

BLACK DIRT THEATER



PROUDLY PRESENTS



QUI NGUYEN'S

SHE KILLS MONSTERS



MARCH 24, 25, 31 & APRIL 1 - 2023 / 7:00 p.m.

Hastings Middle School / 1000 11th Street West / Hastings, MN 55033

THIS PRODUCTION CONTAINS ADULT THEMES & LANGUAGE AND IS SUITABLE FOR AGES 16+

TICKETS: www.BLACKDIRTTHEATER.com

"She Kills Monsters" - first produced in New York City by The Flea Theater on November 4, 2011 under the direction of Robert Ross Parker, Artistic Director Jim Simpson and Producing Director Carol Ostrow - is presented by Black Dirt Theater through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com



THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM CONTAINS FLASHING LIGHTS AND LIGHTENING EFFECTS THAT MAY CAUSE DISCOMFORT AND/OR SEIZURES FOR THOSE WITH PHOTOSENSITIVE EPILEPSY.

REMINDER FOLLOWING PROGRAM CONTAINS
ADULT THEMES & LANGUAGE

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<https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists>



Plastic Printers is proud to continue our support of the arts in Hastings.

Thank you **Black Dirt Theater for your contributions to our community, and **CONGRATULATIONS** on this latest production!**



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SHE KILLS MONSTERS



SETTING: ATHENS, OHIO IN 1995 AND THE REALM OF “NEW LANDIA”

CAST

TILLY	SARAH COPPENBARGER
AGNES	KATE MUNCE
VERA	JENNIFER JACOBBER
LILITH	ELLA HENDRICKSON
MILES	TOM SORENSON
CHUCK	CONNOR BURRELL
ORCUS	MATT ERVIN
STEVE	ZACK ANDERSON
FARRAH	TAYLOR LEONE
NARRATOR	CAITLIN WEBER
EVIL GABBI	SADIE NELSON
EVIL TINA	TAYLOR LEONE
KALIOPE	KADE STEINER
RONNIE	MATT ERVIN
KELLY	KADE STEINER

MONSTER ENSEMBLE

**ZACH FILKINS, JENNIFER JACOBBER, SEAN JONES, WALTER JUNG,
TAYLOR LEONE, TOM SORENSON, MATTHEW TIEDE, JORDAN WENTE**



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CREATIVE TEAM

DIRECTOR **ERIKA SASSEVILLE**
FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER **JOREN SKOV**
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR **HENRY SOUTHWICK**
STAGE MANAGER **JORDYN HONDEL**
VOLUNTEER STAGE MANAGER **KADE STEINER**
SET DESIGNER / TECHNICAL DIRECTOR **STEVEN READ**
LIGHT & SOUND DESIGNER **MARK KIEFFER**
LIGHTBOARD OPERATOR **GABE HUBBARD**
SOUNDBOARD OPERATOR..... **OLIVER RAWAY**
PUPPET & PROPS MASTER / PAINTER **ANN "PERRY" HEMAK**
COSTUMER..... **ANDY CIMPL**
PRODUCTION VOLUNTEERS **TERRI BURRELL, TEAL GIRGEN,
WALTER JUNG, ADAM RACHUY, STACY SARETTE, ALEX SHOFNER, JORDAN WENTE**

FOR BLACK DIRT THEATER

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR **ROBIN STARCH**
PRODUCTION MANAGER..... **RYAN MCCOY**
GRAPHIC DESIGN/MARKETING..... **THOMAS BONNEVILLE**

SPECIAL THANKS!

**HASTINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL CUSTODIAL STAFF. HASTINGS COMMUNITY EDUCATION.
MELINDA WEIR, ACCESSIBILITY CONSULTANT. JOHN & DONNA GIRGEN.
"TIAMAT" CREATED BY STUDENTS AT THE CREATIVE ARTS SECONDARY SCHOOL.**



FROM THE DIRECTOR: ERIKA SASSEVILLE



One of my favorite things about theatre is that there is a place for anyone and everyone can find their place. The same can be said about Dungeons & Dragons (D&D), which has been growing in popularity in recent years. In both D&D and Theatre, you might get to try on a new personality or a new look, but the most important part is that you are free to be yourself and make memories with the people you love. Since we started fight choreography rehearsals in October, this cast and crew has been working extremely hard to produce the funniest, strangest, and most inclusive show we possibly can.



