

USU Eastern Presents

# As You Like It

By William Shakespeare  
Directed by Tina Stephan

December 2-4, 9-11 • 2021

Black Box Theatre CIB Building  
7:30 Curtain

Photo: No. 6/annmarior6/Admitted

COLLEGE  
of the ARTS

## *Director's Note*

George Bernard Shaw said Shakespeare wrote *As You Like It* as a mere “crowdpleaser” and complained that it lacks the high artistry of which Shakespeare was capable.

The play certainly has only a very thin plot (loosely based on *Rosalynde*, a straightforward romance by Thomas Lodge) .. and it’s a wildly eclectic jumble of verse and prose... of romance, allegory, and pastoral... of broad burlesque and deep dramatic truths ...plus song.

Yet it’s been one of Shakespeare’s most popular comedies for centuries, and has been adapted over and over for stage, radio, film, and musical theatre.

So what is its appeal?

And why, in our version, are actors doubling roles in such radically challenging ways?

Well... Love.

Love is the central theme of *As You Like It*.. but it’s a tale of how love manifests in all its various forms.

We see couples in the throes of over idealized infatuation and under idealized pragmatism... and we see our heroine Rosalind completely invested in love, and brave enough to speak the truth of her heart.

Within moments of meeting Orlando she takes a chain off of her own neck and gives it to him, completely “overthrown.” But she doesn’t want only instant romance ... she wants to be sure that she and Orlando love wisely, and love well.

It’s the reason Rosalind stays disguised far longer than she needs to... because Orlando needs to learn about himself, about his beloved, and about the genuine friendship at the heart of all true love.

In fact, it’s the deep friendships in *As You Like It* that are fierce, life-affirming, and eternal.

Old Adam abandons security for Orlando’s sake, “loving lords” follow the exiled Duke Senior to the Forest of Arden, Celia rallies instantly when Rosalind is banished... examples of loyalty, generosity, and forgiveness abound.

This version of *As You Like It* celebrates the connections that transcend differences of gender, class, age, and ancestry... the people who see and value our inner essence... and the relationships that reveal the true meaning of love.

**Thia Stephan 2021**

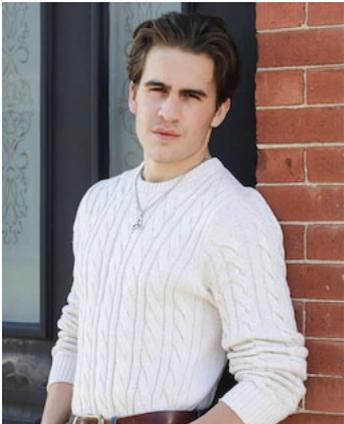
## Cast/Crew

### Kyra Waechtler- Rosalind (later “Ganymede”)



This is one of many Shakespeare shows Kyra has done, and she is excited to bring such a fun energy to this production. She graduated from Green Canyon High School in 2020 and has been enrolled at USU Eastern since Fall of 2020. She looks forward to performing this show in the blackbox theatre.

### Jasper Edwards – Orlando



Jasper is thrilled to be portraying Orlando. He graduated from Taylorsville High and is now a freshman here at USUE. He has recently portrayed Thomas Kerwood in *Tom, Dick, & Harry* and Gomez Addams in *The Addams Family*. He would like to thank his family and his darling Jessica. Enjoy the show!

**Sami Foster- Celia (later “Aliena”) / William**



Sami is currently a sophomore at USU Eastern. She has been loving theatre for 11 years and loves working with this cast. Her favorite roles include Belle (Game of Tiaras), Aunt Sponge (James and the Giant Peach), and Officer Upson (Tom, Dick, and Harry). She hopes that you enjoy the show just as much as she does and can't wait for more opportunities like this!

**Patrick Paulk - Touchstone**



Patrick Paulk is a sophomore this year at USUE and a member of the Elmo club presidency. Patty, as he is known on campus, is happy to perform in his first Shakespeare show. He would like to thank his friends, professors, and the BDAC team for supporting him and pushing him to do his best in As You Like It. And a special thanks to Mr. Moo, Nugget, and Timbit.

## **McArthur “Mac” Cottam - Charles/Jaques**



Mac is incredibly excited to have made his way back to the stage after 2 years away. His most recent roles being Billy Bailey/Clarence in It's a Wonderful Life and Herbert in Spamalot. Mac hopes that he can make a habit of performing here again.

He graduated from Taylorsville High School in 2018 and is looking at returning to college in the near future. He is incredibly grateful for this opportunity to put on another show.

## **Duncan Clark- Oliver/ Amiens**



Duncan Clark is a Freshman at USU Eastern. He's an artist, storyteller, and movie enthusiast. When it comes to acting and performance, there is nothing he loves more than doing impressions and experimenting with characters.

