Department of Theatre and Dance

2020 FALL PERFORMANCES

UNRULY WOMEN AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS* The Fight for the Vote!

Directed by Laurie Schmeling and Sarah E. Ross

October 9-23, 2020

Virtual Opening Night Pre-Show Chat October 9 at 7 p.m. (central) via Zoom

October 30 -November 13, 2020

IN THIS MOMENT* Reflections of Our Time

Facilitated by Mark Hanson, Tyler Marchant, and Sarah Wussow

Virtual Opening Night Pre-Show Chat October 30 at 7 p.m. (central) via Zoom

afterimages 2020*

Student directed by Karlee Weiler, Alex Trofka and Alissa Krueger

November 20-December 4, 2020

Virtual Opening Night Pre-Show Chat November 20 at 7 p.m. (central) via Zoom



Welcome to the Department of Theatre & Dance 2020-2021 Season!

The UWSP Department of Theatre & Dance is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre and the National Association of Schools of Dance.

Theatre & Dance Department productions are partially funded by the Student Government Association.

2020-2021 Theatre & Dance Facuty and Staff

Amy Beversdorf

Associate Lecturer, Dance

Sarah Olson

Assistant Professor, Dance

Lisa Baxter

Academic Department Associate

Gary G. Olsen
Professor, Theatre
Theatre Area Coordinator

Michael Estanich

Professor, Dance
Dance Program Coordinator
Theatre and Dance Chair

Sarah E. Ross Assistant Professor, Theatre

Stephen Trovillion Smith

Parke Fech

Lecturer, Theatre

Professor, Theatre

Lisa Golda

Associate Lecturer, Theatre

Laurie Schmeling Lecturer, Theatre BA Drama Program Coordinator

Mark Hanson

Associate Professor, Theatre BFA Musical Theatre Coordinator Kristina Sneshkoff

Assistant Professor, Theatre BFA Design and Technology Program Coordinator

Jeannie Hill

Professor, Dance

Sarah Wussow Lecturer. Musical Theatre

Pamela Luedtke

Associate Lecturer, Dance

John Strassburg

Dance Program Accompanist Senior Instructional Specialist

Tyler Marchant

Professor, Theatre BFA Acting Coordinator Ann Warren Technical Director

Jim O'Connell

Associate Professor, Arts Management Arts Management Coordinator



Director's Note

"The way we frame suffrage needs attention. It is thought to be kind of dowdy and dour, whereas in fact it is exciting and radical. A fresh way to think of it would be this: women staged one of the longest social reform movements in the history of the United States. This is not a boring history of nagging spinsters; it is a badass history of revolution staged by political geniuses." — Kate Clarke Lemay, in Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence.

On June 10, 1919, the Wisconsin and Illinois state legislatures passed the 19th Amendment, the first states to do so after its ratification by Congress. And even though Illinois passed the amendment one hour earlier than the Badger state, Wisconsin is officially recognized as the first state to ratify, thanks to the foresight of suffragist Ada James and a paperwork error by the Illinois delegation. James commissioned her father, a former state senator and supporter of woman suffrage, to depart immediately by car and train to deliver the ratification papers to the Department of State. Illinois, meanwhile, learned the value of careful proofreading.

It would take an additional fourteen months and passage by thirty-five more states for the amendment to become part of the Constitution. That happened on August 18, 1920, when Tennessee became the 36th state to affirm that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

This victory was the result of personal and collective perseverance, plus strategic activism which began long before Seneca Falls, before there was a U.S. Constitution to amend or even a United States of America. The victory was also incomplete. While the 19th Amendment guaranteed universal suffrage to all women in principle, in practice it applied primarily to white women. Women of color faced further battles to secure their Constitutional rights. In 1920, Native American women were not yet recognized as U.S. citizens. The Chinese Exclusion Act effectively barred women of Asian descent from becoming citizens. Jim Crow laws and institutional segregation made it not just difficult, but dangerous for many Black women to exercise their right to vote. It took the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to officially ban racial discrimination in federal elections. And it may well take another Constitutional amendment to finally guarantee every American citizen the right to vote in every election on the state and federal level.

