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The Miracle Worker

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TAYLOR UNIVERSITY THEATRE
presents
The Miracle Worker
by
William Gibson

NOVEMBER 8,9,14-16
Performances begin at 8 p.m. in the Mitchell Theatre
Tickets available by calling 998-5289
produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Directed by Dr. Oliver Hubbard
Thank you for joining us this evening.

The story of Helen Keller and her beloved "Teacher," Annie Sullivan, is one that awes the mind and stirs the imagination. Deaf and blind from the age of 18 months, Helen struggled to make sense of the world that existed beyond the dark and silent one in which she lived. Through touch and smell she perceived what she could of life around her, comprehending little; understanding less. The Miracle Worker gives us a glimpse into the unique, divinely endowed spirit of "human" life. The accomplishments of Teacher derived through personal resolve, perseverance, and love, bear the marks of "miracle" upon them. Through the gift of Teacher's life, Helen received a life of her own. A life so remarkably lived that were it not so publicly documented, one might be tempted to dismiss it as fiction.

It is our desire this evening to pay homage to these two remarkable women and the God who created us with such spirit. Thank you for joining us.

Excerpt from: "A Chant of Darkness," by Helen Keller

Once in regions void of light I wandered;  
In blank darkness I stumbled,  
And fear led me by the hand;  
My feet pressed earthward,  
Afraid of pitfalls.  
By many shapeless terrors of the night  
Affrighted,  
To the wakeful day  
I held out beseeching arms

Then came love, bearing in her hand  
The torch that is the light unto my feet,  
And softly spoke Love: "Hast thou  
Entered into the treasures of darkness?  
Hast thou entered into the treasures of the night?  
Search out thy blindness. It holdeth  
Riches past computing,"

The words of Love set my spirit aflame,  
My eager fingers searched out the mysteries,  
The splendors, the inmost sacredness, of  
Things,  
And in the vacancies discerned  
With spiritual sense the fullness of life;  
And the gates of Day stood wide.

I am shaken with gladness;  
My limbs tremble with joy;  
My heart and the earth  
Tremble with happiness;  
The ecstasy of life  
Is abroad in the world

Knowledge hath uncurtained heaven;  
On the uttermost shores of darkness there is  
Light;  
Midnight hath sent forth a beam!  
The blind that stumbled in darkness without  
Light  
Behold a new day!  
In the obscurity gleams the star of Thought;  
Imagination hath a luminous eye,  
And the mind hath a glorious vision.

I wanted to teach her what language is - I don’t know how. I don’t know what else to do. Simply go on, keep doing what I’ve done, and have - faith that inside she’s - that inside it’s waiting. Like water, underground.  

-Annie Sullivan
CORY RODEHEAVER
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Cory is a 1999 graduate of Taylor University and veteran to the Taylor Theatre program. Cory also works as a freelance designer and most recently designed for a production in southern Indiana. Next year he plans on pursuing an MFA in scenic design to finish his education. He would like to thank his loving wife, Jennifer, for her continued support and God for the many blessings that come with each production.

BETSY DUNMIRE - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Betsy is a senior theatre arts major from Grand Rapids, Michigan. She last appeared in Hamlet. Betsy plans to direct or teach college theatre. She is working on shooting a film and has little time for anything other than theatre.

CARL HASS - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Carl is a theatre arts major from Wheaton, Illinois and is in his senior year at Taylor. His vocational plan is to be an actor. While in college he has appeared in Peter Pan, Hamlet, The Royal Family and All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten.

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.

THE MIRACLE WORKER
By
William Gibson
Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

THE CAST

DOCTOR ........................................ Isaac Ramsey
KATE ............................................. Leslie Ann Wise
KELLER ......................................... Eric Rivera
HELEN .......................................... Abby Jo Seward
MARTHA ........................................ Sara Chambers
PRISSY .......................................... Carson Newman
AUNT EV ....................................... Sarah Danylak
JAMES ............................................ Drew Childs
ANAGNOS ...................................... Jonathan Bundick
ANNIE ............................................ Shannon Keyes
VINEY ........................................... Meghan Hand
BLIND GIRLS ................................... Shannon Sweeney
............................................. Beth Reddick
............................................. Heidi Burkey
............................................. Andrea Sweazy
............................................. Rebekah Lay
............................................. Amanda Reusser
............................................. Ashley Stevens

CRONE #1 ....................................... Heidi Burkey
CRONE #2 ....................................... Andrea Sweazy
CRONE #3 ....................................... Betsy Dunmire
DR. HOWE ...................................... Josh Stamoolis
JIMMIE .......................................... Ryan Maloney
DOCTOR ........................................ Brad Marquis

The action takes place between 1882 and 1887 in the Keller homestead in Tuscumbia, Alabama; in the Perkins Institution for the Blind, Boston, Massachusetts, and the Tuscumbia Depot.
ISAAC RAMSEY - DOCTOR
Isaac is from Hebron, Ohio, and is majoring in theatre and psychology. In high school, he appeared in The Music Man, Guys and Dolls, You Can't Take It with You, The Outsiders, Evita and Pirates of Penzance. Isaac enjoys playing guitar and “chilling with friends.”