We could not be more proud of the dedication this team has committed over the last five months. Cast, crew, designers, stage management, and volunteers all working together to bring this show to life. More than most plays and musicals, *She Kills Monsters* is an excellent reminder that it's our differences that make us strong.

Thank you very much for supporting Black Dirt Theatre, and enjoy the show!



ABOUT THE AUTHOR: QUI NGUYEN



Qui Nguyen is a screenwriter, director, playwright, and Co-Founder of the OBIE-winning *Vampire Cowboys*. He and his work, known for its use of pop-culture, stage violence, puppetry, and multimedia, has been called "Culturally Savvy Comedy", "Tour de Force Theatre", and "Infectious Fun" by the *NY Times*, *TimeOut*, and *Variety*.

Qui's currently with Walt Disney Animation Studios where he wrote *Raya and the Last Dragon* and wrote/co-directed *Strange World*. Other TV/Film includes *Dispatches from Elsewhere* (AMC), *The Society* (Netflix), *Incorporated* (Syfy), *Peg+CAT* (PBS), and *Marvel Studios*.

As a playwright, notable plays includes *Vietgone*, *Poor Yella Rednecks*, *Revenge Song*, and the critically acclaimed *Vampire Cowboys* productions of *She Kills Monsters*, *Soul Samurai*, *The Inexplicable Redemption of Agent G*, *Alice in Slasherland*, *Fight Girl Battle World*, and *Living Dead in Denmark*.





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Black Dirt Theater **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Ryan McCoy, President | Thomas Bonneville, Vice President | Jeff Carter, Treasurer
Ashley Miller | Logan Miller | Bob Lawrence | Jeremy Sundheim | Aimee Lane
Robin Starch, Artistic Director

WHY WE EXIST:

Connections. Creativity. Community,

Black Dirt Theater is in its twelfth year – and at the root of what we do, our purpose is to give people the opportunity to have a rich experience within a creative community. We strive to allow people to be their best self through their experiences with us. We build community by providing inspiration that empowers people to use their creativity to serve others as a normal part of everyday life.

WE ARE GRATEFUL!

Black Dirt Theater creates and performs exceptional theater of, by, and for the community. None of this would be possible without the generous financial support of many, including: local businesses who advertise in our program, all our donors, all local businesses, community members, and hundreds of volunteers who donate their time, money and talents to make us who we are. We are profoundly grateful for your support and thank you for all you do!

THANKS to our **DONORS!**

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DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE:

Mark & Gail Borchardt

GOLD LEVEL: Gerri Lundby,

Sam & Joyce Sorenson, Tom & Karen Lutz Ward

SILVER LEVEL: Anne Blessing,

Sarah Lockwood, Ashley & Logan Miller

BRONZE LEVEL: Chris Crotteau, Jerry Baum,

Dave Chapek, Ann Norgaard

AND THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS



UP NEXT FROM BLACK DIRT THEATER!

BLACK DIRT

IMPROV

ONLY TWO
SHOWS LEFT!



\$5 / 7:00 p.m.

**Hastings Public House
2015 Westview Drive**

FRIDAY, APRIL 14TH

HASTINGS
ARTS
CENTER



\$10 / 7pm & 9pm

**Hastings Arts Center
216 4th Street East**

FRIDAY, APRIL 28TH



MORE INFORMATION: www.BlackDirtTheater.com



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CAST BIOGRAPHIES*

SARAH COPPENBARGER • TILLY:

Sarah is ecstatic to be able to be a part of this show, and to be returning to the Black Dirt stage. Tilly has been a dream role of theirs for many years now, and getting the chance to breathe some life into her with an incredible cast has been truly a dream come true. Some of Sarah's favorite past roles include Mercutio in Romeo and Juliet, Lotty Wilton in Enchanted April, and Puck in A Midsummer Night's Dream. Sarah would like to thank their incredible fiancé Lizzy for the endless support and encouragement, and their Mom, Dad, and brother William for always believing in them.