Director's Note, Cont.

Unruly Women & Unfinished Business: The Fight for the Vote! is not a history pageant. It celebrates the work of the suffragists and reflects on the work still to be done. It is the collective work of engaged individuals, devised primarily by our student artists. It reminds us that representative democracy is both an individual and a collective endeavor. The passage of the 19th Amendment was a monumental achievement, but democracy is always a work in progress, with unfinished business to attend to.

Our job this November? Vote!

Author: Laurie Schmeling

Dramaturgs' Note

"Women belong in all places where decisions are being made.

It shouldn't be that women are the exception."

Ruth Bader Ginsburg, United States Supreme Court Justice (1933-2020)

Devised theatre is a collaborative creation. Everyone involved gets a chance to be a part of the creative process that shapes the production. The fight for suffrage was and continues to be a collaborative creation. The goals and achievements of the first suffragists have been passed down through generations of activists and organizers and continue to evolve today. And just like those suffragists, we believe in the work we need to do to devise a better future.

The fall season was announced late February with the promise of a show directed and devised by women to tell the story of women's suffrage. Shortly after, naively unaware of what the coronavirus held in store, we were assembled as a team of student dramaturgs. and assigned spring break reading by Laurie. The dramaturg team met bi-weekly from March until July, when we started meeting weekly until the show's rehearsal process began. To structure our research, we were divided by topics of interest, reporting back our findings and inspirations at the regular Zoom call. Once our collective minds had accumulated a plethora of information, we ventured into the brave, vulnerable world of creating characters, fostering voices, and creating conversations for the women (fictitious and factual) who inspired us. We discovered that writing is a living, personal thing. Life continued to unravel around us and inevitably shaped and influenced our work. Voter suppression in the April primary elections in April, police brutality sparking national and international marches and protests, forest fires in California, the death of a national leader and supreme court justice, all during the greatest pandemic of our lifetime.

Working on this piece became especially pertinent given the timing of it all. We are a part of a large demographic that could have a significant amount of power when it comes to voting. However, historically, our voter turnout has been the lowest. Telling this story of the tireless fight for the ability to vote has inspired each of us to ensure that our right is exercised.

Confirm You're Registered to Vote (usa.gov)

Dramaturgs' Note, Cont.

When people think of suffrage, many think of the passage of the 19th Amendment, which says the right of U.S. citizens to vote shall not be denied because of sex. Many, too, will recognize the name of Susan B. Anthony, one of the most popular figures of the suffrage movement. While digging into this project, however, it became apparent that there were multiple other figures and organizations vital to suffrage. The National Woman Suffrage Association, the National Association for Colored Women, and the National Woman's Party were the leading suffrage groups at the time. History tends to focus on white women, but BIPOC women were active suffragists. Along with Susan B. Anthony. Carrie Chapman Catt, and Alice Paul, women of color such as Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Mary Church Terrell, and Jovita Idar were vital suffrage leaders. Although Black women were active in the suffrage movement leading up to the ratification of the 19th Amendment, this did not guarantee the vote for Black women. It was not until 1965 with the passage of the Voting Rights Act under President Lyndon B. Johnson that universal suffrage was truly achieved.

While women have successfully earned the right to vote in this country, our fight for societal equality is far from over; hence, we have unfinished business. Seeking full-scale, equal opportunity as women and yearning to obtain justice when faced with discrimination or violence is a consistent battle we face, even in what is deemed a progressive, modern society. Regardless of oppressive systems, women must continue to do the work. We must continue to fight to dismantle patriarchal systems that disenfranchise women and minority groups and practice intersectional feminism to establish complete equality between people. This is our "Unfinished Business."

"Woman's cause is one and universal."

Anna Julia Cooper, African American Suffragist (1858-1964)

Make your voice heard. Please request an absentee ballot,

The *Unruly* Dramaturg Team: Lily Brenner, Josephine Van Ert, Noelle Watson, Dani Wyatt, Theresa Yonash

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Department of Theatre & Dance

Presents

Unruly Women and Unfinished Business: The Fight for the Vote!

