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The Count of Monte Cristo

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The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival™
XLIII

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education; Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; the Kennedy Center Corporate Fund; and the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

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Taylor University Theatre presents
a drama adapted by Charles Marry of
Alexandre Dumas’

The Count of Monte Cristo

February 13 & 20 | 3pm
February 11, 12 & 18, 19 | 8pm

Student Tickets: $10
Adult Tickets: $12

Boxoffice Phone #: 765.988.5289

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.

DIRECTED BY
TRACY MANNING

STAGE MANAGER
KEVIN GEHRETT

ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR
LIZZY ROHLAND

The Count of Monte Cristo was first produced by the Pioneer Theatre Company, Salt Lake City, Utah in October of 1998.

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)
Jason Francis Memorial Scholarship

Over the years that I have been a part of Taylor theatre I have been blessed by the lives and talents of many students. Some of them have made an indelible impression on me because of their unusually deep commitment to the arts and especially to Taylor theatre. Jason Francis was one of these students who will always live in my memory.

During the time Jason was a student at Taylor, Dr. Oliver Hubbard was the director of theatre. Ollie, as he was affectionately known, was working very hard to direct three shows a year, design and oversee the construction of all sets, and learn the nuances of moving from a small found space theatre to Mitchell. It was too much for one person to handle. Jason came alongside Ollie in an unusually mature way. He took over much of the day to day work of the scene shop. He built sets. He learned to design. He auditioned and acted in most of the shows. He mentored new students, challenging them to learn how participating in theatre is a way to build the Kingdom of God on the earth.

It was a great shock to learn in October 2009 that Jason had been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and many of us grieved his passing in January 2010. Tracy Manning and I immediately began working with Taylor Development to find a way to honor Jason. Jason’s wife, Linda, has joined with us to fund a scholarship in his memory. She launched this effort on the anniversary of his death through the Care Page Jason had maintained during his illness. Her words written on January 10, 2011 are quoted below.

"As you know tomorrow (1/11/11) is the one year anniversary of Jason's passing. I would like to let you know one special way we can all remember and honor Jason.

His (and my) alma mater is Taylor University in Indiana. It is not actually where we met but it is where our friendship grew. Jason LOVED Taylor and one of his dreams was to get his MFA and return there as a professor of Theater. His own professor, Ollie Hubbard, passed away several years ago and it inspired us to make the move to Nebraska and start working on this dream. The dream will not be fulfilled in the way we all hoped but we are setting up a scholarship in his name."

If you would like to be a part of creating this memorial to one outstanding student and in the process make it possible for other students to grow through the experience of a Taylor theatre education, you can make a tax deductible contribution in any amount. Simply make your check payable to Taylor University and note Jason Francis Memorial Scholarship on the memo line.

Jessica Rousselow-Winquist

The Designers

*Cory Rodeheaver - Scenic and Projection Designer
Cory has been working as a freelance scenic designer for the past 10 years and is no stranger to Taylor Theatre. He has been involved with Taylor Theatre for the past 15 years. Last season Cory designed Taylor’s production of The Secret Garden. Outside of Taylor, Cory has designed for the Summer Studio Theatre Company at the University of Illinois, the Feltre Library Theatre in Chicago, Parkland College and the University of Illinois Theatre department to name a few. Some other productions to his credit are: Taming of the Shrew, The Hobbit, La Traviata, Aloha Say the Pretty Girls, Tennessee Williams’ Spring Storm, Peter Pan, The Importance of Being Earnest, Tally’s Folley, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Urine Town the Musical, Into the Woods and staged readings of Ghosts and Desire Under the Elms. Currently, Cory is designing exhibits and themed environments across the country employed as a senior exhibit designer for Taylor Studios Inc. based in Rantoul, Illinois. He lives with his wife, Jennifer, two children, Ethan and Emmy, in Champaign, IL. Cory holds a MFA in Scenic Design from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Kevin Gawley - Lighting Designer
Kevin is returning to design his fourteenth 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 summer 2009 at Lifeline Theatre’s productions of Crossing California and Gaudy Night.
THE PRODUCTION STAFF

