

THE AATE PLAYWRITING NETWORK

presents the

NEW PLAYS BY MEMBER PLAYWRIGHTS DIRECTORY

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For this edition, playwrights who are current members of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education were invited to submit two synopses, 75 words each, for any of their unpublished plays in progress. They could also submit up to two additional entries for scripts published in 2023, 2024, or 2025. Some entries were edited for length and style. Current AATE Members, whether they have identified the Playwriting Network as one of their primary networks or not, may **submit additional entries to John.Newman@uvu.edu** for inclusion in the next version of the directory. Entries should include title, author, contact email, website address (optional), number of characters (with or without indication of gender), and performance length, along with a description/synopsis of no more than 75 words. See entries in this version as a style guide.

PUBLISHERS

Drama Notebook, <http://www.dramanotebook.com>

Dramatic Publishing Co., <http://www.dramaticpublishing.com>

Eldridge Publishing, <http://www.histage.com>

Gitelman and Good, <http://www.gitelmangoodpublishers.com>

Heuer Publishing, <http://www.hitplays.com>

Leicester Bay Theatricals, <https://leicesterbaytheatricals.com>

Pioneer Drama Service, <http://pioneerdrama.com>

Plays for Young Audiences, <http://playsforyoungaudiences.org>

Playscripts, Inc., <http://www.playscripts.com>

Tiny Scripted, <http://www.tinyscripted.com>

Uproar Theatrics, <http://www.uproartheatrics.com>

YouthPLAYS, <http://www.youthplays.com>

PLAYWRIGHTS AND PLAYS

HALEY ANDERSON

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HER HANDFUL OF EARTH 2 f, 1 m, 1 any, 10-15 min. Kaia's closeness with nature allows her to almost communicate with her backyard: Arbor the tree, Rio the river, and Zephyr the breeze. Yet Kaia's parents are getting divorced, and she must move to the city. Kaia has come to say goodbye and relive her fondest family memories in her backyard. She regrettably returns a shoebox of trinkets while her backyard friends leave her with the perfect gift, encouraging her to grow wherever she is planted. **Contact:** Playwright

SANDRA FENICHEL ASHER

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PRINCESS BEE AND THE ROYAL GOOD-NIGHT STORY, 2 m, 3 f, 1 act, area staging. Music by Rich Biever. Based on the picture book by Sandy Asher. When her mum, the queen, is called away to Goodness-Knows-Where for three whole days and three whole nights, Bee is unable to fall asleep without hearing one of her good-night stories. The Royal Big Sister and Royal Big Brother try to fill in with stories of their own, to no avail. At last, with her siblings' help and her dad's understanding, Bee listens very closely and finds the royal good-night story in her own heart. **Contact:** Playwright

STUFF! A CURIOUS COLLECTION 2 f, 4 m or f, extras as desired, 1 act, area staging. Humans need the found stuff of life to create art, realize our full potential, and develop our communities. In this play, we see that stuff also needs us. A voiceless, mimed STUFF attracts a group of ONES who have lost the will to transcend the mundane routines of their lives. As they share their individual stories, they bond and create a "story soup" concocted out of experiences, imaginations, and other assorted . . . stuff. **Contact:** Uproar Theatrics

WELCOME HOME, BEAR 2 actors (any gender), 1 act. Bear and Mouse are neighbors, not friends. Bear's den is neat and tidy. Mouse's den is filled with seasonal decorations. One day, Bear asks Mouse to keep an eye on his den while he's away, then returns to a den so stuffed with Mouse's additions, there's no room for him! Together, they restore Bear's den to its former simplicity, and Mouse realizes that it's not empty... It's filled with mutual respect and friendship. **Contact:** Playwright.

WIN-OR-LOSE SAM 12 + actors (any gender). 1 act. The barnyard animals eat, sleep, and breathe the game of melonball! Piglet Sam loves the game, but goat Bobbie never chooses Sam to play. Undaunted, Sam remains a devoted fan – and never fails to record team statistics. The day comes when the team is invited to compete in the prestigious Fruit Bowl, provided they can supply their team data. But they've never kept records! Only Sam can save the day, and Sam does just that. **Contact:** Uproar Theatrics

ERICA BERMAN

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FINDER AND THE NORTH STAR, cast of 7 to 20. 80-90 min. When Finder makes a wish on a star, a magical, wondrous, scary, and spectacular adventure is set into motion. A mysterious visitor initiates a journey beneath the earth, above the clouds, and to worlds Finder never knew existed. An uncharted wish forces our hero to forge a new path that ultimately leads to the monster that Finder needs to face in order to make the wish come true. **Contact:** Playwright.

