10-2014

Almost, Maine

John Cariani

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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.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.
Presents

Almost, Maine
Written by John Cariani
October 17-25, 2014

Directed by Ernie Zulia
Technical Direction by John Forsman
Scenic Design by John Sailer
Lighting Design by Ann Courtney
Costume Design by Amanda Quivey
Stage Management by Tara Adelberg

Original music composed by Julian Fleisher

Presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

Cast and Scenes

PROLOGUE
Pete..........................................................................................Stephen Glassbrenner
Ginette..........................................................................................Emma Sala

ACT ONE
Scene 1: HER HEART
East, a repairman.................................................................Taylor Gruenloh
Glory, a hiker ...........................................................................Russell Wilson

‡
Sandrine, his ex-girlfriend....................................................Jeanette Florio
Waitress .....................................................................................Valencia Lombardi-Chisolm

Scene 2: SAD AND GLAD
Jimmy, a heating and cooling guy.................................Rick Blunt
Sandrine, his ex-girlfriend....................................................Jeanette Florio

‡

Scene 3: THIS HURTS
Marvalyn, a woman doing laundry..........................Natalie Pendergast
Steve, an open, kind fellow ............................................Taylor Gruenloh

‡
Lendall, long time-boyfriend..................................................Rick Blunt

ACT TWO
Scene 5: THEY FELL
Randy, a “country boy” ..................................................Taylor Gruenloh
Chad, a “country boy” ..........................................................Rick Blunt

‡

Scene 6: WHERE IT WENT
Phil, a working man............................................................Taylor Gruenloh
Marci, his hardworking wife ..............................................Laren Minton

‡

Scene 7: STORY OF HOPE
Hope, who has traveled the world.................................Hallie Goldberg
Man, who has not.................................................................Stephen Glassbrenner

‡

Scene 8: SEEING THE THING
Rhonda, a tough woman...................................................Russell Wilson
Dave, a not-so-tough man ..................................................Rick Blunt

EPILOGUE

There will be one 15 minute intermission.
Restrooms are located in the main lobby at the front of the building and across the sidewalk in Pleasants Hall.
**Time and Place**

The present. Everything takes place at various locales in Almost, Maine, a small town in northern Maine that doesn’t quite exist, at nine o'clock on a cold, clear, moonless, slightly surreal Friday night in the middle of the deepest part of a northern Maine winter.

**Production Staff**

Director ................................................................................... Ernie Zulia
Technical Director .................................................................... John Forsman
Scenic Designer ...................................................................... John Sailer
Lighting Designer .................................................................... Ann Courtney
Costume Designer .................................................................... Amanda Quivey
Stage Manager ........................................................................ Tara Adelberg
Assistant Stage Manager ..................................................... Catalina Porterfield
Props Manager ....................................................................... Sydney Porter
Sound Designer and Operator ................................................ Rachel Harris
Light Board Operator ........................................................... Caitlin Orzechowski
Fly Operator ........................................................................... Caroline Rottkamp
Costume Crew ................................................................. Virginia Kimball, Mara Osowiecki
Run Crew .............................................................................. Crystal Williams
Scenery Construction ............................................................ Tara Adelberg, Hallie Goldberg,
.......................................................... Emily Lowther, Caitlin Orzechowski, Brenna Rivett,
.......................................................... Lachelle Roddy, Stephanie Tudor, THEA 151 Students
Box Office and House Manager .......................................... Anna Goodwin
Box Office Assistant ............................................................ Elizabeth Ternes

> guest artist  ‡ member of APO

**Very Special Thanks to:**

Hollywood’s Restaurant, The Music Place, WDBJ 7, WSLS 10,
Rob Bessolo, Amanda Phillips and Mill Mountain Theatre

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**A Note from the Director**

We’re happy to welcome you to the launch of our 2014-15 Hollins Theatre season with *Almost, Maine*, one of the most delightful and highly produced plays of the past decade. The excitement climaxes in April with the fabulous Broadway musical, *Little Women*, an exhilarating new version of this much beloved story. In between the two, we are proud to continue the Hollins legacy of great writing, with the Hollins-Mill Mountain Winter Festival of New Works, where we invite you to be among the first audiences to participate in the thrilling process of launching new plays into the world.