A Devised Piece by

Unruly Women and Unfinished Business: The Fight for the Vote!

Company

Directors

Laurie Schmeling*, Sarah E. Ross*

Stage Manager Renee Wagner

Costume Designer Emmaline Fitzgerald

Sound Designer Ty Smukowski

Dialect Coach Parke Fech*

Videographers Mark Dulac, Mary Gawronski, Sofie Koska, Noelle Watson Assistant Stage Manager Bryn Aelich

> Scenic Designer Verity Neely

Lighting Designer Mark Dulac

Vocal Director Sarah Wussow*

Dramaturgs/Writers
Lily Brenner, Josephine Van
Ert, Noelle Watson, Danielle
Wyatt, Theresa Yonash,
Kaia Fizgerald, Ciara Hart,
Stephanie Lowry-Ortega

Technical Director

Ann Warren*

*Faculty/Staff

The videotaping or electronic or other audio and/or visual recordings of this production or distributing recordings on any medium, including the internet, is strictly prohibited.

Unruly Women and Unfinished Business: The Fight for the Vote!

Cast in Order of First Appearance

Sojourner Truth/Kyra/Mary McLeod Bethune	Ciara Hart			
Denise Nowak	Allison Masulis			
Maggie Nowak	Kathryn Laird			
Susan B. Anthony/Mrs. O'Leary	Sydney Faris			
Anti-Suffragist/Ruth Schmidt	Emily Eidman			
Night of Terror Survivor/News Reporter 2	Monica Kuhn			
Mariah/Mary Church Terrell/Sabrina	Kaia Fitzgerald			
Mrs. Greene/Mrs. Peterson/ Frances E. W. Harper	Lanja Andriamihaja			
Lourdes Diaz/Minnie Johnson/NellStepl				
Antonio/Harry/Ernest/Lester Ramos	Felix Torrez-Ponce			
Mrs. Anderson/Mrs. Brewster	Lily Brenner			
George Peterson/Mr. Brewster/Henry AlderidgeLanden Alft				
Theodora Youmans/Mrs. Mueller	Emily Ruth			
Belle Case La Follette/Alice Anderson/MarjorieGeorgia Mobley				
Eva Gostomska	Grace Pichler			
Ida Johnson	Julia Garcia			
Mrs. Kowalski/Ida B. Wells-Barnett	Nyla Eltahir			
Adella Hunt Logan	Kendra James			
Rosey Montgomery/Ainsley	Abigail Moyers			
Zeb McKinley/Mr. O'Leary	Aaron Deets			
Arthur Sullivan/News Reporter 1	Ian Okamoto			
Philip Kenny/News Reporter 3Jack Rosemurgy Setting				

United States of America
The Performance will run approximately one hour and thirty
minutes.

Unruly Women and Unfinished Business: The Fight for the Vote!

PROLOGUE					
Ain't I a Woman?Sojourner Truth					
MOVEMENT I: AMERICAN FAMILIES & THE VOTE					
The Nowak Family					
Maggie Nowak, Susan B. Anthony, Anti-Suffragist,					
Night of Terror Survivor The Greene FamilyKyra, Mariah,					
Mother					
The Diaz FamilyAntonio, Lourdes					
The Did2 running					
MOVEMENT II: VOTES FOR WISCONSIN WOMEN					
The Parade: Milwaukee, 1916Theodora Youmans,					
Belle Case La Follette					
The Rehearsal/ Pot and KettleMrs. Anderson,					
Mrs.Peterson, Mrs. Mueller, Mrs. Kowalski, Alice Anderson, Ida					
Johnson, Minnie Johnson, Ruth Schmidt, Eva Gostomska, George					
Peterson, Harry Peterson/ Nell, Marjorie, Mr. Brewster, Mrs.					
Brewster, Ernest					
MOVEMENT III: VOTES FOR WOMEN?					
Married-to-a-Suffragist Support GroupHenry Alderidge,					
Arthur Sullivan, Lester Ramos, Philip Kenny, Zeb McKinley,					
Rosey Montgomery					
Mr. & Mrs. O'Leary Speak Their Anti-Suffragist MindsMr. O'Leary,					
Mrs. O'Leary					
MOVEMENT IV: IN ANOTHER HALL					
Lifting as We ClimbMary Church Terrell, Frances E. W. Harper,					
Adella Hunt Logan, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Mary McLeod Bethune					
MOVEMENT V: THE FIGHT CONTINUES					
Funny WomanAinsley, Sabrina					
I Vote BecauseCompany					
Kyra's PoemKyra					
Challenges and Change AheadTheodora Youmans,					
Belle Case La Follette, News Reporter 1,					
News Reporter 2, News Reporter 3					