AMIE BROCKWAY

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THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH, 5 m, 5 w, 3 m or w. full-length 1-act or 3 acts, approx. 90 min., Adapted from Charles Dicken's "fairy tale of home in three chirps." Flexible staging. A fanciful celebration of winter and good cheer with such loveable and improbable characters as a musical Kettle, a wise and winning Boxer Dog, Dot and John Peerybingle, and their "very doll of a baby" precariously cared for by nursemaid Tilly Slowboy, a toymaker and his blind daughter, a harsh taskmaster, a beautiful young girl and her peevish mother, a mysterious stranger, and the chirping Cricket itself. **Contact:** Leicester Bay Theatricals

THE HUNDRED ACRE WOOD five actors, non-gender specific, 15-25 minutes. Three immersive and interactive theater experiences for very young audiences (ages 2-6) and their adult friends based on favorite stories from A. A. Milne's *Winnie the Pooh*. Children are greeted by Christopher Robin, Pooh, Owl, Rabbit, Eeyore, and Piglet. They enter the Hundred Acre Wood and are invited to add finishing touches to the set. During the plays they may help get Pooh out of a tight spot, find Eeyore's tail, or celebrate Eeyore's birthday. **Contact:** Playwright.

THE ROAD TO RIVERBANK cast 7 m or f, plus chorus one act, 60 min. Adapted from Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* and *The Reluctant Dragon*. Rat and Mole are walking home to Riverbank on Christmas Eve, when Mole catches a whiff of his former home. In a rush of memories, he determines to find it. Rat, impatient to continue to Riverbank, finally agrees to help, and they find Mole End. Caroling Mice come to call and sing. When invited in, they perform their play, *The Reluctant Dragon*; cookies and cocoa are shared with the audience. **Contact:** Playwright.

ERIC COBLE

ericcoble@att.net, listed on New Play Exchange.

BULLET PROOF BACKPACK - a group of high schoolers deal with the possibility of a school shooting and whether they should take preemptive action. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.

HUNGRY GHOST Three teens face addiction and whether escape is possible. **Contact:** Playwright.

LIVE TO TELL An exploration of how three young women fall into trafficking world and how they escape. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.

TOVIC TOMTE AND THE TROLLS A winter holiday romp about tiny elves adventuring in the world of huge trolls. **Contact:** Playwright.

GREG CUMMINGS

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CHALK ANTIGONE 1m. 4f. 60 min. Set near the Adams Academy for Girls, a run-down private boarding all-girls high school. Adams Academy has recently been purchased by the strict and unyielding Dr. Brewster, an Academy alumna, who has vowed to "clean up" her beloved alma mater at any cost. She has sent her equally strict-minded daughter Karen to the school to act as her surrogate. Initially successful, Karen's hubris is eventually her downfall, resulting in tragedy for herself and her family. **Contact:** Playwright.

GHOST LIGHT VI: THE REAL MEANING OF THEATRE 28 m. 28 f. 60 minutes. Sixteen short plays about high school theatre life. A seemingly unsolvable House Management problem is solved by a Greek foreign exchange student on a catwalk. Two choreographers come to realize that the best dancers for a concert version of *South Pacific* might just be the school's football team. A novice Shakespearean actor uses magic to enact revenge on his elementary school bullies. Plus: thirteen more comedies and dramas for both beginning and advanced acting students. **Contact:** Heuer Publishers.