LESLEI ANNE WISE - KATE
Leslie Anne is a sophomore music business major from Wilmore, Kentucky. In high school she had parts in Bye Bye Birdie, Class Dismissed, The Music Man and The Wizard of Oz. Leslie Anne is a staff member of Parnassus, sings in the Chorale, and is a discipleship coordinator on 3rd Swallow Robbin.

ERIC RIVERA - KELLER
Eric is an English education major from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania who transferred to Taylor this fall. He likes to play guitar and drums, read and watch movies. In high school Eric was seen in The Taming of the Shrew and The Other Wise Man.

ABBY JO SEWARD - HELEN
Batavia, Illinois, is home for Abby Jo. She is a sophomore communications major who enjoys singing, dancing, running, journaling and having really good conversations. She is a PA for Third West Olson. In high school Abby Jo had parts in Oklahoma, Bye Bye Birdie and Brigadoon and was a lost boy in Peter Pan last sea-

SARA CHAMBERS - MARTHA
Sara is a freshman theatre major from Buffalo, New York. She teaches martial arts and works at a Christian theatre. While in high school Sara was in The Last Night of Ballyhoo, Rumors and Murder on the Stage.

PRODUCTION STAFF

SET DESIGN ....................... DR. OLIVER HUBBARD/CORY RODEHEAVER
LIGHT DESIGN ..................... CORY RODEHEAVER
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR .............. CORY RODEHEAVER
VIDEO PRODUCTION .................. CHERYL TJEKES
ZACH LOVE

SET CREW .................................
DAVID BOHM
WES GREEN
SARA CHAMBERS
CHERYL TJEKES
GRANT HOLLIS

SARA CHAMBERS

SCENIC PAINTING ...................... KIM LURA
LIGHT CREW .......................... RYAN BERGMAN
RYAN RENNER
JUSTIN ROGERS
ROBBY TOMPKINS
JOSH STAMOOLIS

SOUND CREW ............................ JEREMY OTTEN
JEREMY OTTEN
ROBBY TOMPKINS

MAKEUP CREW .......................... ALLISON CHATFIELD & JULLA HESS
SARAH BANER

PROPERTIES ........................... AMANDA REUSSE
EMILY GILBERT
CHARLIE DENISON
JONATHAN HAMILTON
BRAD MARQUIS

GROUSE SWEENEY
JULIE HOOVER
BEN FRIEDBERG

HOUSE ................................ ELIZABETH JOHNSON
BROCK MAXWELL
JONATHAN HAMILTON
THOMAS JACKSON
KERRY HILLIER
ALLISON GILL
HEATHER DOCTOR
CHRISTINA BARRERAS
GLORIA FAHIM

NOAH DELONG
BETH BYERS
ERIC GROSSBERNDT
LIZ LINCH
RACHEL BARR
BECKY DUNCAN
JULIE HOOVER

LIA ANGELL
CHRIS SWONTEK
STEPH ROGERS
JOHN McNARY
ELAINE FRIEDBERG
KRISTAL JELICH
JOANNA HORNBECK
MICHELLE RENICH
ABIGAIL YODER

LOBBY DISPLAY ....................... KRISTIN FAVAZZA
CARSON NEWMAN - PRISsy
Athens, Tennessee, is home for Carson. She is a senior theatre and writing major. Her past theatre participation includes, Alice in Wonderland, She Stoops to Conquer, Peter Pan, The Royal Family, The Trip to Bountiful and Hamlet. Other activities at Taylor include Bible study, Parnassus, reading and movies.

SARAH DANYLAK - AUNT EV
Sarah comes to Taylor from Ivory Coast, West Africa. She is a sophomore English education major and would like to teach overseas. She is in the Taylor Ringers and MuKappa and participated in airband. Sarah had a part in Hamlet at Taylor and in high school appeared in The Miracle Worker, Arsenic and Old Lace, Once Upon a Mattress, Sound of Music and Anne of Green Gables.

