Master Electrician.....	Josh Hervey
Programmer & Board Operator.....	Emily Graves
Stage Manager.....	Skyler Kinney
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Alex Dulske, Haley Hinkfent
Shop Foreman.....	Ashton Taylor, Brooke Musia, Collin McKean, Kayla Brookshire, Kinsey Herbel, Sarah Gabel, Skyler Kinney, Ty Naicker, Zola Feasel, Layla Leveret, Jackson Wilder, Collin Mitten
Dramaturg.....	Ashton Taylor
Glass Case Design.....	Ella Root
Box Office/Patron Services Director.....	Devin Braswell
Program Designer.....	Devin Braswell
Program Cover Design	Holly Harrell
Production Photographer.....	Paul White
Program / Publicity / Web Design.....	Adam Hester, Devin Braswell
PR / Fundraising / Box Office.....	Macayla Brown, Laci Jackson, Evan Owens, Aubrey Pearce, Ella Root, Riley Wilson
House Management.....	Eva Barnard, James Bradshaw, Evan Owens, Aubrey Pearce, Ella Root, Riley Wilson

Director's Note

Good evening ACU Theatre friends & patrons,

I am delighted that you have chosen to spend an evening with us at ACU Theatre. Tonight, you will see the culmination of six weeks of production build and rehearsal. Our students have poured out their hearts through Victorian research, period style etiquette, design creativity and trust in the process of demanding text translated to the stage.

This has been one of the most challenging and rewarding productions of my humble career as a director. In my research, Ibsen is quoted in stating he did not set out to write a female empowerment play but rather a play about a human problem. I believe both themes are intertwined.

These seven extraordinary BFA actors have stepped in bravely. We agreed that each of these characters are seeking love out of desperation; all through what they believe to be pure motive. In *A Doll's House*, you will observe broken people clinging to diminished hopes and prayers. You will observe characters striving to find love through justified and contorted measures. You will observe characters questioning belief systems, seeking justice and longing for foundation. Fear drives and yet, in the end, I believe this play provides room for the breath of hope and transformation for good.

Hendrik Ibsen went to work on penning this rich classic in 1878 after meeting a young Norwegian woman that he took a fancy to and adopted the name 'skylark'. That woman married a schoolmaster that fell ill. The woman arranged a loan without his knowledge and later she was accused of forgery even though she had worked hard for the loan. Her intentions were pure, but she was criminalized.

ACU Theatre's season theme for 2025 is *Winds of Change*. I find the title fitting and in Ibsen's brilliance, he leaves the audience to guess the future. The power of theatre is that it invites us each an opportunity to see ourselves or a truth that we better recognize. I ask that you stay with the play through all 3 acts...only then will you experience the full arc of story.

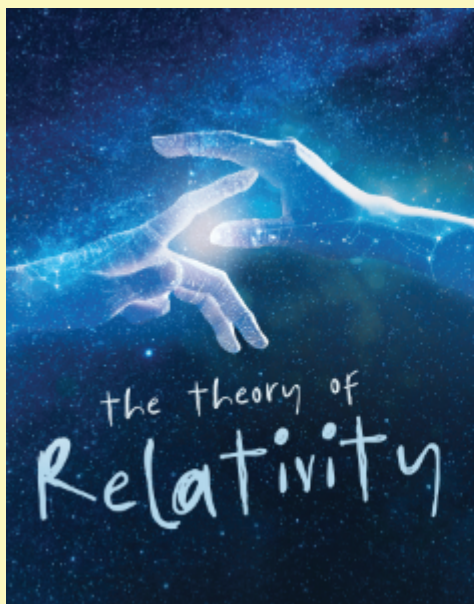
May we strive to be a people that love generously. May we never stop believing and trusting that in a world that needs a flicker, only Jesus can bring that change...never lose hope. That is a glorious thing.

-Dawne Swearingen Meeks

ACU Theatre Chair & Professor

'95

Note: Each costume you will see on the stage was designed and/or constructed from the ground up by Costume Designer, Catherine Baumgardner, and our team of incredible BFA students.



EXPERIENCE **HSU** THEATRE

APRIL 10-13 | VAN ELLIS THEATRE

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April 13..... 2:00 p.m.



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 April 5, 2025

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 November 22**



*Auditions are available in person,
 virtual livestream or video submission.*

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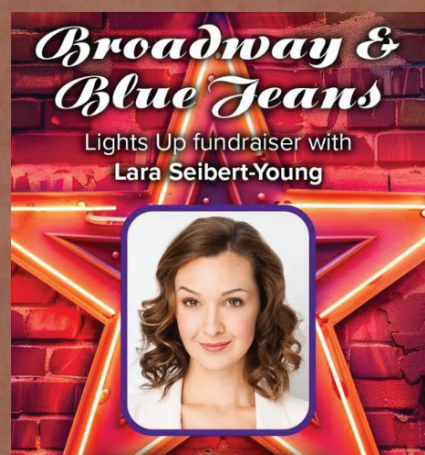
Performance Opportunities

A Cappella Chorus
 Big Purple Colorguard /
 Acuity Winterguard
 Big Purple Marching Band
 Concert Band
 Gospel Choir
 Jazz Combos
 Jazz Ensemble
 Opera
 Orchestra
 Percussion Ensemble
 Steel Drum Band
 University Chorale
 Wind Ensemble



UPCOMING EVENTS

BROADWAY AND BLUE JEANS
LIGHTS UP
APRIL 5 @ 7:30PM
SEVEN & ONE BOOKS



PERCY JACKSON'S THE LIGHTNING THIEF
APRIL 24-26 @ 7:30PM, APRIL 27 @ 2PM
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