THE JUST SO STORIES 6-30 m or f. 60 min. An adaptation of these classic tales "How the Rhinoceros Got Its Wrinkly Skin," "How the Kangaroo Got Its Jump," "How the Camel Got Its Hump," "How the Whale Got Its Throat," and "How the Elephant Got its Trunk." For family audiences. Can be performed by elementary, middle, or high school students, or professionals. **Contact:** Drama Notebook

THE LIGHT PRINCESS. 2 m, 2 f, 5 any. 30 min. A play for family audiences based on the George MacDonald fairy tale. Winner of The Jackie White Memorial Playwriting Award. An evil witch, a princess cursed to float, a distraught king and queen, a scared nurse, a snooty philosopher, a dashing but self-centered prince, and an exuberant narrator? What more could you want? World Premiere: Otherworld Theatre, Chicago. **Contact:** Playwright.

RAMÓN ESQUIVEL

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DULCE cast of 4 (3w, 1m). 40 min. Winner of the Distinguished Play Award, 10-year-old Memo learns that Abuelita, his beloved grandmother, has died. To remember her, Memo tries to find the stash of candy she kept hidden her room. With his mother and sister unable to help, Memo turns to an expected ally—Abuelita herself! Journeying through Abuelita's memories as a girl in Mexico and a young immigrant in the United States, Memo discovers the true treasure that Abuelita left for him. **Contact:** Dramatic Publishing.

THE GIRL WHO TALKS TO SPIDERS cast of 3 (2w, 1m). 15 min. When Nikki and Ulises invite their school classmate, Ana, to be a guest on their podcast, they aren't ready for the extraordinary secret that she shares with them. Ana has been tormented by spiders appearing during moments of distress, and she hopes today will be the day they stop showing up—for good. But when Nikki and Ulises question Ana's honesty, they unleash an avalanche of arachnids. Can Ana control her power before it's too late? **Contact:** YouthPLAYS.

WATCHING FOR SASQUATCH: AN ENVIRONMENTAL PLAY OF PLAYS. cast 6-16, all gender flexible. 75 min. A play comprised of short plays about encounters with the legendary sasquatch. A teen and auntie go birdwatching. Bigfoot hunters lament low attendance on their annual campout. Kids tell spooky stories in a tent. Fur trappers have an epiphany. A lechuza and a chupacabra gossip on a beach. Banana slugs slowly chase the thrill of a lifetime. The moon prepares tree saplings to meet their protector. Their stories reflect their relationships with the natural world. **Contact:** Playwright.

ZEQ Cast of 5 (2w, 3m, nonbinary casting encouraged). 2 hours. A play with music for and about queer youth. ZEQ is annoyed to be spending their 17th birthday working at a burger joint in a rural town. Then a bus carrying a school choir pulls up, and ZEQ spots dreamy Danilo. ZEQ and Danilo share dreams of pop stardom, both certain that fame, fortune, and love are within reach. But ZEQ doesn't sing or dance well. Like, at all. What happens when dreams meet reality? **Contact:** Playwright.

EMILY FREEMAN

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AND THEN CAME TANGO 3 f, 5 m, 2-8 m or f. Inspired by the true story of Roy and Silo, two male penguins at the Central Park Zoo who formed a pair bond, built a nest, and incubated a rock. When given an orphaned egg, the pair successfully raised a baby fledgling. The play takes audiences to the penguin exhibit where Lily, a young visitor, learns the consequences of doing what she believes is right when faced with a public outcry about Roy and Silo's bond. **Contact:** Playwright.

ANDREW GEHA

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WE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO BE SCARED Musical. 11-22+ females, 8-17+ males (19-39+ performers possible) 75-85 min.. In 1937, Inge started her diary. In 1938, the Nazis invaded her country. Based on her diary, *We Didn't Have Time to Be Scared* is the true story of Inge and her sister Lucy, who together embarked on an extraordinary odyssey from Nazi-occupied Austria, through England, Trinidad and finally to America, all the while searching for a new place to call home. An uplifting musical journey about the bonds of family and the power of hope. **Contact:** YouthPLAYS.

THE RIGHT NOW Science Fiction Drama, 10 f, 6 m, 3 any gender. 90 min. It's senior year, and Saicha and Asher are in love. But Asher hasn't told Saicha that his father is moving the family to Germany. When Saicha finds out, she confronts him. But Asher has a plan. He's not leaving. And he and Saicha will get to stay together forever. A dramatic play for high school students with a science fiction twist, originally presented. **Contact:** Gitelman & Good.

