

Eagle Theatre Company

PRESENTS

OSCAR WILDE'S

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OF BEING
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COMEDY!

DIRECTED BY JOSEPH WRIGHT

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Message from the Mayor



As Mayor of the City of Eagle, I want to welcome you to Eagle Theatre Company and their exciting 2024/2025 season!

The new theatre is thriving. It continues to provide lively and engaging entertainment for our Community, and this season's line-up is no exception. From comedy to drama, there's truly something for everyone--including the opportunity to volunteer. As a non-profit, Eagle Theatre Company is run and solely supported by volunteers who want to have a positive impact

on the Eagle Community. I think you'll agree, the performing arts play a unique role in bringing people together. Please join me in supporting their efforts to grow and enrich the local Arts Community, and be a part of what makes Eagle a special place to be. Enjoy the show!

Mayor Brad Pike
City of Eagle

Welcome to Eagle Theatre Company!



From deep in our hearts we thank YOU, our faithful and enthusiastic supporters, for the incredible journey we've shared since launching ETC. As we open season three, our mission remains to impact our community in a significant way – through the art of live theatre.

The 2024/2025 season also brings a fresh new look to our theatre seating. The new chairs are sure to enhance your theatrical experience, which is made possible by a myriad of talents and skills from many people. We do it for love and the opportunity to bring a story to life. Please consider the many volunteer opportunities both on and off the stage, and become a part of the ETC family.

To our donors and sponsors, your generosity has been vital to our success in creating a thriving community theatre. To EPAC, we are thrilled to perform our shows in your Black Box Theatre and value the opportunity to work together. My heartfelt appreciation to the Board for sharing in the leadership of our organization. And to all of you, thank you for believing in ETC.

Ever grateful,
Deborah Hertzog
ETC Co-Founder and President

Welcome to Eagle Performing Arts Center



Eagle Performing Arts Center (EPAC) welcomes Eagle Theatre Company (ETC) to our Black Box Theatre! EPAC is a classical ballet school, training dancers ages 3-1/2 through adult. Since 2004, we pride ourselves on providing the highest caliber of ballet and dance training in the Treasure Valley. With a nurturing and humanistic approach, we strive to instill a lifelong love for the art form and provide training of the whole dancer. Since the inception of EPAC's Black Box Theatre in 2020, my vision for our ballet school has been to become a true "Performing Arts Center" and community partner. ETC is the first organization outside of EPAC and Idaho Regional Ballet (Idaho's premier pre-professional ballet company) to utilize the space. We continue to welcome ETC with open arms and look forward to another fantastic season and many ENCORE performances!

Elizabeth Keller
Director, Eagle Performing Arts Center
Artistic Director, Idaho Regional Ballet



Eagle Theatre Company is a proud member of
American Association of Community Theatre (AACT)
and **Idaho Association of Community Theatre (I-ACT)**



Eagle Theatre Company Organization

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT: Deborah Hertzog
VP1 (MEMBERSHIP): Patricia Walker
VP2 (PLAY SELECTION/PRODUCTION): Bethany Bertulis
SECRETARY: Fred Plassman
TREASURER: Irina Kazakova
FUNDRAISING: Karen Arguello
MARKETING: Kathryn Hendricksen
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: Susan Hume

Additional Roles

BUSINESS MANAGER: Irina Kazakova
GRANT COORDINATOR: Karen Arguello
PATRON COMMUNICATIONS: Patricia Walker
PHOTOGRAPHER: Sue Anderson of Black Cat Photography
GRAPHIC DESIGN: Christine Erwin, Evette McDowell
WEB DESIGN/ADMINISTRATION: Sue Anderson, Kathryn Hendricksen
TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATOR Fred Plassman
ADVISORY BOARD: Ross Ely, David Garrison, Norb Murray

Meet Our Board of Directors



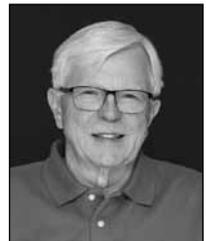
Deborah Hertzog



Patricia Walker



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Fred Plassman



Irina Kazakova



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Susan Hume

The Importance of Being Earnest

By Oscar Wilde

Directed by Joseph Wright

Show Synopsis

Follow the hilarious misadventures of two friends as they navigate the complexities of Victorian society and love. Jack Worthing, whose alter-ego “Ernest” comes back to haunt him in the form of his rakish friend Algernon Moncrieff, who adopts the false identity to woo Jack’s ward Cecily. But Jack-as-Ernest has just proposed to Algernon’s cousin Gwendolen, to the great disapproval of her mother, the rigid Lady Bracknell. When the two ladies—both engaged to “Ernest Worthing”—meet up, chaos and hilarity ensue.

