

Bellarmino Theatre 2020-2021 Newsletter and Questionnaire

This is for all actors, techies, stage crew, lighting crew, costumers, prop builders, house managers, singers, dancers, improv performers, etc.: PLEASE READ IF YOU ARE IN OUR THEATRE PROGRAM, OR WANT TO GET INVOLVED.

Greetings, everyone!

During these unprecedented times, we are unable to gather on stage together to create and perform live theatre. It's really frustrating, we know. We are sending this out to our students for a few reasons:

- 1. To let you know where we stand with our 2020-2021 theatre season, and what we are thinking.**
- 2. To let you know what opportunities we have for you to get involved with performing/stagecraft in some way.**
- 3. To see who wants to be involved. After you read what's below, please fill out our [questionnaire](#), which will gauge your level of interest in working with Bellarmino Theatre this year, and will allow us to contact you directly with any news and information.**

For those of you who are new to our school or program, we usually produce 3 shows per year: A Fall Drama (performances in early-November), a Winter Musical (performances in early-March), and a Spring Comedy (perf in mid-May). We have a robust Theatre Tech program, and 2 improv groups. More details about our theatre program can be found [here](#).

Every aspect of Bellarmino Theatre is co-ed, so any female from any school can audition for us and work with us. Unfortunately, when we do come back to campus, county guidelines might limit the amount of students with direct contact at any given school, so while we can work with females remotely this year, there is a chance that we won't be able to have them on campus when we're back in person.

- 1. Where we stand and what we are thinking:** safety is obviously a primary concern. Additionally, we don't want to start a production we can't finish. If you invest your time and talents to our program, we will promise you a final product. That said, here's the season:
 - a. No Fall Drama.** There's just too much uncertainty for us to be able to gather so soon in the school year.
 - b. The Winter Musical** will happen online, directed by Mr. Canavese. We are still trying to secure the online/streaming rights to a particular musical. If we get the rights, we'll have auditions (earlier than usual for the musical...likely in October), and then we'll teach the vocals and dances remotely. We'll get you fitted for costumes, rehearse, and we'll make something happen! If we can't secure the rights to the show we're interested in, we'll likely have a musical revue, where you'll be cast in certain numbers from various Broadway shows, and we'll produce something online. Either way, musical theatre folks will have an outlet.

- c. **The Spring Comedy**, directed by Mr. Marcel, will have auditions in March, and will be performed in May. If we can be together on campus, we will perform this show outdoors in the Carney amphitheater. If we cannot be together in person, we'll do a selection of comedic scenes and one-acts, to be performed live, online.
2. **Aside from these two productions, here are other opportunities we have for you to be involved with performing/stagecraft in some way:**
- a. **Interp:** Interp is a wing of the Speech and Debate team for actors; it's a way to compete with acting pieces, and it's a lot of fun. Mr. Marcel will join the Interp coaching team this year, and will be working with our Bell Theatre actors on their pieces. From Mr. Marcel: "Interp is an excellent outlet for actors. You can work individually with Dramatic Interp or Humorous Interp, with a partner in Duo...a lot of great options. If you're a Bellarmine actor, you should try it at least once. Now is the best time to start since we don't have a Fall production this year."
- b. **Improv/Comedy:** We have 2 improv groups on campus, so you can practice improvisation from home this year.
- Our improv club open to everyone is called Nonsensicals, and will be meeting Tuesdays during lunch (11:30-12:05), starting September 8, [here on Teams](#).
 - Sanguine Humours, our resident improv/comedy troupe, will hold auditions during the week of October 5th. We will be accepting 3-6 new members this year. Now in its 31st year, Sanguine has a rich tradition of raising funds and awareness for local and global charities by performing improv comedy.
- c. **One Actors:** Are you interested in acting, directing, or learning how to run a theatrical production? The Bellarmine One Actors will be meeting weekly Wednesdays after the Office Hour period (3:30-4:30) to do monologue work, direct read throughs, work on character development, and more. Hopefully we will return to hosting a theatrical show of some sorts in the spring. Anyone interested, please email Mr. Lum (jlum@bcp.org) and he will add you to the One Actor Bellarmine Team channel.
- d. **Theatre Tech:** Mr. Carlson & Mx. Lane lead a student team through the design, construction, painting, and installation of the sets, lighting, and sound equipment for each production. This year we will have an expanded opportunity to build student skills, especially as we anticipate both productions occurring outside the Mainstage Theatre.
3. **We have a questionnaire for you to fill out [HERE](#).** Please complete it even if you're only slightly interested in getting involved.

Thank you so much for your interest. Please feel free to ask us any questions.

Sincerely,

Russ Marcel (rmarcel@bcp.org), Artistic Director and Director of this year's Spring Comedy
Gregg Carlson (gcarlson@bcp.org), Managing Director and Theatre Technical Director

Peter Canavese, Director of this year's Musical
Maren Lane, Lighting Director, Front-of-House Manager
Gina Adams, Vocal Director
Pauline Locsin-Kanter, Choreographer