MONSTERS! Comedy,. 45 Characters: 26 f, 9 m, 10 characters of flexible gender. 65-75 min. Something spooky is going on at James T. Whale Middle School. A "typical" day turns strange as "typical" students turn into...something else?! Some sprout fangs! Others grow fur!! There's a mad scientist in the basement!! And has anyone seen Suzy? *Monsters!* is a comedy about how we treat one another during times of constant change. Winner of the 2025 Playwrights in our Schools Award from the American Alliance for Theatre and Education. **Contact:** Playwright

BRIAN GUEHRING

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ALICE'S ADVENTURES IN WONDERLAND for cast of 30+ actors, min 15 performers. 1 act/10 locations. 60 min & 20 min versions available. This new adaptation of Alice in Wonderland was written for a large youth cast emphasizing group scenes, giving each character at least two main scenes, and splitting the Alice role for different actresses by having Alice change size throughout the play. **Contact:** TinyScripted.com.

PIRATES OF NEVERLAND for 14-20 + actors. 1 act/5 locations. 60 min. Captain Hook and his pirates discover an uncharted island, the perfect hideout for their stolen treasure. However, the island is filled with mischievous fairies, giant animals, haunting ghosts, and a ragtag group of children who won't grow up. When the pirates discover they can't leave, they realize these children and their imagination are the key to the magic of the island. Can they trick, coerce, or force these lost boys to let them escape Neverland? **Contact:** Playwright.

SECRET KINDNESS AGENTS for cast of 10-15 performers. 60 min. Secret Agents Chameleon, Glitter Waffles, Stinger and Ringleader are challenged with spy missions to make their gloomy elementary school a kinder place for all. Will they be discovered? Will their excessive use of glitter attract the ire of the janitor? Does a green wig count as camouflage? Join us for exciting and inspiring spy-tastic school adventures. Inspired by Dr. Ferial Pearson's Secret Kindness Agent movement. **Contact:** Playwright.

CLAUDIA HAAS

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A DAY OF DREAMING Comedy, 4-8 f, 4-7 m, 2 any gender (17 performers possible; teen cast). 60-70 min. Nestled in a covered bridge in Madison County, there is a journal where visitors are encouraged to write down their dreams and wishes. This episodic play is based on those journals - there are new connections, good-byes and even a leprechaun. **Contact:** Eldridge Publishing

NOT IN OUR TOWN, Drama, Flexible teen cast of 11, extras possible, 45 min. True story of a brick thrown through into five-year-old's window because he had a Star of David decal on it. The town of Billings, Montana bands together to combat hate. Set during the holiday season, the play embodies the good wishes of the holiday season. **Contact:** Pioneer Drama Service

REMEMBERING MARGOT Drama, 11 f, 3 m, 1 any gender (15 performers; with doubling 8 performers). 80 min. 1-act version available. In *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Margot is little more than the "good little girl" background figure. New information shows a spirited young, athletic woman who had grand plans for her life and yes, like Anne, had a boyfriend. What is not well-known is that in Auschwitz, Margot was given a choice that would likely have saved her life. The play is a finalist with Thinktank TYA and will be developed by them. **Contact:** Playwright

YOURS UNTIL NIAGARA FALLS Serio-comic, 2 f characters (2-10 f performers possible). 80-90 min; 1-act version available. Lina and Izzy are best friends. They differ in all ways – background, faith, and their aspirations - but somehow fulfill a gap in each other's life. They're always there for each other, until one day – they aren't. Lina and Izzy must figure out what to take from the friendship and what is left behind even if it's painful. The story spans 49 years and unfolds through school notes, letters and later emails. **Contact:** Playwright

JEFF JENKINS

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KAYKO'S GARDEN 2m, 2f, plus ensemble. 60 min. *Kayko's Garden* takes us on a journey with Calum Murphy, a hearing-impaired boy. Struggling with acceptance at school and taunted by a bully, Calum destroys the garden of outsider Kayko Yoshida in a fit of anger. Tasked to restore the "place of peace," the Garden reveals its magic. Callum is challenged to see himself differently. Will he accept the challenge or return to his former path? **Contact:** Plays For New Audiences.