CONTINUED

PROJECTION OPERATORS.................................................................Rachel Bird
                                      Alicia Byrd

PROPERTIES MASTER........................................................................*Tim McDermott
                                      Kenna Howat

MAKEUP/HAIR..............................................................................Lindsay Reusser
                                      Sara Wainscott
                                      Hannah Hepler
                                      Kayla Walsh
                                      *Justin Chisham
                                      Heidi McAuley
                                      Christi Kroll

COSTUME DESIGNER........................................................................*Sara Phillips
WARDROBE MANAGER.....................................................................Kathryn Irwin
COSTUME ASSISTANT...........................................................................Stephanie Kuhn
COSTUME CREW...................................................................................
                                      Mary Voss
                                      Anna Lambert
                                      Maria Sutherland
                                      Jessica Denardo
                                      Christina Gatti
                                      Elizabeth De Graaf

DOG HANDLER....................................................................................Lauren Apple

HOUSE MANAGER............................................................................Tim Vest
                                      Kayla Birt
                                      Esther Lang
                                      Hannah Espiritu
                                      Rachel Luce
                                      Daniel Keller
                                      Caleb Carroll
                                      Rachel Jonas
                                      Ben Byler
                                      Rachel Nolan

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

Tony Wormgoor
Richard and Joan Phillips
Ball State University
Theatre Department
Tony and Linda Manganello
Charlynn Knighton
Darlene Mitchell
Carter Lumber

Vance and Tammi Maloney
Linda Barth
Carol Owen
Sara Phillips
Cindi Palmer
Karyn Roe
Taylor University
Housekeeping and
Maintenance

THE CAST

In Order of Appearance

Edmond Dantes..........................................................Daniel Lucas
Guard 1/Magistrate........................................*Jordan Dodd
Abbe Faria/General/Footman..........................*Stephen Sherrill
Julian Morrel/Footman........................................Drew Crane
Eugene Danglers...................................................Michael Kasinger
Caderousse/Bandit/Party Guest.............Jonathan Lingenhoel
Mercedes............................................................Anna Lambert
Fernand Mondego....................................................Tim McDermott
Soldier 1/Bandit/Party Guest/Caderousse Understudy..................Lane Gramling
Soldier 2/Guard2/Servant to de Villefort/Bandit/Servant at Party..............Todd Naevestad
Gerard de Villefort....................................................Thatcher Ritz
Hermione Danglers................................................*Anne Wilson
Heloise de Villefort.....................................................Meagan Cerquitella
Servant to Danglers..................................................Lindsay Reusser
Benedetto (Bertuccio)...........................................Braden Spear
Alberto Mondego..............................................................Nate Vogel
Debray.................................................................................James Carroll
Eugenie Danglers............................................................Jessica Koloian
Valentine de Villefort....................................................Taryn Dunton
Valentine Understudy/Party Guest.................Emily DeMeester
Maximilian Morrel/Dantes Double......................*Ryan Maloney
Servant to Madame de Villefort/Party Guest...........................................Elizabeth de Graaf
Haydee............................................................................Christina Goggin

TIME AND PLACE

The action of the play takes place in the island prison the
Chateau d’If and various locations in Marseilles, Rome and
Paris over the years 1815-1838.
*Ryan Maloney - Maxilian Morrel/Dantes Double
Ryan is a junior studio art major from Upland, Indiana. He is also minoring in psychology. He is in the current traveling company show We Will Not Be Silent and appeared in A Streetcar Named Desire last fall. Ryan also held the position of Charge Scenic Artist on several productions. He enjoys leisurely walks, organizing, and coffee night.

