

Taylor University

## Pillars at Taylor University

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Taylor Theatre Playbills

Ongoing Events

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9-1-2010

### Doubt

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LAURA McGRATH-JACOB · TRACY MANNING · DAVID PHILLIPS · CATHY WEATHERSPOON



# DOUBT

A PARABLE

BY JOHN PATRICK SHANELY

TAYLOR UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY PREMIERE  
MITCHELL THEATRE  
8:00PM FRI/SAT | 3:00PM SUN

**SEPTEMBER 10-19**

TICKETS \$10 STUDENTS | \$12 ADULTS

CALL (765) 998-5289

DOUBT IS PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC., NEW YORK.

DIRECTED BY  
**JESSICA ROUSSELOW-WINQUIST**

STAGE MANAGER  
**TIM McDERMOTT**

Welcome to Taylor University Theatre. If you are a regular supporter of our program we thank you for your encouraging participation over the years. If this is your first visit, we trust that you will enjoy our work enough to return - again and again and again. We have a distinct calling as a Christian liberal arts theatre program, reflected in our philosophical statement. We welcome your participation, your comments on our work, and any suggestions you might have to help us accomplish our mission.

*Come Play with us. . .*

Taylor University Theatre is a co-curricular educational program supporting the liberal arts mission of the University by providing a broad range of theatre experiences that span most theatrical periods, genres, and styles.

Plays that probe the human condition and reveal human action with integrity, authenticity, and a sense of “grace,” provide us the opportunity to understand better what is true about ourselves and others.

While individual plays may not necessarily reflect the ethos of the Taylor community, we believe that this theatrical pursuit of truth resides at the heart of a Christian liberal arts education.

families, not emissaries from Rome.” He believes that love, warmth, compassion and kindness are the highest values taking precedence over rules and discipline.

The situation is further complicated by another fact. The play is set in 1964 and the first black student has been enrolled at St. Nicholas. When he becomes the central focal point of the clash between Sister Aloysius and Father Flynn, his Mother is summoned to the Principal’s office. She brings yet another perspective. According to Mrs. Muller, there are things that one can’t know for sure. The “world is a hard place” where “things are not always black and white”. The only way to negotiate the hard places is to “accept what you gotta accept and work with it.” You take the good and leave the rest behind. This is what she knows, and she chooses to stand with her son and with those who are good to him.

Whatever else is true about parables, they act as mirrors in which we confront our own reflections. Our own faith journeys are unique, but we see ourselves in Sister Aloysius, Sister James, Father Flynn and Mrs. Muller. We, too, face moments of loneliness, isolation, betrayal, pain and loss. In those moments we, too, confront that most basic of all faith issues—how can we know for sure?

~Jessica Rousselow

## THE DESIGNERS



### DAVID PHILLIPS - SET DESIGNER

David Phillips is excited to be on the Taylor stage once again, starting his eighth year at Taylor, (his fourth year as technical director and scenic designer) (class of '07). He feels privileged to be a part of such a great cast. Originally from Fort Wayne, he was forced into theatre fourteen years ago by his mother, and since then, has been involved in over eighty productions. He was last seen as Ben Weatherstaff in Taylor University's '09 production of 'The Secret Garden'. He was also seen in Taylor's 100 Year Celebration performance of 'John: His Story' ('08), 'Flowers for Algernon' ('06), and 'Little Women' ('06). He enjoys studying architecture and fine arts, painting, exercising, making food, landscaping and collecting plants, and anything that involves friends, food, and ice cream. He wishes to thank his amazing and beautiful wife, Sara and his family for the immense sacrifice they have made over the past few months. Your prayers and love have been so deeply felt. "Thank you so much for all of your love, support, patience, hard work, and forgiveness. I couldn't have done this without you."

## The Production Staff

DIRECTOR.....**JESSICA ROUSSELOW-WINQUIST**

MANAGING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR.....\*TRACY MANNING

SCENIC DESIGN AND TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....\***DAVID PHILLIPS**

LIGHT DESIGN.....KEVIN GAWLEY

STAGE MANAGER.....\*TIM McDERMOTT

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....SARAH SAWICKI

DECK CREW.....	BRADEN SPEAR
	RACHEL BIRD    TIMOTHY VEST
	JOEL PLOSZ    TARYN DUNTON
	HANNA RYBERG    KARYN ROE

CONSTRUCTION CREW.....\*SARA PHILLIPS  
DAWN SCHURTER KATHERINE PHILLIPS \*TIM McDERMOTT  
MIKE MANNING BETH MIX RICHARD PHILLIPS  
\*JESSE HAWKINS JOAN PHILLIPS