KATE MUNCE • AGNES:

Kate is making her Black Dirt Theatre debut at Agnes Evans. Her prior credits include Chrysothemis in Iphigenia and Other Daughters, Actor in Love and Information, and Evil Tina/Farrah in Hamline University's production of She Kills Monsters. Kate would like to thank her parents, friends, colleagues, and the dark forces she invokes to do her bidding for their support throughout this process.

JENNIFER JACOBBER • VERA:

Jennifer is happy to be back on the Black Dirt Stage. Previous BD shows include Newsies (Bowery Beauty), several radio shows, & Beauty & the Beast (Babette). To the cast and crew "I've had the time of my life fighting dragons with you".

ELLA HENDRICKSON • LILITH:

She Kills Monsters is Ella's first play with Black Dirt Theater and she is excited to be here!! She has loved working with this amazing cast and crew for such a fun show. Ella is a D&D enthusiast and a music-making aficionado.

CONNOR BURRELL • CHUCK:

Connor is performing with Black Dirt Theater for the 4th time. He started with BDT as Ernesto in Flaming Idiots and then as Crutchie in Newsies, multiple characters I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change! and now starting as Chuck, the Dungeon Master in She Kills Monsters. Connor's favorite thing about theater is developing the characters from start to finish. He thanks his parents, siblings, family and friends for their unending support! A special thank you to this amazing cast and crew for all their hard work and commitment and to everyone who is attending.

*SUBMITTED AT WILL BY THE CAST / BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUE BELOW

BLACK DIRT THEATER | 213 Sibley Street #101 | Hastings, MN 55033

www.blackdirttheater.com | facebook.com/blackdirttheater | instagram.com/black_dirt_theater



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CAST BIOGRAPHIES* - CONTINUED

ZACK ANDERSON • STEVE:

I am so excited to be playing the role of STEVE in She Kills Monsters. This is my first play with BDT, but I have participated in many Summer Musicals from Annie, Shrek, and Beauty and the Beast. I am a Barista with Caribou Coffee in St Paul, MN, and spend most of my free time knitting! I graduated from Viterbo University with BM in Vocal Performance in May 2022. I hope you enjoy the show and are ready to adventure!

TAYLOR LEONE • FARRAH/EVIL TINA/MONSTER ENSEMBLE:

Taylor is thrilled to be in her first stage show with Black Dirt Theatre; she has previously done one radio show last year. After years of stage combat training, it feels like it's all led up to this show! It has been so exciting taking on the challenge of all the fights and building of these characters to make them as fantastical as they are.

Taylor has a degree in Theatre Performance from Saint Mary's University of Minn., and has been doing theatre in the Twin Cities area for a good number of years. Some of Taylor's highlights include Twelfth Night (Viola), Our Town (Emily Webb), The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged [Revised] (Self), Noises Off (Poppy), Hamlet (Ophelia), Birthday Club (Abbie), plus two Agatha Christie plays: Murder on the Nile (Jackie de Severac) as well as And Then There Were None (Vera Claythorne). Taylor's most physically challenging role up to this point was to play Alfie, the elderly man butler in One Man, Two Guvnors, where she was not only "beat up" by the cast, but had to "beat up" herself as well. This show certainly has become the new number one most physical show!

Special shout out to the cast and crew of the show, who have all worked so hard for so long. She is so excited to be working with this fabulously talented and varied queer cast and allies to tell this story. Taylor is forever grateful to her family who support her, the friends that cheer her on, and most importantly to her spouse Alex, who gives her the love and encouragement she needs to keep doing this thing called theatre.

SADIE NELSON • EVIL GABBI/NELLIE THE NECROMANCER:

Sadie is thrilled to be a part of this production. Some past credits include Violet in Iron-Hearted Violet and Spider in James and the Giant Peach, TYA, at Stages Theatre Company. Special thanks to her mom for the constant support and also everyone in SKM for being the best cast/creative team anyone could ask for.