THE DAY STARBUCKS STOOD STILL 7 roles plus extras, one act. 40 min. Two adolescent extraterrestrial visitors sent to Earth become the heralds of upheaval when they pick a local Starbucks to deliver an important message. **Contact:** Plays For New Audiences.

SCOUTS HONOR 6 roles. Full-length. 60 min. In school, we are taught to accept history as truth. What if you discovered something about history that isn't exactly the truth? Interpreting symbols carved on an old rock leads Scout to uncover a mystery. She and her friends are challenged to keep what they find a secret. What they learn about themselves may send the truth flying apart. **Contact:** Playwright.

TIMMON AND THE MAGIC SHOES Full-length small cast (5 roles), Full-length large cast (5 roles, w/2-15 extras) 60 min. Timmon, a hungry young giraffe with a penchant for trouble, wanders far from home in search of breakfast. Dangers lurk around every corner on the African Savannah as dogs and lions are out hunting. While in search of food, Timmon meets a grasshopper who can't jump, and a dog who is vision-impaired. Will these acquaintances band together, or will they let their differences continue to keep them apart? **Contact:** Playwright

BARRY KORNHAUSER

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HONEY AND STING Cast of 9: 2 m, 3 f, 4 any gender. 45-50 min. The near future. Teenage Melissa is one of the "GenElect," a class of people who freely manipulate their genes to acquire preferred traits. Lee is in love with her despite being morally opposed to any genetic engineering. As these 'gene-crossed' lovers' story unfolds, their beliefs are challenged by a tragic event that raises compelling ethical issues for both – and the audience. Interactive comic sequences featuring four clones/clowns convey the science needed to frame the debate.

Contact: Plays For New Audiences.

NUTCRACKER: A PLAY (Not a Ballet) Cast of 13: 2 adult f, 3 adult m, 7 young people of varied gender, 45-50 min. This dramatic adaptation is a return to the mad spirit of the original E.T.A. Hoffman's novella "*The Nutcracker and the Mouse King*," including the critical '*Story of the Hard Nut*' which makes sense of everything else. At the play's center is a coming-of-age story in which young Marie learns that "the most magical things of every kind are to be seen by those who have the eyes to see them." Musical & non-musical versions available. **Contact:** Playwright.

POWER PLAY Cast of 3 - m or f; plus 1 m video character. 45 minutes. When an unexpected power surge causes a school science movie to go bonkers, it's up to three bumbling electricians – and the audience – to save the universe! A *shockingly* quirky theatrical adventure with interactive video projection and outrageous audience participation, reminding kids that inside each of us – no matter our size or status - can be found the most consequential kinds of power – kindness, imagination, connection, positive perspective, belief in self. Featured at New Visions/New Voices. **Contact:** Playwright.

THUNDER & POTATOES Cast of 4: 2 f, 1 m, 1 musician of any gender. 45 minutes. Here's a rip-roaring, fun-filled, highly interactive celebration of American folklore, where audience members share the stage - swapping stories, singing songs, boasting bodaciously, jamming in a jug band, partaking in a non-pie pie-eating contest, and a whole lot more. With live music, jokes, jests, a barrel-full of ballyhoo, and just a touch of thought-provoking moments, this playful show keeps the heart and humor of Americana vitally alive. Featured at the Smithsonian Institution's Discovery Theatre. **Contact:** Plays For New Audiences.

JANINE KNIGHTON

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THE GREAT HIGH SCHOOL BAKE-OFF Cast 10-14, any mix of gender possible. 25-30 min. When the high school gets a chance to try out for a beloved baking show, everyone is excited to film their audition. But when the camera goes missing, questions arise over who is ready to compete – and who might be driven to sabotage. **Contact:** Playwright.

THE LOST GIRLS Cast 15+ (13+ f, 2m) 90-100 min. When fourteen-year-old Perdy leaves home, she never could've anticipated being forced aboard a flying pirate ship on a course to the second star to the right and straight on to morning. But when she lands in a fairy-run Neverland with a group of orphans known as the Lost Girls, the girls must work together to figure out how to get home – and who they're meant to be. (Finalist, 2024 Lanford Wilson New American Play Festival). **Contact:** Playwright.

