

ACU THEATRE
2024-25 SEASON
WINDS *of* CHANGE





Welcome back to ACU Theatre's 30th year! We are delighted to bring you another theatrical season of entertainment excellence, this year with the theme Winds of Change. From Ibsen's stormy Victorian drama *A Doll's House* to the new Percy Jackson musical *The Lightning Thief*, we have a whirlwind of exciting productions on stage this year. These stories will make you laugh, cry and hum along as our protagonists

face big changes in their lives! We delight in inviting you back to our beautiful theatrical spaces on campus. In our second year in the newly renovated Boone Family Theatre, we present Disney's *Freaky Friday* as part of the ACU Homecoming Musical tradition! Join us for a dinner theatre or curtain call reception!

Thank you for your ongoing support of ACU Theatre through the years. We can't wait for you to discover this season's quality theatrical productions! We are nothing without an audience, and we value you. Step into our 2024-25 season – and experience the winds of change!

Dawne Swearingen Meeks

Dawne Swearingen Meeks ('95)
Chair, ACU Department of Theatre

P.S. Visit acu.edu/theatre today to reserve your tickets!



FUNDRAISER

DATE: TBA

7:30 p.m.
FULKS THEATRE

🎫 \$75-\$120 Fundraiser

🎫 \$65 Age 12 and Younger

👤 All Ages

*Directed by Dr. Chris Hollingsworth.
Produced by Dawne Swearingen Meeks
APAC Artistic Director: Lanie Westman
With special thanks to John and Rhonda Wright*

ACU Theatre is thrilled to present this joint fundraising cabaret. Over 100 Abilene Performing Arts Center students auditioned with the hope of being selected for this evening on stage with ACU Musical Theatre majors. Proceeds from *Lights Up* ticket sales and any donations received will benefit ACU Theatre and the Abilene Performing Arts Center.

The ACU Lights Up initiative was created over ten years ago by three former theatre students as a fundraising vehicle for special ACU departmental theatre needs. Funding in the past has supported student workshops, guest directors, choreographers, designers, student headshots, NYC Senior Showcase, student travel needs, scholarships and more.

Disney

FREAKY FRIDAY

A NEW MUSICAL 

Book by Bridget Carpenter
Music by Tom Kitt
Lyrics by Brian Yorkey
Directed by Dawne Swearingen-Meeks
Musical direction by Dr. Chris Hollingsworth
Conducted by Dr. Steven Ward
Choreography by guest artist Josey Pickett

When an overworked mother and her teenage daughter find themselves suddenly trading places, they have just one day to put things right again. *Freaky Friday*, a new musical based on the celebrated novel by Mary Rodgers and the hit Disney films, is a heartfelt, comedic and unexpectedly emotional update on an American classic. By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another's struggles, learn self-acceptance, and realize the immeasurable love and mutual respect that bond a mother and daughter.

10/17-20

2 p.m. Sunday Matinee

8 p.m. Thur, Fri, Sat

BOONE FAMILY
THEATRE

 \$50

 \$25 Age 12 and Younger

 \$15 Student Rush

 Ages 8+



11/21-23*

7:30 p.m.
FULKS THEATRE

🎫 \$30

🎫 \$10 Student Rush**

🪑 Open Seating

👤 Ages 10+

Written by Will Eno
Directed by Joey Banks

ACU Theatre brings you *The Realistic Joneses*, a side-splitting comedy that introduces two sets of neighbors. We meet Bob and Jennifer and their new neighbors, John and Pony, two suburban couples who have even more in common than their identical homes and their shared last names. The Joneses must decide between their idyllic fantasies and their imperfect realities. Join us for a night of sitcom scenario humor. This play is sure not to disappoint!

* Student-only performances Nov. 18-20. **Student Rush tickets available 1 hour before curtain.

ONE NIGHT ONLY

*A Celebration of
Movie Musicals*

12/05

7:30 p.m.
FULKS THEATRE

🎫 \$40 Includes Curtain
Call Reception

🪑 Open Seating

👤 All Ages

Guest choreographers: Mark Gold,
Abbey Fitzjarrell and Josey Pickett

One Night Only was launched over 20 years ago as a celebration of our BFA dance track at ACU and returns this year by popular demand! Our team of guest choreographers creates a toe-tapping night of top hats and tails in this dance concert inspired by musical movies, back for one night only. Don't miss out on this charming night of dance!