It’s our hope that every theatre event you attend at Hollins will somehow take you on an amusement park ride through metaphorical corners of the universe with fellow passengers for the collective thrill of a lifetime! What’s better than laughing at our shared ridiculousness, crying at our great tragedies, and cheering for all our triumphs as they unfold right in front of our eyes, with actors and audience members who are breathing the same air, and experiencing the same moment in the same place at the same time!

To me, the exhilaration of live theatre is a religious experience, not because it’s connected to religious practice, but because it somehow touches our souls. Western theatre, the kind where we sit in rows to watch a play, actually began in ancient Greece as a sacred, spiritual event at religious festivals.

We now live in a world where recent studies have reported that over 30% of Americans identify themselves as “spiritual but not religious.” And some studies say that number is more like 70% for people under 30. Many people with different points of view have strong feelings about this phenomenon. But I find it fascinating to consider how it effects the role of live theatre in our culture. Spiritual but not religious? When you add the amount of technology that absorbs our days as we isolate in front of one kind of screen or another, perhaps the live theatre experience is more important today than ever! At the very least, it gets us all into the same room at the same time breathing the same air and reminding us we’re not alone in our endeavor to understand what it means to be human.

So join us for the entire season, and bring a friend to share an experience that can only happen in a room like this when the lights go down and we take a collective breath in the hopes that our lives will be a little better when the lights come back up.

- Ernie Zulia
Notes About the Play

On place:
Almost, Maine is not a coastal town. It is nowhere near the ocean. And it doesn’t exist. It is a mythical composite of several northern Maine towns. Were it to exist, Almost would be located in the remote heart of Aroostook (say, “uh-ROO-stick”) County, the sparsely populated, northernmost county in Maine. It would occupy unorganized territory that is officially designated as Township Thirteen, Range Seven, or T13-R7. T13-R7 is some seventy-five miles northwest of the northern terminus of Interstate 95; some two hundred miles northwest of the ocean (at its closest); some three hundred miles north of Portland ME; and some four hundred miles north of Boston MA. It is far away from things.

Winters in Almost, Maine are long, cold, and snowy. It often feels like winter up there from October to May. The area’s average January temperature is nine degrees Fahrenheit; average annual snowfall is 115 inches. Winters can also be pretty bleak, because the days are short (less than nine hours at the winter solstice), and the town is in a rolling, empty land of wide open space and big sky. Potato farms dominate to the east; the expansive North Maine Woods are to the west. National Geographic once printed something to this effect: “They call Montana ‘Big Sky Country.’ Well… ‘they’ haven’t seen Northern Maine.”

On the northern lights:
The northern lights are brilliant, ribbon-like, other-worldly displays of light. Northern Mainers are fortunate: They live just inside the southernmost tip of a ring defining the area in which the northern lights regularly appear.

The northern lights occur when atoms become “excited.” During solar storms, electrons are sent streaming towards the Earth. As these electrons enter the Earth’s atmosphere, they strike and excite atoms, ionizing them - charging them by knocking out an electron. When this happens to enough atoms, the brilliant light display that is the aurora borealis hovers and streaks across the sky. When the aurora fades, it’s because the affected atoms have returned to their grounded state.

Almost, Maine is a play about people who are normally very grounded, but who have become very excited by love... and other extraordinary occurrences.