DREW CHILDS - JAMES
Drew is a junior music education major from Churubusco, Indiana. He is a Chorale section leader, enjoys traveling, computers, collecting Broadway and West End soundtracks and is active in his home church. In high school Drew was in Picnic, Brigadoon, Smile and The Music Man.

JONATHAN BUNDICK - ANAGNOS
John is a freshman Christian education/Bible literature major from Taylorsville, Indiana. He plans to be a youth pastor after graduating. He enjoys reading, writing, and working with youth, especially troubled youth.

SHANNON KEYES - ANNIE
Shannon is a senior communication studies major from Ghent, New York. This is her first Taylor play. In high school she appeared in Babes in Arms. Shannon enjoys intramural sports, football, running, sleeping and surviving her classes so she can graduate.

ANDREA SWEAZY - BLIND GIRL/OLD CRONE #2
Andrea is a sophomore communication studies major from Elkhart, Indiana. Her favorite pastime is golf. Andrea appeared as an Indian in Peter Pan last season and had roles in The Sound of Music and She Was Only the Garbage Man's Daughter in high school. She has also participated in Airband and PROBE Players.

REBEKAH LAY- BLIND GIRL
Rebekah is from Upland, Indiana. She is a freshman biology/pre-med major. Rebekah plans to be a medical missionary. In high school she appeared in Little Woman and Fiddler on the Roof. She enjoys reading and spending time with friends.

AMANDA REUSser - BLIND GIRL
Amanda is a sophomore communication arts major with minors in English and Spanish. In high school she was in The Wizard of Oz, Life With Mother Superior, The Music Man, and The Sound of Music. Last season she was properties chair for Taylor Theatre. She enjoys going to good coffee shops to drink good coffee and all sports, especially cross country skiing with her family.

ASHLEY STEVENS - BLIND GIRL
Haddon Heights, New Jersey, is home for Ashley. She is a freshman theatre arts major. She is a member of the University Chorus and Young Life. In high school she had parts in Cinderella and All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten, among others.

MEGHAN HAND - VINEY
Meghan is a freshman music education major from Sidney, Indiana. She plans to be an elementary music teacher. Meghan enjoys sketching, sculpting, writing singing, composing orchestrating and acting. In high school she was seen in Annie Get Your Gun, Annie, Heads and Tails and Oklahoma, among others.
SHANNON SWEENEY - BLIND GIRL
Fort Collins, Colorado, is home for Shannon. She is a communication studies major and plans to teach speech and theatre. Some of her activities at Taylor include Chorale, costume co-chair for theatre and football and volleyball intramurals. Shannon also enjoys snow-boarding, attending Broadway musicals and shows, traveling and hiking.

BETH REDDICK - BLIND GIRL
Beth is a junior elementary education major from Mendota, Illinois. In high school she had a part in The Music Man. At Taylor Beth is involved in intramurals, Hall Council, airband and Alpha Chi.

HEIDI BURKEY - BLIND GIRL/OLD CRONE #1
Heidi is a sophomore communications major from West Chicago, Illinois. Her vocational plans include film performance and directing. She has appeared in Hamlet, Peter Pan and The Royal Family while at Taylor. Heidi enjoys traveling, hiking mountains, white water rafting, spelunking, and talking to people on airplanes.

CHASE SYISWERDA - BELLE
Chase is new to Taylor Theatre and the stage. He is excited to be a part of this production and plans on a possible career change in the near future. Chase enjoys napping, eating and waiting for the meterman. He would also like to thank Mom and Dad and brother Thane for their support. Chase wishes to dedicate this performance in memory of a loyal friend, Quincy.
Notice

As a courtesy to others, please set pagers to silent mode. Cellular phones should be deactivated. Please deactivate your electronic watch alarm so it will not interrupt the performance.

No photography, video, or audio recording please.

Fire Notice:
The exits are indicated by lighted signs. The front exits are to be used for handicapped or emergencies only. Please take a few minutes to locate the exit nearest you.

THERE WILL BE ONE 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

Taylor University 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.

Support

Taylor University's Theatre Program

Theatre T-shirts are available in the Communication Arts office and are also being sold during intermission in the concession stand at tonight's performance.

Four styles and three colors available.

Prices

$12.00
$14.00
$16.00
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

TAYLOR THEATRE WISHES TO THANK
THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR GENEROUS
HELP WITH THIS
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Arsenic and Old Lace
February 21, 22, 27, 28 and
March 1

A Doll's House
May 2, 3, 8, 9, 10