SCAREDY KAT PRESENTS Cast 3-4 f. 55-60 min. Eleven-year-old Kathryn is paralyzed by social anxiety and spends all her time in her basement pursuing two passions: Alfred Hitchcock and stop-motion animation. When her attempts to win a film contest fall apart, Kathryn is sent a possible gift with the arrival of the new neighbor girl. Nadia's keen interest in art could be the secret to Kathryn's success. Kathryn must learn how to share her dream – and potentially make a friend along the way. **Contact:** YouthPLAYS.

JOANNA H. KRAUS

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CHAMPION, 1m 6f, may be expanded. 60-70 min. A winner of the 2021 Old Miner Children's Playwriting contest, the play was inspired by the true story of an athlete who was bullied and then achieved international acclaim. Can 12-year-old Robin do something amazing and make her family proud? When she joins a water-polo club, she's unprepared for the hostility she encounters. But with determination plus rigorous training, she becomes a skilled goalie, confronts a vicious teammate, and finds friendship and ultimately self-acceptance. **Contact:** Playwright

ME 2 2 m, 3 f, area staging. Approx. 45 min. When 8th graders, Madison and Emily, accidentally meet, they discover they're identical twins, separated at birth. But there's one major difference: Emily is an honors math student. Madison, barely passing, pressures Emily to take the math segment of a placement test. Storming out, Emily calls it cheating; Madison calls Emily "selfish." At the last minute Madison, realizes she was wrong and the twins reconcile. Staged reading at Utah Valley University, UVU tour Spring 2017. **Contact:** Leicester Bay Theatricals.

TAMALES AND ROSES, 3 women, 2 men, one narrator/musician gender neutral. 35 min. *Tamales and Roses* is a one-act bilingual play for young audiences (K-3) based on my picture book. When Ana-Luisa thinks she has ruined her sister's wedding day for failing to lead the procession down the aisle as the flower girl, she is devastated and convinced that no one will ever speak to her again. But to her surprise and joy, she discovers that her sister is not angry and that her Latino family's love is constant. The short multi-cultural play is well suited to touring and ideal for student competitions and festivals. **Contact:** Leicester Bay Theatricals.

J. D. NEWMAN

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THE TEMPEST 21 roles, gender flexible, 65 min. Twenty secondary school students gather in the school library for a summer school class to earn their English credit they failed to earn because they refused to study *Romeo and Juliet*. An eccentric new teacher, Ms. Bard, convinces the students to enact a different Shakespeare play: *The Tempest*. Ms. Bard sets the play in a sci-fi setting and breaks several of the larger roles into pairs. The cast can be rehearsed in four sub-casts simultaneously. **Contact:** Playwright

MARGARET O'DONNELL

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THE DETENTION LOTTERY 14-16 characters, 5m, 2m, 7-9e. 55 min. *The Detention Lottery* brings the audience inside a US immigration detention center courtroom for one hour, to observe why immigration courts have been called, by one immigration judge – life and death decisions in a traffic court setting. Eight people are detained at the play's start, and defend themselves against deportation as best they can in court, without preparation. 2021 John Cauble One-Act Play Selection, Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region IV. **Contact:** Playwright.

LIVVY AND THE FOREST CREATURES 1f 1m 4 any gender. 60 min. A housing corporation is getting ready to clear-cut the old-growth forest next to Livvy's house for a new luxury development, and some forest beings and their city-slicker allies seem to think Livvy can do something about it. She's heart-broken about her beloved forest, but her dad is working for the corporation! Should she be loyal to the forest, or to her dad? **Contact:** Playwright

MATT OMASTA

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GATHERING BLUE, 2 acts, 5 m, 5 f, 2+ ensemble (m/f). Adapted from Lois Lowry's companion novel to *The Giver*. In a world where humanity has established a repressive authoritarian regime not through politicized suspension of civil rights and diminished human experience, but through overt and brutal tribalism, three young artists discover the true nature of their society and their own mysterious abilities to shape the future. **Contact:** Playwright

J.S. PULLER

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THE COSPLAYERS 4-5 f, 2-5m. 90 min. Cosplay is supposed to be fun for everyone, but when Daphne's best friend is told to "stick to her own kind," cosplaying a White character as a Black girl, Daphne finds herself spiraling down a road of questions she's never asked before. In particular: What's her responsibility as an ally, as a Jew, and as a friend? **Contact:** Playwright

DRAGON'S BIRTHDAY WISH Cast 6-7 (gender doesn't matter) 45-60 min. It's Dragon's birthday and all she wants is to blow out the candles on her cake. One problem: Dragons breathe fire. So it's up to all of Dragon's friends to help her find a way to make her birthday dreams come true. **Contact:** Plays for New Audiences.