Things You Should Know About Maine

- Maine is the easternmost and northeasternmost state in the United States.
- Maine has 611 miles of international border with Canada, more than any other state except Alaska and Michigan.
- Maine is the only state in the country that’s attached to only one other state.
- Maine is about the same size as the rest of the New England states combined, with a total area of about 35,400 square miles. The other New England states (Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island) have a total area of about 36,600 square miles. Although it comprises almost half of New England’s total land area, Maine contains only 9% of the region’s population.
- With 1.3 million residents, Maine is the most sparsely populated state east of the Mississippi River. It has 40 people per square mile. (Consider this: Vermont has 65 people per square mile; Massachusetts has 810; New Jersey: 1,100.)
- Maine’s largest city is Portland, pop. 65,000. (Consider this: Greenwich CT has 61,000 residents.) Only Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming have smaller “largest cities.”
- Maine’s unorganized territories make up more than half of the state’s total land area.
- Maine is more forested than any other state in the country. It is 90% woods.
- Maine has more moose per square mile than any other state.
- Maine contains the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail: Mt. Katahdin in central Maine.
Things You Should Know About Aroostook County

Almost, Maine would be located 120 miles north of Mt. Katahdin, in the heart of Aroostook County. Aroostook is the largest county east of the Mississippi River, with a land area of 6,700 square miles. It is almost as big as Massachusetts, whose total land area is 7,800 square miles, and it isn’t that much smaller than New Hampshire or Vermont, which are about 9,000 square miles each. Aroostook County is considerably larger than Connecticut (4,800 sq. mi.) and Rhode Island (1,045 sq. mi.) put together.

Aroostook County’s population is about 72,000, making it one of the most sparsely populated counties east of the Mississippi. (Connecticut and Rhode Island’s combined population is 4.5 million.) Aroostook has about 11 people per square mile, making it about as densely populated as the Dakotas.

- Population: probably about 300.
- Median annual household income: probably about $25,000.
- Hours of daylight in mid-January: about 9.
- Average January temperature: 9 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Average annual snowfall: 115 inches.

The Performers

Rick Blunt (Jimmy, Lendall, Chad, Dave) has been a visitor to campus for five years, performing with the American Shakespeare Center’s Touring Troupe. This time, though, Rick is proud to be part of the Hollins community, as artist-in-residence and adjunct faculty member. Thank you for attending, and please come see Rockin’ Shakespeare directed by Rick, which includes a cast of 21 Hollins students.

Jeanette Florio (Sandrine) is a senior theatre major at Hollins. She is thrilled at the opportunity to get to work on Almost, Maine with an amazing and talented company. Jeanette would like to thank Ernie for continually challenging her, Rick for always making her laugh, Russell for being her rock through life, and her family for their continued support.

Stephen Glassbrenner (Pete, Man) is a Roanoke local who has acted for everyone except Mill Mountain. He last appeared here as Amos in Chicago. He’d like thank Ernie, John, Todd, Beth, Taylor, as well as his family. He’d also like to thank you for your support of theatre like this at the Hollins Theatre Institute.

Hallie Goldberg (Hope), originally from Columbia MD, is a sophomore theatre major at Hollins. This is her fifth production and third main-stage show at Hollins. She was most recently involved in Pilgrim at Tinker Creek. She would like to thank her friends and family for attending the show as well as for their never-ending support.

Taylor Gruenloh (East, Steve, Randy, Phil) is an M.F.A. graduate from Hollins University’s Playwright’s Lab and is the artistic director at Tesseract Theatre Company in St. Louis. Plays written include My Alexandria, A Path Far From Here, and An Initial Condition. He produced the St. Louis premieres of To the New Girl... by Samantha Macher, A Thing With Feathers by Kevin Ferguson, and An Almost Perfect Murder by Wendy Marie Martin among others. Acting credits in St. Louis include Angels in America, Proof, The Pillowman, Some Girl(s), Cripple of Inishmaan, and The Shape of Things.

Valencia Lombardi-Chisholm (Waitress) is a first-year student at Hollins. She is excited for her first production here and hopes to continue to work closely with the theatre department. She wants to thank the department for the opportunity and her family for supporting her.