Production Staff

Prop Shop AssistantsVerity Neely				
Costume Shop Assistants				
Scene Shop Assistants				
Academic Department AssociateLisa Baxter*				
Theatre & Dance Office Student AssistantsKarlee Weiler, Alyssa Puccio, Natalie Schlueter				
Production Mentors				
Lighting and Sound MentorGary G. Olson*				
Scenic, Properties, and Video MentorSarah E. Ross*				
Costume and Makeup MentorKristina Sneshkoff*				
Dramaturg MentorLaurie Schmeling*				

Special Thanks

Special thanks to Jeannie Hill*, Ann Warren* and Michaela Kraft for their contribution to the production.

Additionally, thank you to Anton Anday and Tim Siebert with the Portage County Historical Society for the use of Heritage Park as a filming location.

Meet the Company

- **Aehlich, Bryn** (Assistant Stage Manager) Freshman BA Drama major from Kenosha, WI.
- Alft, Landen (George Peterson/Mr. Brewster/Henry Alderidge) Junior BFA Musical Theatre and BA Music Education major from Wisconsin Rapids, WI.
- Andriamihaja, Lanja (Frances E. W. Harper/Mrs. Peterson/Mother) Senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Richfield, MN. Recipient of the David B. Carter Musical Theatre Scholarship.
- Brenner, Lily, she/her/hers (Mrs. Anderson/Mrs. Brewster; Dramaturg/Writer)
 Senior BFA Acting major and BA Spanish major from La Crosse, WI.
 Recipient of the Spanish Excellence Scholarship
- **Clark, Bailey** (*Lighting Assistant*) Junior BFA Design and Technology major from Bolingbrook, IL. Recipient of the Midwest Exchange Scholarship.
- **Deets, Aaron** (Mr. O'Leary/Zeb McKinley) Senior BFA Musical Theatre major and Dance minor from Maple Grove, MN. Recipient of the Backstage Scholarship.
- **Dulac, Mark** (Lighting Designer/Sound Mix) Senior BFA Design and Technology major from Eagan, MN.
- **Eidman, Emily,** she/her/hers (Ruth Schmidt/Anti-Suffragist) Senior BFA Acting major from Suisun City, CA.
- **Eltahir, Nyla** (Mrs. Kowalski/Ida B. Wells-Barnett) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Madison, WI.
- **Faris, Sydney** (Susan B. Anthony/Mrs. O'Leary) Senior BFA Acting major from Hartland, WI. Recipient of the Pointer Payback and Pointer Partnership Scholarship, Wisconsin Grant, and the Community Foundation Scholarship.
- Fitzgerald, Emmaline (Costume Designer) Junior BA Drama major and BS Psychology-Human Services major from Wisconsin Rapids, WI.
- Fitzgerald, Kaia, she/her/hers (Sabrina/Mary Church Terrell/Mariah; Writer)
 Freshman BFA Musical Theatre major from Roseville-St. Paul, MN.
- **Garcia, Julia** (*Ida Johnson*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre major and Dance minor from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Recipient of the UWSP Office of International Education Scholarship and Nigbor Family First Nighters Scholarship.
- Hart, Ciara (Sojourner Truth/Kyra/Mary McLeod Bethune; Writer) Junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Madison, WI.