EMILY: THE BRAVE. 3f, 1m, 3u. 75 min. Emily and her family have had a rough year, with COVID shrinking their world. Now, it's time to start going back to school, but Emily finds herself paralyzed by fear. After sheltering in place, the idea of returning to the outside world terrifies her. Emily doesn't have the words to understand her fear, but it's possible that her online RPG persona, a brave warrior called Esme, might help her find her courage. **Contact:** Playwright.

SNAKES: THE TRUE HISS-TORY OF MEDUSA Cast 11+, 60-75 min. Greek mythology and pop culture have both painted a certain picture of Medusa, the feared Gorgon with snakes for hair, who could turn men to stone with just a look. Ask the snakes in her hair, though, and they'll be the first to tell you that most people get the story wrong. And it's their task to present the true hiss-tory of mythology's supposed baddie. **Contact:** Plays for New Audiences.

JEFF SACHS

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BOOKWORMS Cast 2-4 any genders. 45 min. A Storyteller has come to the library storytime, but as they share their familiar tales they find that the books have been changed. The Storyteller blames the Bookworms for the chaos. But the Bookworms have actually come to ask for help. They bring the Storyteller and the Audience to Beyond the Bookshelves, where stories come from. The audience restores the stories and sees them come to life in the form of a giant Bookdragon. **Contact:** Playwright.

SCOTT SAVAGE

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THE QUEEN AND THE MAGICIAN. 2m/2f + ensemble of 4-12. 50 min. When a tyrannical queen hears a rumor that a local magician is more powerful (and, worse, more beloved!) than she is, the queen devises a plot to destroy the magician. Through the magician's wisdom and kindness, the queen learns empathy and listening skills that transform her and her domain. **Contact:** Playwright

ROXANNE SCHROEDER-ARCE

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DREAM SHADOWS 3 m, 3 f, flexible, based on a short story by Australian writer Finegan Kruckemeyer. 40 min. A Mexican-American boy and a Native American boy share dreams and finally meet at Window Rock, on the Navajo reservation. Dream Shadows includes English, Spanish, and Nahuatl. The playwright has written this as a parallel play with Finegan, whose play Shadow Dreams follows the same story line with an Aboriginal boy and an Anglo-Australian boy who meet at Uluru, a sacred indigenous ground in Australia. **Contact:** Playwright.

FREE TO FLY Ensemble flexible in size and gender, min. 2m 3f. Collaboratively-written script developed at Bowling Green High School with drama students Rachel Amburgey, DayZ Boyer, Ethan Brown, Drew Kelly, Jessica Beckford, Kat Knoell, Megan Fisher, Fran Flores, Kat Griffith, Sophi Hachtel, Kamdyn Hall, Elaine Hudson, Luke Kobylski, Mira Kokomoor, Thomas Long, Nathan Maynard, Yarin Mercer, Damian Miller, Iamys O'Laughlin, Katie Partlow, Charlotte Perez, Riley Rader, Cody Ray, Alexis Reinbolt, Saskia Shi, Terra Sloane, Dylan Thomason, Anne Weaver, Megan Worthy, and theatre teacher Jo Beth Gonzalez. **Contact:** Playwright

HESTIA SEPTEMBER

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THE TALE OF MISS BEATRIX POTTER Book & lyrics by Thera Langham Knapp, music by Hestia September. 8 roles with dual casting or 28+ with ensemble. 30 min. Discover the story of a tenacious woman who wouldn't take "No" for an answer and gave the world the most delightful characters in all of children's literature. Throughout this musical we travel between Beatrix Potter's reality and the fantasy world she created. Along the way we meet her closest friends, loveable woodland critters, the curmudgeonly Farmer McGregor and, finally, the publishers who foolishly rejected her first book. Winner of Dandylyon Drama's 2020 New Work Residency. **Contact:** Playwright.