CHARGE SCENIC ARTIST.....			ESTHER NEEL
TAMMY NEEL	*RYAN MALONEY	RICHARD PHILLIPS	RIKKI HENRY
CAITLYN KUHN	HANNAH WARSTLER	KATHERINE PHILLIPS	*TIM McDERMOTT
JOAN PHILLIPS	CHELSEA MOORE	GABBI GEHRINGER	*SARA PHILLIPS
*JORDAN DODD	LAUREN APPLE	BRITTANY SICHTING	*DAVID PHILLIPS
KARYN ROE	KENNA HOWETT	MAGGY BEUKEMA	DAWN SCHURTER
*CHAR KNIGHTON	SARAH SAWICKI	TOBEY, RACHEL &	LINDSAY REUSSER
ETHAN KOSHNICK	KATELYN COLLINS	ELEANA MANNING	KELBE COCKING

POSTER DESIGN.....\*JONATHAN FRIDAY

MASTER ELECTRICIAN.....\*STEPHEN SHERRILL  
KARYN ROE  
ALICIA BIRD

SOUND TECHNICIAN..... **BRENT GERIG**

PROPERTIES MASTERS.....**SARA GERIG**  
BRENT GERIG  
RACHEL BIRD

MAKEUP/HAIR.....LINDSAY REUSSER

COSTUME DESIGNER.....\*SARA PHILLIPS

HOUSE MANAGER.....		ALLYSON MAHAN	
CARA MACDONALD	LEAH BROWN	AUDREY NICE	KATIE BREEN
BRITTANY WALKER	BEKAH STEINER	KELSEY JONES	KRISTIN ROSS
SHOGO MATSUKI	ERIKA MEJIA	CRYSTAL MOYER	KAREN WYDRA
STEPHANIE WARNER	ARMILA FRANCIS	ADRIANNA RODRIGUEZ	CHRISTI KROLL
JODI MCCONNELL	MATT MAINE	DREW CRANE	RACHEL JONKER

**\*DENOTES ALPHA PSI OMEGA MEMBERSHIP  
NATIONAL DRAMATIC HONOR SOCIETY**

# DOUBT

## The Cast

Father Brendan Flynn.....\*David Phillips

Sister Aloysius Beauvier.....\*Tracy Manning

Sister James.....**Laura McGrath-Jacob**

Mrs. Muller.....Cathy Weatherspoon

## TIME AND PLACE

St. Nicholas, a Catholic church  
and school in the Bronx, New York, 1964



**\*DAVID PHILLIPS - FATHER FLYNN**

David is excited to be on the Taylor stage once again, starting his eighth year at Taylor; his fourth year as technical director and scenic designer. He feels privileged to be a part of such a great cast. David was last seen as Ben Weatherstaff in Taylor University's production of *The Secret Garden*. He enjoys studying architecture and fine arts, painting, exercising, making food, landscaping, and anything that involves friends, food, and ice cream. He wishes to thank his amazing and beautiful wife, Sara.



**\*TRACY MANNING - SISTER ALOYSIUS BEAUVIER**

Director of Theatre – Taylor University – Since 2005

Tracy is taking the stage here at Taylor for the first time since 1992 when she last performed in a show under Dr. Rousselow's direction. In the last 18 years she has directed over 50 productions and participated as a cast member in over 25. She is thankful to be at Taylor teaching, directing, and creating. She has three children and a wonderful husband who she credits with making her creative work possible. Eph. 3:20



**LAURA MCGRATH -JACOB - SISTER JAMES**

Laura is a Master of Arts in Higher Education student and graduate assistant for the Office of the Provost. She enjoys spending time with her husband, "maintaining an ever-growing stack of books to read, learning about herself and the world through writing, traveling to far-off places, and " 'connecting, forming and inspiring' with my MAHE cohort."



**MRS. MULLER - CATHY WEATHERSPOON**

Cathy is the Director of Leadership Development at Taylor. She appeared in two shows while in college. She enjoys reading, spending time with family, friends and students, Bible study, and reciting poetry. Cathy would like to thank her husband Bruce, her children Cortland and Candice and Jesus Christ, her Lord and Savior, for this great opportunity.