**Cambrie Bennett Howlett- Phebe/ Corin**



Cambrie Bennett Howlett grew up involved in theater. She is an Emery/Carbon County native and after attending Snow College to continue her theater education, she decided it was time to return home. Now she's back, a teacher's assistant by day and a thespian by night.

**Mary Thayn - “Duke” Frederick/ “Duke” Senior**



Mary Thayn is a freshman here at USU Eastern. She attended LeRoy High School in LeRoy, Illinois, where she grew a love for theater. She is currently getting her Associates of Arts in Theatre, although her future plans include a PhD in Geography. She loves reading, water-coloring, and boxing. Her favorite color is yellow, and has yet to meet a cheese she doesn't like.

### **Brynn Larson – Le Beau/ Audrey**



Brynn is a freshman here at USUE and has enjoyed every minute of her time here. This is her first production with USUE Theatre and she is very grateful to be a part of it. The cast and whole experience have been amazing! She relates very much to her character Audrey (almost too well) and has had so much fun being on stage.

- Best Wishes

### **Matt Milligan - Adam/ Silvius**



Matt has enjoyed playing mostly in the ensemble of several shows. Some of the shows he has been in are: How to succeed in Business without really trying, and Antigone. He hasn't had many chances to be on stage with a speaking role. So this has been a big opportunity for him to learn and have fun.

### **Maxwell Otteson – Male Understudy**



This is Max's fourth show here at USU Eastern. He has previously been in the fall 2019 production of Clue on Stage as Professor Plum, then in spring 2020 he was George in All My Sons, and the final show for the spring semester was James and the Giant Peach where he was assistant stage manager and a faceless ninja who moved the massive peach. He is happy to perform again and again whether it be on stage or working behind the scenes. Thank you for coming out to see this amazing show! Max would like to thank his family and [broccoli](#).

### **Emma Bowers – Stage Manager/ Dramaturg**

Emma is the Stage Manager for this production. This is the first time that she has ever stage managed but she is extremely grateful for this opportunity and has loved learning how to succeed in a new role in theater.

### **Benjamin Petersen - Assistant Stage Manager/Sound Designer**

Benjamin Petersen is a faceless technician that doesn't deserve to have his headshot in the program. He is a technician, actor, and improv comedian from Cache Valley, Utah with years of experience. He performs with the Antics (they let him put up a picture of himself) and has worked on several shows with Cache Theatre Company (also with pictures). He graduated from Green Canyon High School in 2019 with a picture in the yearbook. He is very excited to be working on As You Like It, and hopes that you enjoy the pictures of the actors for the show.

### **Danielle Simmons – Light Board Operator/ Design Assistant**

Danielle is a sophomore at USU Eastern this year and is excited for this year in theatre. This is Danielle's first time doing lighting for a show. She is very excited for this learning opportunity.

### **Amber Kaminsky – Projections**

Amber Kaminsky is welcoming you from above while she provides the projections for this amazing show. She's thrilled to work alongside this amazing team. This is her second show here at USUE, and first her first opportunity to be helping with tech.

### **Emilia Richardson- Costume Designer**

I fell in love with the world of theatre at an early age. The community and continual exploration of empathy created an environment where I found my home. Costume Design allowed a place to exist where I could simultaneously work towards the continual growth of body positivity in the industry and inspire others through my unique pathway through life. Through my commitment to learning, continued growth, and theatre I received an AA in Theatre Arts from Western Texas College, a BFA in Theatre with a minor in English from Tarleton State University, and an MFA in Design with a focus on Costuming from Texas Tech University. I am so excited to continue to explore the theatrical world with the amazing artists and students of USU Eastern. I am a proud weenie dog mom of the glorious Nugget and Moo, who let's face it deserve this design credit for their amazing creative decisions.

### **Jensen Otteson – Costume Assistant/ Wardrobe**

Jensen is a sophomore this year and is loving it here. This is his second show costume assisting. He has previously been a part of Clue as Backstage Management, All My Sons as Frank Lubbey, James and the Giant Peach as Grasshopper, and Tom, Dick, and Harry as Boris Anaroskipetrivisnikotch.

### **Serenity Singleton - Wardrobe Assistant**

This would be my Second Show being involved with at USU Eastern and I'm so beyond excited for everyone to see it!

### **Brayden Summers – Props**

Hi I'm Brayden Summers, I'm from Stansbury Utah. I accidentally discovered my passion for theatre when I was forced into a beginning theatre class my freshman year of high school, and I HATED it and the teacher - I learned I loved it, I was just bitter, here I am a decade later.

I've been several productions here at USUE, this will be my second tech position, and I'm excited for the opportunity.

### **Morgan Innes- Hair and Makeup Design Assistant**

This is Morgan's second production as a freshman at USUE and her first ever Shakespeare production. Morgan is beyond grateful for this opportunity and all the amazing people she has gotten to work with!