Laren Minton (Marci) is a first-year student at Hollins, and is immensely excited to be a part of the school’s theatre program. Her favorite roles thus far include Sister Mary Amnesia (Nunsense!), Sally Brown (You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown), Rory (Bare: A Pop Opera), and Miss Collins (Portrait of a Madonna). Outside of the theatre Laren enjoys playing music with her friends, observing and being a part of nature, and avidly watching too many movies for her own good. She would like to thank everyone who came out to see the show.
Alexandra Pell (Gayle) is a senior at Hollins. This is her fourth show. She was previously involved with *Mitzi’s Abortion*, *9 to 5*, and *Bellocq’s Ophelia*. She is an international studies major and theatre minor and originally from Austin, Texas.

Natalie Pendergast (Marvalyn) is a sophomore at Hollins. This is her third show and she was recently involved in *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* and the J-Term production of *Decision Height*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their infinite support.

Emma Sala (Ginette) is a first-year undeclared theatre major who is delighted to be appearing in her first show as a student at Hollins. Previous credits include: *Echo in Eleemosynary* (Off the Rails Theatre) and *Rose in Dancing at Lughnasa* (Showtimer’s Theatre). She would like to thank her family and friends (old and new) for their unwavering support.

Russell Wilson (Glory, Rhonda) is a senior at Hollins. This is her sixth show at Hollins and she could not be more excited about it. She has recently appeared in *Mitzi’s Abortion* and *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*. She would like to thank Ernie for his unwavering support during her time at Hollins. It has simply meant the world.

Production Staff

Tara Adelberg (Stage Manager) is a sophomore at Hollins double majoring in creative writing and history. She worked on *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* as an assistant stage manager and was stage manager for a senior thesis production titled *Rotten Peaches*. She is from Baltimore, Maryland, and is a die-hard fan of the Ravens and Orioles. She would like to thank her friends and family for all of their support.

Ann Courtney (Lighting Designer) earned her B.A. from Fordham University and her M.F.A. from the University of South Carolina. She has worked as a lighting designer, lighting supervisor, and stage manager across the United States, Europe, and South America. For Hollins Theatre she designed *Bellocq’s Ophelia* and *A Woman of Independent Means* and is currently teaching Lighting Design. She has been a frequent lighting designer for Hollins dance concerts since 2009. She currently lives in Lexington VA, and is the resident lighting designer for both the Rockbridge Ballet and Halestone Dance Studio, and is an adjunct professor and guest designer for the Washington and Lee department of theatre, dance and film studies.

John Forsman (Technical Director) would like to be known as the mad scientist of the theatre though he is more the eccentric technical director of it. Hailing from Omaha NE, Forsman received his B.F.A. in technical theatre at Nebraska Wesleyan University and immediately after found himself at the University of Virginia, where he received his M.F.A. in technical direction. Working in theatres across the country, he has continued to educate himself in computers, theatre automation, projections, new construction techniques, and anything else shiny that catches his attention. He can oftentimes be found swimming laps in the early morning hours and walking his new puppy, Watson, in the evening, all the time contemplating his next crazy idea or invention.

Anna Goodwin (Box Office and House Manager) is delighted to have finally found her “home” in the theatre after having served the university for more than 11 years in various administrative capacities. She would especially like to thank Ernie, Todd, John, and the members of APO for welcoming her into the family.

Rachel Harris (Sound Designer and Operator) is a first-year student at Hollins. This is her first show and she is super excited. Rachel likes bad jokes and Batman. She hopes that everyone enjoys the show, especially the sound because that’s the best part.

Claire Josselyn (Assistant Stage Manager) is a Hollins sophomore and this is the second show that she has been a part of for the theatre department. She plans to become a theatre major with a minor in education. She is extremely grateful for all the love and support that she has received from her friends and family.
**Virginia Kimball** (Costume Crew) is a first-year student, and this is her first show at Hollins. She is from New Kent VA, and her major is undecided as of now. Virginia would like to thank her amazing family for coming to see the show.

**Caitlin Orzechowski** (Light Board Operator) is a Hollins senior and studies mathematics and Spanish. She has recently returned from a semester in Spain and is very excited to be back with Hollins Theatre for her sixth main stage production. Her main goal in life is to see the world.

