

Welcome to the Department of Theatre & Dance 2023-2024 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.

2023-2024 Theatre & Dance Faculty and Staff

Amy Beversdorf
Associate Lecturer, Dance

Austin Bomkamp
Visiting Lecturer, Theatre

Emily Bustamante
Assistant Professor, Theatre
BFA Design and Technology
Program Coordinator

Dana Dancho
Assistant Professor, Theatre

Michael Estanich
Professor, Dance
Dept. of Theatre and Dance Chair

Sonia Grimsled
Associate Lecturer, Theatre

Mark Hanson
Associate Professor, Theatre
BFA Musical Theatre
Program Coordinator

Jeannie Hill
Professor, Dance

Pamela Luedtke
Associate Lecturer, Dance

Tyler Marchant
Professor, Theatre
BFA Acting Program Coordinator

Jim O'Connell
Associate Professor, Arts Mgmt
Arts Management
Program Coordinator

Sarah Olson
Assistant Professor, Dance

Greg Prigel
Lecturer, Theatre

Sarah E. Ross
Assistant Professor, Theatre

Laurie Schmeling
Lecturer, Theatre
BA Drama Program Coordinator

CeCe Sickler
Costume Shop Manager

Ann Warren
Technical Director

Dani Wyatt
Administrative Assistant II
School of Performing Arts



Indigenous Peoples Land Acknowledgement

The Department of Theatre and Dance would like to recognize that the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point occupies the unceded lands of the Ho Chunk and Menominee people.

Please take a moment to acknowledge and honor the ancestral Ho Chunk and Menominee land, and the sacred lands of all indigenous peoples.

A Note from the Director

Recently I attended a friend's Celebration of Life gathering. The rented room was packed wall to wall. People gathered to grieve our friend who had just passed. Halfway through the event, as I kept listening to each person speaking and singing, I realized how we truly celebrate a life. How do we keep a memory alive? We tell stories. We sing and play music. We read poetry and old letters. With the melody of music and the rhythm of poetry plucking our heart strings we try to lift the memory and spirit of our loved ones so that they will be remembered.

Sarah Ruhl shares that in her play, as it was written and inspired by the attempt to have more conversations with her father, who she lost at 20 to cancer. Ruhl, with ties to Wisconsin as this play was first performed at Madison Repertory Theatre in 2003, blends the classic myth with a new telling focusing on Eurydice. A modern telling of the original Greek myth where Eurydice marries Orpheus, and shortly after their wedding, she steps on a serpent and dies. Orpheus, grief-stricken, ventures to the Underworld to rescue her and using the power of his music, moves Hades to release her. On one condition: as they are leaving, they are not to look back. The next moment in the myth, I believe, is why this story has lasted and there are so many iterations. He looks back, some versions say because he's delighted to see the Sun and wants to share that with her. Some say he doubts Eurydice is still behind him. Either way, the condition is broken, and she is immediately pulled back to the Underworld.

Hadestown, a Tony-award winning musical and one of those now famous iterations, asks, why do we keep wanting to hear and see these classic love stories that end in tragedy. Romeo & Juliet, Orpheus & Eurydice – it answers, because we want them to win. Every time we hope love will win.

Our production, inspired by Ruhl writing Eurydice in movements – a poetic symphony of love, grief, and memory – incorporates and lifts language with instrumental music, and sparks and transports the imagination with Foley work. These actors and instrumentalists have come together, collaborated as a team to create the sounds, music, & story you'll hear. They are all special and incredible artists. I feel honored to have worked with the entire team.

Finally, being such a personal piece, Sarah Ruhl wrote her dedication of this play as "This play is for my father."

This production is for my daughter. Wherever we are, may I always hear the music of your laughter, and be connected to each other when we feel and listen to our heart beat.

Greg Prager
Lecturer, Theatre
Director of *Eurydice*

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

EURYDICE

BY SARAH RUHL

DIRECTED BY GREG PRAGEL✱

This play was originally produced by Madison Repertory Theatre, Madison, Wisconsin.