Elizabeth de Graaf - Servant to Mme de Villefort/Party Guest
Elizabeth is a freshman professional writing major from Ontario, California. Although she is familiar with acting, having appeared nationally on television in commercials, this is her first theater experience. She enjoys reading and writing novels, but traveling is her favorite hobby. She hopes to one day publish her manuscripts and be able to write for a living.

Christina Goggin - Haydee
Freshman English education major Christina Goggin plans to teach English as a second language. During her first semester at Taylor she participated in the Irish Studies Program. In high school she was in several plays including Once Upon a Mattress, Marvin’s Room, Godspell and Trip to Bountiful. Christina enjoys playing Jenga, eating rice, petting dogs, playing the guitar, listening to Paolo Nutini, and making cookies. She says, "and most importantly, I love growing closer to God and learning more about Him."

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.

Jonathan Lingenhoel - Caderousse/Bandit/Party Guest
Jonathan is a junior international studies major, with plans to pursue a career in US Diplomacy. In high school, he performed in Fiddler on the Roof, Music Man, West Side Story, and Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon. His hometown is Erd, Hungary. His other hobbies include Taylor Sounds and Chorale, MuKappa and serving on the MESA cabinet. In his free time, he enjoys archery, spending time with friends, and doing anything that involves music.

Anna Lambert - Mercedes
Senior elementary education major, Anna Lambert, is from Colorado Springs, Colorado. In high school, Anna appeared in Guys and Dolls, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, Pygmalion, The Crucible, and Crazy for You. At Taylor she was an assistant stage manager for The Taming of the Shrew and appeared in The Crucible. She also enjoys cooking, watching movies, and writing.

*Tim McDermott - Fernand Mondego
Tim McDermott 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. At Taylor he appeared in The Crucible and A Streetcar Named Desire and was an assistant stage manager for Smoke on the Mountain. Tim also stage managed for The Secret Garden last fall. He enjoys Ping-Pong, politics and theatre.

Lane Gramling - Soldier/Bandit/Party Guest/Telegrapher
Upland, Indiana is home to Lane. He is a freshman elementary education major. While in high school, he was in Little Women, High School Musical, and The Rednecks Bite Back. Lane is a BASSYCS leader, in Intramurals and airband commercials. He also plays soccer, dodgeball, Euchre, guitar and piano.

Todd Naevestad - Soldier 2/Guard2/Servant to de Villefort/Bandit/Servant at Party
Todd is a professional writing major from Green Bay, Wisconsin. He hopes to be a video game writer or a fiction novelist. This is Todd’s first theatre production. He enjoys reading, writing, sleeping, walking in the snow, and harassing his dorm mates.
Thatcher Ritz - Gerard de Villefort  
Thatcher, a freshman film production major, comes to the Taylor stage from Zionsville, Indiana. This is his first Taylor show, but in high school he appeared in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Much Ado About Nothing, The Taming of the Shrew, As You Like It, The Mating Season*, and *The Rivals*. In his free time, he enjoys playing the guitar.

*Anne Wilson - Hermione Danglars  
Anne is a senior English writing major, with plans to become a young adult fiction writer. Her home is Doha, Qatar. On the Taylor stage, she has appeared in *The Odd Couple, The Taming of the Shrew, The Crucible, Hippolytus, John, His Story, Footprints of a Pilgrim, ‘Night Mother, Agnes of God* and *The Secret Garden*. When not in the theater, she enjoys playing video games and making mix CDs.

Meagan Cerquitella - Heloise de Villefort  
Meagan, a junior at The University of Phoenix online, is a communication studies major working for the Taylor Dining Commons. Her hometown is Budapest, Hungary. Meagan was on the Taylor stage for *The Secret Garden* and *Mousetrap*, and appeared in her high school productions of *Bull in a China Shop, Annie, Little Women*, and *Pride and Prejudice*. Her favorite pastimes include watching classic films and “anything involving Superman.”