*SUBMITTED AT WILL BY THE CAST / BIOGRAPHIES CONTINUE BELOW

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CAST BIOGRAPHIES* - CONTINUED

KADE STEINER • KALIOPE/KELLY:

Kade is so excited to be working on their second show with Black Dirt Theatre! Their previous notable roles include volunteer stage manager (She Kills Monsters), Oscar Delancey (Newsies), and acting in Black Dirt Improv, as well as various musical director and pit orchestra roles for companies around the twin cities like Expressions, CVFT, and Good Works Community Theatre. Kade is a massive D&D nerd and has loved this show since they first worked on it as a stage hand at Hamline University in 2019. They would like to extend a HUGE thank you to the cast, crew, and directors for their endless support and outstanding creative genius, and for helping a lifelong dream of learning how to sword fight come true!

MATTHEW TIEDE • MONSTER ENSEMBLE:

Matthew is making his Black Dirt Theatre debut! Some of his previous include Elf The Musical as a Fake Santa/Ensemble and Conrad Birdie in Bye Bye Birdie as Conrad Birdie at Chaska Valley Family Theatre, She Loves Me as the Bus Boy/Ensemble and The Little Mermaid as Windward/Ensemble at 4Community Theatre. He is gratefully for meeting all these awesome people and really enjoys sword fighting with everyone!

WALTER JUNG • MONSTER ENSEMBLE:

This is Walter's first show with Black Dirt, though you may have seen him in other productions done through the Hastings School system. Walter has had a passion for theater and the arts since 5th grade and plans on pursuing a career in film production. Be sure to check out his YouTube Channel Xfearions Production!

*SUBMITTED AT WILL BY THE CAST



SEE BELOW FOR WHAT'S NEXT FROM BLACK DIRT THEATER!



UP NEXT FROM BLACK DIRT THEATER!

AUDITIONS IN MAY!

Sat., May 6, 10am-2pm - KIDS

Mon., May 8, 6-9pm - KIDS & ADULTS

Fri., May 12, 6-9pm - ADULTS

LOCATION: HASTINGS HIGH SCHOOL
200 General Sieben Dr., Hastings, MN 55033

THE



— — — — —
MEREDITH WILLSON'S
— — — — —

MUSIC MAN



WWW.BLACKDIRTTHEATER.COM



UP NEXT FROM BLACK DIRT THEATER!



In partnership with Hastings Community Education and Black Dirt Theater, SPIRAL Launched three camps over four weeks in the summer of 2022. We were thrilled to get to work with 60 campers in our inaugural summer! We believe in creating art we can share so each camp performed their shows around the Hastings community - Pleasant Hill Library, Oak Ridge Assisted Living, and for Kids' Campus on the HMS stage. SPIRAL is led by young adults who have a passion for the theater arts! SPIRAL is dedicated to not only provide theater arts experiences for our campers, but to empower and grow theater arts leaders in our staff!

THE CAMPS OF 2023!

Week One: July 10-14
Beginning Stages
 Kindergarten-2nd grade
 9am-12pm \$105/week

Week One: July 10-14
Center Stages
 3rd grade-5th grade
 1pm-4pm \$120/week

Weeks Two and Three / July 17-21 and 24-28 / Up Stage
 5th grade-8th grade, 9am-3pm / \$410 for 2 weeks of full-day camps
Campers must be able to attend both weeks.

Week Four : July 31-August 4
Beginning Stages
 Kindergarten-2nd grade
 9am-12pm \$105/week

Week Four : July 31-August 4
Center Stages
 3rd grade-5th grade
 1pm-4pm \$120/week

Week Four has different themes, music, and show than week one.
 You are welcome to register your camper for both weeks (they won't be bored!)

Week One & Week Four also offer an optional Art Class, \$30/week - 12pm-1pm
 Financial assistance is available if needed, inquire by e-mailing: spiraltheatercamps@gmail.com

WWW.SPIRALTHEATERCAMP.COM