August 29, 2003. Richard Corley, Artistic Director, Tony Forman, Managing Director.

And subsequently produced by Berkeley Repertory Theatre in 2004.

Tony Taccone, Artistic Director, Susan Medak, Managing Director.

And Yale Repertory Theatre,

James Bundy, Artistic Director, Victoria Nolan, Managing director.

Produced by Second Stage Theatre, New York, 2007

Carole Rothman: Artistic Director

EURYDICE is produced by special arrangement with Bruce Ostler, BRET ADAMS, LTD., 448
West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036

"Eurydice" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of
Samuel French, Inc.

www.concordtheatricals.com

*UWSP Faculty Member

EURYDICE

Cast

Eurydice.....Lenna Magdeline Wren

Understudy.....Sophie Pitsch

Her Father.....Anthony Soto

Understudy.....Mark Radtke

Orpheus.....Bingham Harper

Understudy.....Jordan Linton

A Nasty Interesting Man &

The Lord of the Underwold.....Zach Dolinar

Understudy.....Mark Radtke

A Chorus of Stones

Big Stone.....Mark Radtke

Little Stone.....Evaya Gonzalez

Loud Stone.....Sydney Possinger

All Stones Understudy.....Arista Detter

Instrumentalists

Violin.....Morgan Stock

Clarinet.....Iz Walsh

Flute.....Hannah Holterman

Trombone.....James Shaffer

Guitar.....Levi Ballenger

Bass.....Andrew White

2023-24 Season Production Staff

Costume Design Mentor.....Emily Bustamante*

Costume Shop Assistants.....Sam Baxter, Tierney Detter,
Sarah Dickinson, Cali Grant, Nessa Grant,
Steph Hogan, Sophie Pitsch, Martha Ruona,
Emily Ruth, Kelli Wonsmos

Light/Sound Shop Mentor.....Austin Bomkamp*

Light/Sound Shop Assistants.....Alexia Ulrich, Chou Yang

Scenic/Paint/Props Mentor/Prop Shop Manager.....Sarah E. Ross*

Scene Shop Assistants.....Serena Alexander, Paul Been,
Cali Grant, Mark Radtke, Ike Smith

Paint Shop Manager.....Mic Frommelt

Prop Shop Manager.....Kayla Price

House Manager.....Ellie Paynter

Theatre & Dance Student Office Assistants.....Erin Clementich,
Ryan Niedenthal

****UWSP Faculty/Staff***

Meet the Company

Ballenger, Levi (*Guitar, He/Him*) Senior Contemporary Voice major and Jazz Studies and Art minor from Wausau, WI..

Detter, Arista (*Stones Understudy, She/Her*) Fifth-year Musical Theatre and Dance major from Prairie du Sac, WI. Recipient of the Sentry Scholarship in Theatre & Dance and the Backstage Musical Theatre Scholarship.

Dolinar, Zachary (*A Nasty Interesting Man/The Lord of the Underworld, He/Him*) Senior Acting major from Waukesha, WI. Recipient of the COFAC Dedication to the Field Award and the James Mueller Award.

Gonzalez, Evaya (*Little Stone, She/Her*) Senior Acting major and Arts Management minor from Waukesha, WI. Recipient of the Arts Bash Scholarship, the Stages to Equity Scholarship, and the Lawson Grant.

Harper, Bingham (*Orpheus, He/Him*) First-year Acting major from Green Bay, WI.

Hill, Samantha (*Stage Manager, She/Her*) Fifth-year Drama major from Berlin, WI.

Holterman, Hannah (*Flute, She/Her*) Sophomore Musical Theatre major and Arts Management minor from Waupaca, WI. Recipient of the Theatre & Dance Scholarship, the Elda Bark Walker Scholarship, and the Arts Bash Scholarship.

Linton, Jordan (*Orpheus Understudy, He/Him*) Junior Musical Theatre and Dance major from Daytona Beach, FL. Recipient of the After the Flags Scholarship and the Baruch/Bridgeman Outstanding Player Award.