Lindsay Reusser - Servant to Danglars  
This is Lindsay’s eighth show at Taylor helping with hair and make-up. She has a passion for make-up and enjoys designing and being in charge. She also served as the Hair and Make-up Designer for the past four shows. When not in the theatre, Lindsay enjoys traveling, shopping, and quoting movies. Lindsay would like to thank God along with her friends and family for their continued support in her natural ability to be a drama queen.

Braden Spear - Benedetto (Bertuccio)  
Sophomore Braden Spear is a theatre arts major from North Smithfield, Rhode Island. He enjoys reading comic books, playing soccer, and snowboarding. Braden played the parts of Dickon in *The Secret Garden* and Hippolytus in the winter show last season. He was last seen in *A Streetcar Named Desire* and is currently involved in the traveling theatre company’s show *We Will Not Be Silent.*

Nate Vogel - Albert Mondego  
Nate is a freshman media communication major from Grand Rapids, Michigan. His area of interest is in film. He hopes to be film director or architect. In high school he had a role in *Cinderella*, the musical. Nate enjoys songwriting, snowboarding, playing soccer and golf, photography, filmmaking, climbing, hiking and spending time outdoors.

James Carroll - Debray  
James is a sophomore music composition major from Springboro, Ohio. In high school he participated in several shows including *Cinderella, You Can’t Take It With You*, and *The Sound of Music*. James sings in the Taylor University Chorale and plays in the Chapel Band. His favorite pastime is “fighting crime with Brick and Lovelace.”

Jessica Koloian - Eugenie Danglars  
Plymouth, Michigan is home to Jessica. She is a freshman and enjoys singing, acting, spending time with friends and family, photography, graphic design, and coffee with friends. In high school Jessica appeared in *Thoroughly Modern Millie, Daddy’s Girl, and Fiddler on the Roof Jr.* and was the assistant director for *Little Women*. Last fall she appeared as the Mexican Woman in *A Streetcar Named Desire.*

Taryn Dunton - Valentine de Villefort  
Taryn Dunton is a freshman from San Diego, California pursuing a double major in Theatre Arts and Spanish. Taryn has always had a passion for the stage and was heavily involved in acting throughout high school. Her most memorable roles up to this point include Ann in *The Diary of Anne Frank* and Alice in *You Can’t Take It With You*. When she’s not onstage, Taryn enjoys watching Glee and laughing loudly. She feels extremely blessed to be a part of the Traveling Company this year.

Emily DeMeester - Valentine de Villefort Understudy/Party Guest  
Emily is a sophomore Art Education major from Grand Rapids, Michigan. On the Taylor stage, she played Eunice in the fall production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*. In high school, she played the title role in *Annie*, Jane in *Peter Pan* and Leah in *How a Month Changes Everything*. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family, knitting, and running. In the future, she hopes to be an art teacher at a school for the deaf.
Daniel Lucas - Edmond Dantes-The Count of Monte Cristo
Senior Daniel Lucas is from North Judson, Indiana. This is his first experience with Taylor Theatre. In high school he had roles in Hello Dolly, Guys and Dolls, and Little Shop of Horrors. He is a member of the wind ensemble and has participated in jazz band. Daniel enjoys reading, playing video games, writing fiction and playing Settlers of Catan.

*Jordan Dodd - Guard 1/Magistrate
Jordan is a senior communication studies major. He lives in San Diego, California. He is a member of IABC, International Association of Business Communicators and plays intramural sports. Jordan enjoys playing the piano, playing baseball and taking long walks on the beach. Plays include Grease; The Twilight Zone; Bat boy, the Musical; John, His Story; The Odd Couple; The Glass Menagerie; The Taming of the Shrew, The Crucible, Footprints of a Pilgrim and We Will Not Be Silent.

*Stephen Sherrill - Abbe Faria/General/Footman
Stephen is an English writing major from Indianapolis, Indiana. He is the Theatre Master Electrician and enjoys music, martial arts (Judo), reading, and working as a lighting and sound technician. He has appeared in The Taming of the Shrew and The Secret Garden.