**Mara Osowiecki** (Costume Crew) is a Hollins junior. When she takes her head out of the cloud that is creative writing, she usually finds a needle thrust in her hands. Her previous experience includes assistant costume designer for Comedy Central’s *The Legend of Neil*, and an extra on Felicia Day's *The Guild*.

**Sydney Porter** (Parka Person and Props Manager) is a first-year student at Hollins. This is her first show at Hollins and she looks forward to many more.

**Catalina Porterfield** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a first-year student from Staunton VA studying to be a theatre major with a possible major/minor in film. She is excited to be working with the Hollins community on more productions.

**Amanda Quivey** (Costume Designer) is a freelance costume and scenic designer based in Roanoke. Her previous productions include *To Kill a Mockingbird* at Mill Mountain Theatre; *Goodnight Moon, A Woman of Independent Means, Decision Height, Belloq’s Ophelia, 9 to 5, Mitzi’s Abortion, and Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* at Hollins University; *Junie B Jones*: Jingle Bells..., *Stuart Little, How I Became A Pirate, Little House on the Prairie, Teen Brain* (costumes and scenery), and *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* at Roanoke Children’s Theatre. She received her M.F.A. in theatre design from the University of Iowa where she designed *Misalliance, Eye Piece, and sunshine* (costumes), *Urinetown and The Book of Liz* (scenery), and *Las Hermanas Padilla* and *What the Butler Saw* (scenery/costumes) for Iowa Summer Rep.

**Caroline Rottkamp** (Fly Operator) is excited to be a part of this crew and performance. She has previously appeared at Hollins in *9 to 5* and is an English major and a theatre minor.

**John Sailer** (Set Designer) has designed scenery and lighting for countless productions in the Roanoke Valley and across the United States. He has served as resident scenic designer for Mill Mountain Theatre and Opera Roanoke. John holds an M.F.A. in scenography from the University of Oklahoma. He is married to Rachel Sailer, who heads the drama department at Salem High School, and is very proud of his two talented children, Amy and Jake.

**Crystal Williams** (Run Crew) is a first-year student at Hollins. This is her first show at Hollins and she will also be in *Rockin’ Shakespeare* in November. She is a film major and originally from West Orange, New Jersey. She would like to thank everyone who worked on the show for being awesome.

**Ernie Zulia** (Director) worked as a professional theatre artist for over 25 years before coming to Hollins in 2004 to serve as associate professor and chair of the theatre department. He is the recipient of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Award for Outstanding Teaching Artist. In addition to his many productions on the Hollins stage, he has directed dozens of plays, musicals, operas, and world premieres in regional theatres throughout the United States, and internationally. His stage adaptation of Robert Fulghum's international best-selling book *All I Really Need To Know I Learned In Kindergarten* has received thousands of productions around the world. He also created and directed the musical revue of the songs of Academy Award-winning composer Stephen Schwartz (Wicked), titled *Magic To Do*, which he directed at Ford’s Theatre in Washington, D.C. This brought further collaborations with Schwartz, including his direction of the American premiere of *Children of Eden*. Zulia is the founding director of the International Theatre Laboratory of Crete, which, in collaboration with Virginia Tech, had its inaugural season in 2001 when artists from five countries assembled to explore a global theatre language for the 21st century. He served as associate artistic director at Roanoke’s Mill Mountain Theatre from 1987 to 1995, and co-artistic director at The Highlands Playhouse in North Carolina from 1980 to 1987. He was an artistic associate at Apple Tree Theatre in Chicago for 12 years. A member of SDC and The Dramatists Guild, Zulia holds an M.F.A.in directing from Northwestern University, and a B.A. in English and drama from SUNY Geneseo.