**SPECIAL THANKS**  
TO THE FOLLOWING FOR HELPING TO MAKE THIS  
PRODUCTION POSSIBLE:

Ryan James  
Richard and Joan  
Housekeeping  
Maintenance  
Janice Neel  
Beth Mix  
Katherine Phillips  
Jesse Hawkins  
Mike Manning  
Tobey, Eleana, and Rachel Manning  
Lakeview Christian School  
Taylor University Athletic Dept.  
Media Services  
Indianapolis Civic Theatre

**KEVIN GAWLEY - LIGHTING DESIGNER**

Kevin is returning to design his twelfth production at Taylor. As a freelance lighting/scenic designer, Kevin's work has appeared on many Chicago stages, including Lifeline Theatre where he won the Jeff Citation for his design of *Jane Eyre*, the After Dark Award for his design of *Strong Poison*, and has been an ensemble member and resident designer since 2001. His

work also appeared in numerous productions at the Bailiwick, Organic, Porchlight, OperaModa, Blindfaith, Theatre on the Lake, Metropolis, StoreFront, Loyola University Chicago, Revels Chicago, Midwest Jewish and at the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival theatres. Kevin is currently the Lighting and Scenic Design professor at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire and has previously taught courses at Loyola University Chicago and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is also a resident designer at St. Scholastica Academy. Kevin holds an MFA and BFA in Lighting Design from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an MBA in Finance from DePaul University. Kevin's lighting/projection designs were featured last summer at Lifeline Theatre's productions of *Crossing California* and *Gaudy Night*.

**Stage Manager****Tim McDermott.**

Tim is a junior political science major from Aurora, Ohio. In high school he had roles in *The Odd Couple*, *Anything Goes* and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. While at Taylor he appeared in *The Crucible* and was an assistant stage manager for *Smoke on the Mountain*. Tim last stage managed for *The Secret Garden*. Besides theatre he enjoys politics and playing Ping-Pong.

**Friends of Taylor Theatre**

Taylor Theatre would like to thank those who are so graciously supporting the theatre program this season through their generous donation:

Dr. and Mrs. Steve Bedi

Ms. Elgce Elder

Mrs. Betty Ereeze

Mr. and Mrs. Jason Hillier

Miss Christiana Lug

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Ruch

Mr. and Mrs. James Wgnalda



## FROM THE DIRECTOR



John Patrick Shanley called *Doubt* a parable, and he structured Father Flynn's two sermons as parables. The standard definition of parable is a simple story in which a moral lesson is embedded. However, parables are not always simple, and even the moral lesson can be open to interpretation.

On one level, *Doubt* is a simple story of four people who struggle with the most basic of all faith issues-- how can we be sure. What if in moments of desperation we "howl to the sky—to God. Help me!" and "no answer comes."

On another level the story is far from simple. Each of the four have embarked on a unique faith journey and each experiences painful dissonance when their respective journeys lead them together at a powerful crossroad. Whose vision of faith will prevail? Whose will be eclipsed? Can they all be right? Or wrong?

Young Sister James, who loves teaching and seeks connection with her eighth grade students, finds herself being chastised by her Principal, and is devastated by Sister Aloysius' critique of her classroom practices. She is admonished to stop "sugar coating" history lessons, to cease "performing" for her class, to develop "starch" in her character, and even to be more "skeptical of her students." Sister James tries valiantly to be obedient to this guidance as her vows require, but she finds herself feeling as though "she has lost her way" and is "less close to God."

Sister Aloysius has taken her vows long before Vatican II. She has been a teacher and a principal for several decades and has witnessed many changes in the church and the surrounding society. She is equally uncomfortable with the sense of loss technological and societal changes have brought and with those she sees happening in the church. She stresses the need to follow the Church hierarchy to Sister James, but she herself chafes at the same authority structure. It "limits her" and "favors men" who "run everything."

Sister Aloysius finds the pronouncements of the Second Ecumenical Council particularly distasteful as they are interpreted by the young parish priest, Father Flynn. He has enthusiastically embraced Vatican II. He does not believe that the clergy are profoundly different from the laity and he desires to create a "welcoming Church" where the parents and children view Sisters and Priests as "members of their

## *The 2010-2011 Theatre Season*

### *Doubt*

September 10-12, 17-19

### *A Streetcar Named Desire*

November 12-14, 19-21

### *The Count of Monte Cristo*

February 11-13, 18-20

### *Witness for the Prosecution*

April 8-10, 15-17