Pitsch, Sophie (*Eurydice Understudy, She/Her*) Sophomore Musical Theatre major and Dance minor from Madison, WI. Recipient of the Presidential Purple Scholarship and the Arts Bash Scholarship.

Possinger, Sydney (*Loud Stone, She/Her*) Senior Acting major and Arts Management minor from Redmond, Washington. Recipient of the 2022 Baruch Bridgeman Award.

Meet the Company

Radtke, Mark (*Big Stone, A Nasty Interesting Man/The Lord of the Underworld/Her Father Understudy, He/They*) Senior Acting major and Philosophy minor from Wausau, WI

Shaffer, James (*Trombone, He/Him*) First-year Music Education and Performance major.

Soto, Anthony (*Her Father, They/He*) Junior Musical Theatre major and Arts Management minor from Naples, FL. Recipient of the Destination Wisconsin Scholarship and Mary Elizabeth Kellogg Scholarship.

Stock, Morgan (*Violin, She/Her*) Sophomore Acting major from Manitowoc, WI.

Walsh, Iz (*Clarinet, They/Them*) Sophomore Musical Theatre major from Altoona, WI.

White, Andrew (*Bass, He/Him*) First-year Jazz Performance major from Plover, WI.

Wren, Lenna Magdeline (*Eurydice, She/They*) Junior Acting major and Dance and Peace Studies minor from Chicago, IL. Recipient of the COFAC Dedication Scholarship and the Arts Bash Dedication to the Field Award.

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 Theatre & Dance, please contact Jennifer Tubbs, Major Gifts Officer, at jtubbs@uwsp.edu or 715-846-3056. You may also donate online at <https://give.uwsp.edu/give-backstage> or by scanning the QR code found on the bottom of this page.

2023-2024 Backstage Donations

Angel (\$1000+)

Dave & Amy Bakken
Judith S. Carlson
Valerie C. Cisler
Susan H. Gingrasso
Jack J. Hurrish
Liz Kammer
Meryl L. Nelson
Mary Ann Nigbor
Sentry Insurance Foundation, Inc.

Artistic Director (\$500+)

Richard G. Sommer
Marvin J. Van Kekerix

Managing Director (\$250+)

Marilyn S. Buck
David & Sharon Bruha
Cynthia K. Porter
Donna J. Marx
Michael D. Scott

Director (\$100+)

Thomas R. Bruning
Mark Fredrickson
Jim & Madeline Haine
Bruce R. Javenkoski
Cynthia A. Lindau
Craig Niedenthal
Randy W. Olson
Elizabeth C. Parks
Rachel Pretat
Kathleen E. Radcliff
David M. Rosin
Kimberly L. Shields
Stevens Point Noon Lions Club
Ann Stock



Scan now OR [visit this link](https://give.uwsp.edu/give-backstage)
to donate! Choose **Theatre/
Dance - Backstage** from the
dropdown menu



Department of Theatre & Dance School of Performing Arts University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

The mission of the [Department of Theatre and Dance](#) 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.

STAGES TO EQUITY SCHOLARSHIP

In an ongoing effort to broaden and enrich our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity practices in the Department of Theatre & Dance, we've established the new *Stages to Equity Scholarship*. This award supports students who come from historically under-represented populations within the theatre, dance, and arts management student body at UW-Stevens Point. This academic year, we hope to grow the Stages to Equity endowment to support two annual scholarships for our students. We hope you might consider a gift to the endowment today! Scan the QR code with your mobile device, or visit give.uwsp.edu/stages-to-equity. If you are interested in receiving more information about the scholarship, you can reach out to Professor Tyler Marchant at tmarchan@uwsp.edu or at 715.252.8012 and he will be happy to assist you.



GIVE NOW

You are part of what makes the College of Fine Arts and Communication so vibrant and vital. Your generosity elevates our programs and encourages student success, helps attract and retain dedicated faculty members, and enhances the student experience.

[Make a gift to COFAC today!](#)