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and
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in the Wells Fargo Auditorium

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Music Events – Fall 2014

Sunday, November 2, 3 pm, duPont Chapel
Valley Chamber Orchestra
Please join Valley Chamber Orchestra for its fall concert featuring a variety of favorites including the majestic Russian Easter Overture by Rimsky-Korsakov and music from the film, The Lion King. Percussionist, Zubin Hathi, will be featured in Koppel’s Marimba Concerto.

Sunday, November 16, 3 pm, Talmadge Recital Hall
Liebeslieder Waltzes
Celebrating the dedication of the new entrance to Talmadge Recital Hall with a special performance of Brahms’ Liebeslieder Waltzes, featuring guest artists Jeff Prillaman, Marcia Thom-Kaley, Gregory Parker, and Judith Cline, assisted by Kerry Morgiewicz and Melia Garber on the piano. Reception to follow.

Sunday, November 16, 7 pm, duPont Chapel
World Music Ensemble
The Hollins University World Music Ensemble and special guests will present a lively evening of music from the Caribbean and Africa performed on steel drums and marimbas.

Thursday, November 20, 7 pm, Talmadge Recital Hall
Student Recital
Join us as Hollins students present a recital of music for family and friends.

Sunday, December 7, 7:30 pm, duPont Chapel
White Gift Service
This beloved Hollins tradition celebrates Advent and Christmas through a joyous service of music, scripture readings and dance. The Hollins University Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, the Divine in Motion Praise Team are joined by carillon, organ, and the Roanoke Chamber Brass.

Dance Events – Fall 2014

Thursday-Saturday, November 13-15, 8 pm, Hollins Theatre
Fall Dance Concert
Featuring student and faculty performance work; ranging from traditional to cutting edge post-modern, improvisation, and multimedia dance.

Friday, November 14, 2 pm, Botetourt Reading Room
Fall Dance Artists’ Talk
M.F.A. Dance students share creative processes and research efforts utilized to create new Fall Dance performance work.

Thursdays, November 6 and December 4, 7 pm, VAC 119
In Conversation With...
Join in talks with dance artists and Hollins visiting guest artists Jennifer Nugent in November and Nia Love in December.

All music and dance events are free and open to the public.

Experience the Exciting 2014-15 Hollins Theatre Season!

Hollins-Mill Mountain Theatre Winter Festival of New Works
Feel the thrill of taking part in the development of new work! Actively engage as the first audience to experience these new plays written by our own Playwright's Lab playwrights. This event is the cornerstone in the growing partnership between Hollins and MMT, and will feature three never before seen productions presented on the professional stages of Mill Mountain Theatre.

Helvetica
By Will Coleman, Hollins M.F.A. ’16
January 16-17, 23-24 at 7:30 pm, January 18 and 25 at 2 pm
Mill Mountain Theatre, Waldron Stage
A beautifully lyrical and whimsical play that is certain to grab your heart. With wit and charm, an unlikely guide leads bestselling children’s storybook writer Helvetica Burke through the adventures of life and death, family and fantasy, past and present, encountering laughter and tears all along the way. Admission: $10 general.

An Initial Condition
By Taylor Gruenloh, Hollins M.F.A. ’15
Directed by Bob Moss, Hollins distinguished faculty and founding artistic director, Playwright’s Horizon
February 17-21 at 7:30 pm, February 21-22 at 2 pm
Mill Mountain Theatre, Waldron Stage
A determination to create a miracle turns into a journey of the unknown.... Chance, a young mathematician, is brought on to help map out cancer in a young woman’s body. His determination to solve the problem of Sarah’s illness through mathematical oncology takes Chance to places that are unimaginable; professionally, personally, emotionally, and spiritually. Admission: $10 general.

Experience the Exciting 2014-15 Hollins Theatre Season!
**Experience the Exciting 2014-15 Hollins Theatre Season!**

**Little Women, The Broadway Musical**
Based on the classic novel by Louisa May Alcott. Music by Jason Howland, lyrics by Mindi Dickstein, book by Allan Knee.
April 10-11, 15-18 at 7:30 pm, April 12 at 2 pm Hollins Main Stage

Every smart girl wants to grow up to be Jo March…especially the aspiring writers! With the kind of creativity that audiences have come to expect from Hollins Theatre, Jo leads you through this timeless captivating story of personal discovery, brought to life through a glorious Broadway score. Set during the Civil War in New England, a mother and four daughters experience heartache, hope, and everlasting love.