A DOLL'S HOUSE

**DINNER
OPTION
FEB. 22!**

02/20-23*

2 p.m. Sunday matinee
7:30 p.m. Thurs, Fri, Sat
FULKS THEATRE

TKC \$30
TKC \$10 Student Rush**
TKC \$40 Dinner Tickets
👤 Ages 12+

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

Henrik Ibsen's Victorian drawing-room classic tells the story of Nora, a vibrant young woman married to Torvald, in crippling conflict. Torvald has always done the thinking for both of them. In order to save Torvald from a debt, and to spare his pride, Nora secretly obtains a loan by forgery. The inevitable revelation of the crime also exposes the illusions behind their marriage. And in one of the most famous, and scandalous, climaxes in all of nineteenth-century drama, Nora forges a new road, determined to claim hope and a life different from the one she has always known.

**Talkback Friday, Feb. 21. Dinner Saturday, Feb. 22 at 6:15 p.m.
**Student Rush tickets available 1 hour before curtain.*

THE LIGHTNING THIEF

The Percy Jackson Musical

04/24-27*

2 p.m. Sunday Matinee
7:30 p.m. Thurs, Fri, Sat
FULKS THEATRE

TKC \$30
TKC \$20 Age 12 or Younger
TKC \$10 Student Rush**
👤 Ages 10+

*Directed by Joey Banks • Musical direction by
Dr. Chris Hollingsworth • Book by Joe Tracz
Music and Lyrics by Rob Rokicki • Adapted from
the book The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan*

This dynamic musical adaptation of Rick Riordan's bestselling book opened on Broadway in 2019. When teenager Percy Jackson discovers he possesses superhero powers, he and his friends embark on an epic journey to find Zeus' missing lightning bolt and prevent a war among the heroes.

**Talkback, Friday, April 25.
**Student Rush tickets available 1 hour before curtain.*

Tickets

To order tickets for individual shows or ticket packages, visit acu.edu/theatre or call the box office at **325-674-ARTS**. For best value, consider one of the season ticket packages below.

SHOWSTOPPER PACKAGE: \$155 (\$25 savings) – All five shows
Includes seats for the entire season: Homecoming Musical, Cornerstone, Dance Premiere, Winter Play and Spring Musical.

FAB FOUR: \$130 (\$20 savings) – Your selection of four shows
Choose four of the five shows: Homecoming Musical, Cornerstone, Dance Concert, Winter Play and Spring Musical.

OPENING NIGHT: \$110 (\$70 savings) – Be the first to see the shows
Best savings of all packages for opening nights (or Sunday matinee) of all shows. If you need to switch your ticket to another night, you pay the full price difference.

ADD ONS:

- Add dinners at a price of \$40 each.
- Add tickets for the *Lights Up!* fundraiser for \$40 each.

			Show-stopper	Fab 4	Opening Night
		Full price	All shows	Choose 4	All shows
Homecoming Musical	<i>Disney's Freaky Friday</i>	\$50	included	<input type="checkbox"/>	included
Cornerstone	<i>The Realistic Joneses</i>	\$30	included	<input type="checkbox"/>	included
Dance Show	<i>One Night Only</i>	\$40	included	<input type="checkbox"/>	included
Winter Play	<i>A Doll's House</i>	\$30	included	<input type="checkbox"/>	included
Spring Musical	<i>The Lightning Thief</i>	\$30	included	<input type="checkbox"/>	included
Your price per package		\$180	\$155	\$130	\$110
Savings			\$25	\$20	\$70



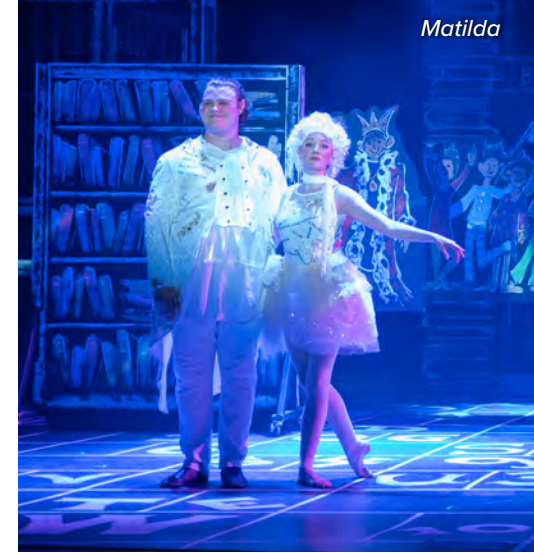
Coming Attractions

Lights Up! fundraising event Spring 2025: *Broadway and Blue Jeans* with Lara (Seibert '06) Young.

High School Musical



Matilda



The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940



The Taming of the Shrew



The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane



One Night Only





Abilene Christian University
ACU Box 27843
Abilene, Texas 79699-7843

acu.edu/theatre • Box office: 325-674-ARTS
Audition info: app.getacceptd.com/acutheatre

Nonprofit Org.
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PAID
Abilene Christian
University



Tapestry



After Zoey



The Spitfire Grill