### **Colton Denver- Camera Babysitter**

Colton has been a professional cameraman for two shows now. With his tireless efforts and payment of cookies, he has been able to keep the streaming cameras safe and well protected for all around the globe to tune in and watch the fabulous actors of Utah State University Eastern

### **Brent Innes – “Grand Wizard” (Producer, Set Design, Light Design, Calming Influence)**

Associate Professor Innes has been here at USU Eastern for now almost 10 years and has loved every moment of it. In class he teaches stage makeup, stagecraft, lighting, drafting for the stage, stage management, sound for theatre, and scene painting. Outside of class he builds scenery, an associate degree program, manages the daily operations of the program, uses his network to find and arrange for guest artists to come to Eastern, and recruits like a mad fool. On top of all this, he makes some killer bbq everything, while his amazing wife is a wizard in the baking world.

Brent would like to thank you for being here tonight and thanks you for your continued support.

### ***Thia Stephan – Director***

Thia Stephan\* has been delighted to spend part of Fall 2021 directing *As You Like It* at Utah State University Eastern! She's excited to help pass on her deep love of Shakespeare (which she learned under the tutelage of John Barton, Lynn Redgrave, Geoffrey Owens, Kenneth Welsh and many other luminaries) to a new generation. Thia studied Directing at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, and then worked as assistant to John Tillinger for multiple productions on Broadway, as well as at the Long Wharf Theatre. She has helmed projects not only for educational programs, but for the Annual Nationwide Young Playwrights Festival, for the Samuel French Festival, and for a number of regional and emerging theaters. In addition to extensive work with the classics, she has been honored to help develop new works by contemporary playwrights EM Lewis, Jason Grote, Jennifer Haley, Paul Mullin, and Moby Pomerance. Though these days more often a Director, recent classical acting credits include the radio play version of *Julius Caesar* for New Jersey's "Shakespeare@", where she performed Gertrude in their inaugural stage production of *Hamlet*, and Queen Elizabeth in *Richard III* for Boomerang Theatre in New York... pre-pandemic, Thia was also seen as Vi Moore in "Footloose" for Norwegian Cruise Lines. On camera credits include TV roles in *Billions*, *Gotham*, *Titus*, *Seven Days*, *Becker* and others. Thanks for being here!

### ***Brief Dramaturgy***

William Shakespeare is a world renowned playwright known for many very influential plays that have changed the world of entertainment to this day. Shakespeare was born in April of 1654 He grew up in Stratford-upon-Avon about one hundred miles from London. At eighteen Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway and together they had

three children. It was after this that Shakespeare got his start in theater. His first play was Henry VI part Two and it was first performed sometime between 1590 and 1591. In the many years to come Shakespeare wrote many plays such as “ *Romeo and Juliet*” and even “ *As You Like It*” that have changed the shape of entertainment even during modern times.

“*As You Like It*” is agreed upon to have been first performed in 1599 in the Globe Theater, and it is thought that Shakespeare himself originated the role of Adam. It is believed that Shakespeare took inspiration from Thomas Lodge's prose romance entitled “*Rosalynde*”. The two have many commonalities including, similar settings, both have a wrestling match intended to kill a brother, and even women pretending to be men. “*Rosalynde*” was first printed in 1590 so, only about nine years later “*As You Like It*” was performed. This however, is not the only writing that led to Shakespeare writing “*As You Like It*”. Before “*Rosalynde*” there was a medieval poem called “*The Tale Of Gamelyn*” that has fewer similarities with the other two, but is still credited with inspiring Thomas Lodge while writing “*Rosalynde*”.

## ***Scene Breakdown***

### **Act 1**

Scene 1- The De Boys family home, now Oliver's residence

Scene 2- The palace of Duke Frederick, who has deposed his brother

Scene 3- Rosalind's bedroom in the palace

Scene 4- The De Boys family home; again

Scene 5- The palace; again

Scene 6- The Forest of Arden, at the camp of the deposed Duke Senior

Scene 7- Another part of the Forest

### **Act 2**

Scene 1- The Forest of Arden

Scene 2- Another part of the Forest

Scene 3- Yet ***another*** part of the Forest

Scene 4- You got it...the Forest!

Scene 5- The camp of the deposed Duke Senior in ...you got it...The Forest

## ***Special Thanks To:***

Jesse Swimm - for the introduction that made all of this possible

Caine College of the Arts

Associate Vice President Greg Dart

Hostess for sugar filled breakfasts

Caffeine glorious caffeine

Cassapora Leather

Texas Tech University

Home Depot for having what we need when we need it

## ***Upcoming Events***

Huebner - CIB Blackbox - Feb 17-19, 23-26 2022

BrightStar the Musical Geary Event Center - March 31, April 1-2, 6-9 2022

Silent Auction Geary Event Center- March 31, April 1-2, 6-9 2022

***We hope you enjoy the show!***