Sure to be the event of the year for women (young and old), watch our website for exciting special events surrounding the Roanoke premiere of this iconic story. Share the joy of Little Women with your mother, daughter, sister, and the women who fill those roles in so many ways. Men are not only welcome, but encouraged to come and learn why women love “Little Women.”

Admission: $10 general. FREE to current Hollins students, faculty, and staff.

**The Adventures of Iris and Walter**
Based on the books of Elissa Haden Guest, Hollins M.F.A. ’12
Adapted By Nicole B. Adkins, Hollins M.F.A. ’12
February 7 at 10 am and 2 pm, Mill Mountain Theatre, Trinkle Stage

Hollins Theatre is excited to announce the world premiere production of the adventures of Iris and Walter! Iris is lonely and unhappy when her family moves from the big city to the country, until she climbs a tree and to her surprise meets her new best friend, Walter. A rambunctious baby sister, an ornery cousin, and the exciting school play present the duo with great adventures (and important learning opportunities). Recommended for children of all ages, especially pre-K through fourth grade.

Based on the award-winning children’s storybooks by Elissa Haden Guest and adapted by Nicole B. Adkins, this Hollins Legacy Series production spotlights two shining stars from the Hollins community of great writers.

Admission: $5 for children, $8 for adults.

**The Excitement Continues in the Hollins Theatre Upstairs Studio!**

**Rockin’ Shakespeare**
November 3-4 at 7:30 pm, November 5 at 5 pm Upstairs Studio Theatre

Don’t miss this rollicking showcase of Shakespeare’s greatest hits! Featuring excerpts from Romeo and Juliet, Titus Andronicus, Twelfth Night, Macbeth, and Winters Tale. The Bard’s immortal words are creatively-stitched together in a constantly moving show by an ensemble cast of 21 Hollins students under the direction of Hollins Theatre’s 2014 guest artist-in-residence, Rick Blunt, the comic genius from the American Shakespeare Center’s touring company. This show will appeal to every fan or soon to be fan of Shakespeare.

Event is free and open to the public.

**Ten-Minute Play Festival**
December 4 at 5 pm, December 5 at 7:30 pm Upstairs Studio Theatre

Featuring work by national playwrights and spotlighting the winner of Hollins 2014 High School Ten Minute Play Contest, these student produced and directed short plays provide a showcase where Hollins best can flex their creative muscles and show off their growing talent!

Event is free and open to the public.

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AUDITION!

Ten-Minute Play Festival
October 19 at 6 pm, Upstairs Studio Theatre
A wide variety of roles will be cast for five outstanding ten-minute plays to be included in this student-directed extravaganza. This is a great way to unfurl your acting wings for those “drama queens” not quite ready for the Main Stage.

The Adventures of Iris and Walter
November 2 at 6:30 pm, Upstairs Studio Theatre
For January 2015, we will create a children’s theatre company of actors and technicians to mount the world premiere of a new play based on the award-winning children’s book series about Iris and Walter. Following three weeks of rehearsals and preparation, the company will tour area elementary schools and present four performances, two on the Hollins Theatre Main Stage and two at Mill Mountain Theatre. Students interested in getting Short Term credit must audition in order to register. This is a fun and rewarding way to spend your January AND get to know the Hollins Theatre family!

Little Women, the Broadway Musical
November 16-17 at 7 pm, Main Stage
Coming this spring is the heart-felt musical based on the classical novel about a mother and four daughters by Louisa May Alcott. Sure to be the event of the year for women young and old, and the men who honor them. Audition to be part of the cast or interview to join the large crew of technicians.

For more information: contact ezulia@hollins.edu
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