Meet the Company

- James, Kendra (Adella Hunt Logan) Junior BFA Acting major from Madison, WI. Recipient of the Pointer Payback Scholarship.
- **Koska, Sophie** (*Videographer*) Sophomore BFA Design and Technology major from New Hope, MN.
- **Kuhn, Monica** (N.O.T. Survivor/News Reporter 2) Freshman Undeclared major and Psychology minor from Mayville, WI. Recipient of the President Gold Scholarship.
- **Laird, Kathryn,** she/her/hers (*Maggie Nowak*) Sophomore BFA Acting major and Dance minor from Glen Ellyn, IL.
- **Lowry-Ortega, Stephanie,** she/her/they/them (*Minnie Johnson/Nell/Lourdes;* Writer) Sophomore BFA Acting major from Stevens Point, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts in Acting Scholarship.
- **Masulis, Allison,** she/her/hers (*Denise Nowak*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major and Psychology minor from St. Charles, IL.
- Mobley, Georgia (Alice Anderson/Marjorie/Belle Case La Follette) Sophomore BFA Acting major from Greenleaf, WI. Recipient of the Theatre Arts Scholarship in Acting.
- Moyers, Abigail (Ainsley/Rosey Montgomery) Junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Plainfield, IN.
- **Neely, Verity** (Scenic Designer) Senior BFA Design and Technology major and History minor.
- **Okamoto, Ian,** he/him/his (News Reporter 1/Arthur Sullivan) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Hayward, WI.
- **Pichler, Grace** (Eva Gostomska) Junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Mondovi, WI.
- **Rosemurgy, Jack** (News Reporter 3/Philip Kenny) Sophomore BFA Acting major from Wausau, WI.
- Ruth, Emily (Mrs. Mueller/Theodora Youmans) Freshman BFA Acting major and Music minor from Eleva, WI.
- **Smoot, Brenda** (Assistant Scenic Designer) Junior BFA Design and Technology major from Waukesha, WI. Recipient of the Pointer Payback Scholarship.
- **Smukowski, Ty** (Sound Designer) Senior BA Drama major, BA Arts Management major and Music minor from Green Bay, WI.
- **Torrez-Ponce, Felix,** he/him/his (Harry/Ernest/Antonio/Lester Ramos) Junior BFA Acting major from Green Bay, WI.

Meet the Company

- Van Ert, Josephine (*Dramaturg/Writer*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre from Rochester, MN.
- Wagner, Renee (Stage Manager) Junior BFA Design and Technology major and Arts Management minor from Slinger, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schirerl Fine Arts Award in Design Technology.
- Watson, Noelle (Dramaturg/Writer) Senior BA Drama major, BA Arts Management major and Music minor from Rockford, IL. Recipient of the Ann Schierl Fine Arts Award for Drama.
- **Wyatt, Danielle** (*Dramaturg/Writer*) Senior BA Drama, BA Arts Management and Communications minor from De Pere, WI. Recipient of the Pointer Payback Scholarship and the Nigbor Family First Nighters Scholarship.
- Yonash, Theresa (*Dramaturg/Writer*) Junior BA Drama and Media Film Studies major and French minor from Stevens Point, WI. Recipient of the Funds for Wisconsin Scholars Grant and the Drama Department Scholarship.

CONTRIBUTE TO BACKSTAGE

The Department of Theatre & Dance welcomes financial support for educational and artistic activities through a variety of programs, including existing scholarships and endowments, special projects support, bequests and planned gifts. For more information about contributing to the Department of Theare & Dance, please contact Maggie Marquardt, COFAC Director of Development at mmarquar@uwsp.edu or 715-346-3056. You may also donate online at https://give.uwsp.edu/give-backstage.

Special thanks to our 2020-2021 supporters.