Drew Crane - Julian Morrel/Footman
Drew is a junior public relations major, and aspires to conduct public relations for a professional sports team. He has appeared on the Taylor stage in The Taming of the Shrew, The Crucible, and Crimes of the Heart. He also serves as a PA in Swallow Robin. Drew has also gone overseas with Lighthouse and Spring Break mission trips, to the Czech Republic and El Salvador.

Michael Kasinger - Eugene Danglars
Michael, a junior music composition major from "down south in Houston, Texas" says "I've always enjoyed music, be it composing or playing, and writing on the side. This is my first time ever being on stage for a theater production, but I have been in the musical pit for many others. I have always wanted to try my hand at being on stage after being beneath it for so long."
The Stage Manager & Assistant to the Director

Kevin Gehrett - Stage Manager
Randolph, Ohio is home to Kevin. He is a senior media communication major, with plans to work in music production or music business. Kevin helped with lighting for The Crucible and Smoke on the Mountain, was a spotlight operator for The Secret Garden, the assistant stage manager for Hippolytus and the sound designer for Crimes of the Heart. He also is currently the Operations Manager for WTUR. In his free time, he enjoys playing guitar and collecting vinyl records.

*Lizzy Rohland - Assistant to the Director
Alexandria, Egypt is home to Lizzy. While at Taylor, she has appeared in The Taming of the Shrew, The Boys Next Door and The Secret Garden. She was backstage for The Crucible and The K-Word, and was the director for 'Night Mother. She is a senior majoring in music with a marketing concentration, with a minor in theatre. After she graduates, she plans on moving to Nashville to pursue a career in the music industry.

Please Note:
Fog and haze will be used during this production as well as special effects and gunfire.

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

Dr. and Mrs. Steve Bedi
Ms. Elyce Elder
Mrs. Betty Freese
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Hillier
Miss Christiana Luy
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Ruch
Mr. and Mrs. James Wynalda
Gift in memory of Dr. Ollie Hubbard
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Ford
Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Turner
Welcome to Mitchell Theatre and tonight’s performance of *The Count of Monte Cristo*. Many, many hours have gone into the creation of what you will see tonight. It is representative of one of the best things about the art of theatre, collaboration. I have thoroughly enjoyed these young students as I have watched them grow and learn throughout this process. It’s always a great opportunity to pray and trust that God will once again do “immeasurably more than we think or imagine.” We pray that we will be quick to give Him the glory.

This show has provided an opportunity for us to explore what we believe about forgiveness, what we know about it in our heads and how we experience it in our lives. We realize that while we believe we are forgiven, we don’t always live like it. We also come to know that while we long to be forgiven, we are not always eager to forgive.

Hebrews 10:16-23

*This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds. Then he adds: “Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.” And where these have been forgiven, there is no longer any sacrifice for sin. Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.*

There are two things in your playbill tonight which I would like to draw your attention to. A little over a year ago, Jason Francis, a beloved husband, father, Taylor Alumnus and Theatre Practitioner went home to be with the Lord. He spent many hours on the stage you see you front of you. He was near completion on his M.F.A. so that he might teach the craft that Ollie had taught him. In remembrance of his love for Jesus, Taylor, Theatre, and teaching we have embarked on a mission to raise monies for an endowed scholarship in his name that will be given to a promising freshman theatre major here at Taylor. We need your help. Please read in your playbill this evening how you might be a part contributing to this special need.

Also, in a little over a month the Taylor Touring Company will be heading east with their production of *We Will Not Be Silent*. We covet your prayers and gifting as we move forward with the calling to “go”. Donations to the Spring Break tour are tax deductible and can be made by contacting Judy Kirkwood in the Communication Arts office.

Thank you for coming, for your prayers, support, applause and presence. You are an essential part of all we do. Blessings...  

~Tracy Manning
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