MATTHEW SHERIDAN

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NIGHTMARE, 2 actors, gender flexible, 10 min. Asleep in his/her/their newly finished private bedroom, teen Jamie is led by a shapeshifting monster through an episodic nightmare in this short comedy. **Contact:** Playwright

THE SILVER BELLS, 11 char.; musical version min. 7 actors w/ doubling, musical version expandable w/ chorus; non-musical min. 6 actors, gender flexible. Musical version 90 min, non-musical version 45 min. On the day before her coronation, protected only by her mysterious silver bell. Princess Mirabella finds herself lost in the vast, shadowy pine forest of Silver Isles, a place where animals and spirits and secrets lurk. Who to trust? Where to turn? Nothing is black and white in this timeless show about searching for home. Song demo available. **Contact:** Playwright

GARY SOTO

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THE AFTERLIFE, A PLAY IN ONE ACT 8-11 actors. 75 min. *The Afterlife* tells the story of two teenagers—Chuy, a knifing victim, and Crystal, a suicide. They fall in love in a realm between the living and dead, where they witness Chuy's mother's plan for revenge. Through the power of love, Chuy convinces his mother to stop the cycle of violence. Mixing humor and pathos, the production creates an opening for discussion around the sanctity of life. The play is written, in part, in Spanglish. **Contact:** Playwright.

COLETTE SYLVESTRI

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THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES, 2 f, 4 m, extras possible. Written for young adults and presented at the Youth Pavilion in Central PA (Festival). The story of the Emperor's New clothes placed in the 1700s. **Contact:** Playwright.

ZELDA, Musical, 10 f, 10 m. Zelda Sayre was the original American Flapper. Her light was bright but short, and she's remembered not for her brilliance, but for being F. Scott Fitzgerald's crazy wife. This musical is a 'tour' of their relationship from their meeting in Alabama, to their friendship with Hemingway in Europe, to Zelda's eventual 'breakdown.' The story of F. Scott and his wonderful muse, Zelda, is a true American love story. Recommended for schools studying *The Great Gatsby*. **Contact:** Playwright.

TRACY WELLS

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AESOP LIVE! 10-50+ players, flexible, 30-40 min. Aesop's fables have never been told like this! Join two narrators as they take the audience on a wild ride through some of the greatest stories in ancient history! Fast paced fables like "The Tortoise and the Hare" and "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" get foibled as the narrators try and keep the show from running off the rails 'cause in *Aesop Live!* there's nothing slow and steady about these fables! **Contact:** Playwright

ANGELS OF BATAAN 8+ f, 4+ m, 4+ any. 40 min. one act & 90 min full-length available. It's 1941 on the tropical island of Luzon. Helen and her sister, Sally, are among more than one hundred US Army nurses who have come to the island looking for a little adventure. But paradise becomes a nightmare when enemy bombers target their island. Now, Helen, Sally, and the other nurses must keep themselves and their charges alive as they navigate nursing through a war zone, a tropical jungle, and as prisoners of war. **Contact:** Playscripts

ROTTEN APPLES 9w 1m 8 any. 60-75 min. A group of fairytale villains and some familiar faces with dubious morals are locked in a castle on a dark and stormy night. Their only means of escape is helping Prince Charming figure out the name of a mischievous imp. When the storm knocks out the power, some of the guests get knocked out, too. A parade of surprise guests complicates their efforts as even more characters become victims to the unknown assailant? **Contact:** Playscripts

TOTALLY MURDER! 5f, 2f, 16+ any, 90 min. It's the 1980s, and the food court at the Valley View Mall is bustling with all the usual suspects...the rich kids, the valley girl, the aerobics instructor, the punk rocker, the Madonna wanna-be and more. But when the automatic doors to the food court stop working and the owner of the new pizza restaurant falls down dead, things get totally heinous! Now it's up to the mall security guard to find the killer! **Contact:** Playwright