Angel (\$1000+)

Anonymous
Judith Carlson
Susan Gingrasso and Doug Henderson
Jack Hurrish and Joan Karlen
Meryl Lee Nelson
Patty and John Noel
Richard and Carolyn Sommer
Gretel Stock

Producer (\$750+) Valerie Cisler

Artistic Director (\$500+)

Jack and Carole Kirchner
Thomas and Carol McCarrier
Elizabeth and John McDonald
Marvin Van Kekerix and Rebecca Wiegand

Managing Director (\$250+)

Jacob and Kristin Barnes
David and Sharon Bruha
Sue and Jim Buck
Ronald and Katherine Roberts
Scott West

Director (\$100+)

Anonymous
Patti and David Becker
Sara Brinker Kruger and Randall Kruger
Thomas and Barbara Bruning
Kristin Carlson

BACKSTAGE CONTINUED

Brenda and Bruce Carver
Anne Eckenrod and Dave Snyder
Brian and Amy Formella
Gurdon Hamilton
Diane and Ken Hill
Susan Hohn Hill and David Hill
Elizabeth Kammer
Barbara and Gregory Knight
Nancy and James LaMar
Daniel and Patricia Luessenhop
Randy and Sally Olson
David and Roseann Rosin
Arlene and H. Howard Thoyre
Sharon Walters
Jeffery Williams

Stage Manager (\$50+)

Elizabeth and Andrew Felt Marie and Thomas Firkus John Hardy and Sandy Powell Jan Seiler Kimberly and Jason Shields Douglas and Sandra Warner Sharon and Kenneth Williams



The mission of the Theatre and Dance Department is to serve

- Its majors and minors through curricular offerings and performance/production activities that heighten intellectual, artistic, cultural, and humane sensitivities.
- The general student population through curricular offerings and stage productions that engender an appreciation and understanding of the performing arts and their contribution to the cultural and aesthetic enrichment of life.
- The university community and general central Wisconsin population through the production of quality stage performances.

The Department of Theatre and Dance recognizes that we work on the cultural lands originally occupied by the HoChunk and Menominee peoples.



The UW-Stevens Point Theatre and Dance Department's off-campus storage space is funded by the Green Fund. Having this storage space allows us to reuse props and materials; thus, we are able to lessen our environmental impact by decreasing the amount of materials sent to landfills.

The Green Fund's mission is to encourage and fund projects that positively affect the sustainability of the UW-Stevens Point campus community. The fund accomplishes this by investing capital in long-term sustainable projects that affect the way our campus uses energy and our shared natural resources. The Green Fund receives money from student segregated fees that are allocated by a student committee.

While the Department of Theatre & Dance season will look a little different this year, the high-quality, creative, and entertaining experiences you are accustomed to will not! The university has spent the summer months devising safe strategies, recommendations, and plans to welcome students back to campus while also considering ways that UWSP can stay engaged with the community. Throughout this process, the Department of Theatre & Dance has had to pivot in a new direction and reimagine a season that reflects more thoughtfully the changing landscape of our world. The department's faculty and staff are committed to offering a season where our students can share their talents and artistry with audiences. Though our audiences cannot be live this semester due to campus recommendations that prohibit large gatherings, I am thrilled to share that we have a remarkable virtual fall season planned. The projects are timely, personal, and outstanding examples of the creative energy and spirit of our department.

I hope you can join us online for what I am sure will be an exciting and new adventure for everyone!

Michael Estanich, Chair Department of Theatre & Dance

CONTRIBUTE TO BACKSTAGE

Ticket sales are strong, yet cover only a portion of our production costs. Each year we rely on Backstage patrons' support to create exceptional productions and endowments for student scholarships.

In addition, during the 208-2019 season, BACKSTAGE patrons supported:

- BFA Acting and Musical Theatre Senior Showcase travel to New York City
- Students attending the American College Dance Association Conference
- Student scholarships

Thank you to participating businesses for their willingness to match employee contributions. If your employer has a matching gift program, please include their matching gift form with your reply.

Suggested Contribution Levels

Angel	\$ 1000+	Managing Director	\$ 250+
Producer	\$ 750+	Director	\$ 100+
Artistic Director	\$ 500+	Stage Manager	\$ 50+

To contribute, please use the Backstage envelope in your program, or visit

https://give.uwsp.edu/give-backstage

To learn more about additional giving opportunities, contact Maggie Marquardt, COFAC Director of Development, at Maggie.Marquardt@uwsp.edu or 715-346-3056. Your contribution will be acknowledged in each production program, unless you wish to remain anonymous.

tickets.uwsp.edu UWSP BOX OFFICE: 715-346-4100 www.uwsp.edu/theatre-dance