Genre: British Comedy/Farce

Audience: Ages 13+

Scene Breakdown

TIME

England, 1895

ACT I

Algernon Moncrieff’s Flat, Half Moon Street, London W.

ACT II

The Garden at the Manor House, Woolton, Hertfordshire

ACT III

Drawing Room, Manor House

Cast

In order of appearance

Lane, the Manservant.....	Dave Meadows
Algernon Moncrieff	Jordan Bjorkman
John “Jack” Worthing, J.P.....	Jesse Bauder
Lady Augusta Bracknell	Sarah Wright
Miss Gwendolen Fairfax	Kimberly Bjorkman
Miss Cecily Cardew	Melissa Brodhead
Miss Laetitia Prism, Governess	Elaine Ambrose
Rev. Canon Frederick Chasuble, D.D.	George Patterson
Merriman, the Butler	Timothy Schmidt
Gladys, the Parlourmaid	Kimberly Jensen

The Importance of Being Earnest **Director, Stage Manager and Cast**



Joseph Wright
Director



Marti Hinckley
Stage Manager



Dave Meadows
as Lane



Jordan Bjorkman
as Algernon Moncrieff



Jesse Bauder
as Jack Worthing



Sarah Wright
as Lady Bracknell



Kimberly Bjorkman
as Gwendolen Fairfax



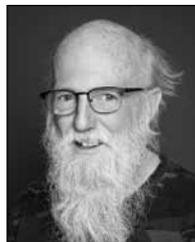
Melissa Brodhead
as Cecily Cardew



Elaine Ambrose
as Miss Prism



George Patterson
as Rev. Chasuble



Timothy Schmidt
as Merriman



Kimberly Jensen
as Parlourmaid

ETC FYIs

- This play has (3) Acts with 2 brief intermissions
 - Refreshments available before the performance and during the first intermission
 - Please silence your phones/watches, and remain seated to keep the aisles clear during the performance
 - The use of any audio/video recording device and any photography, with or without flash, is strictly prohibited
 - Meet and greet with the cast after the show, in the lobby
 - Smoking or vaping is not permitted anywhere in the building
-
-

Who's Who

Joseph Wright — Director

Idaho born, a Boise resident, and national traveler courtesy of IBM, Joseph's life-long adventure with the performing arts includes the Burbank Civic Light Opera, the UK-Lexington Summer Series, and Boise's Stage Coach, Knock-'Em-Dead, Spontaneous Productions, Daisy's Madhouse, Eagle Theatre Company, and Boise Little Theater. A few of his many roles: 'Charles Darwin' in "Darwin in Malibu" at Stage Coach, 'Mysterious Man' in "Into The Woods" for Boise Music Week 2022, and most recently 'Dr. Bradman' in "Blithe Spirit" here at ETC. He's directed multiple shows for Stage Coach, and presented the IACT-award-winning "Graceland" as a part of ETC's premier. "This cast has been most "Earnest" in bringing you this cherished 1895 comedy, I am proud of the engaging characters they have crafted with me. May it bring you all joy!"

Director's Note

In this classic comedy, Oscar Wilde has created a superficial fiction that transcends mere farce. All is purely surface, purely play. Appearance and style are treated as essential, not just by the dual identities of the young fellows-about-town, but by the butlers, the matriarch, the ingenues, that dragon-of-propriety the governess, and the clergyman. Convention is exposed and celebrated as wholly artificial. The ceremonies of social life are quite exploded: death, birth, engagement, marriage, celibacy, fidelity, must all be arranged into an aesthetic pattern which satisfies the egotists who inhabit the story, and who are drawn with the disarming innocence and ruthless tunnel-vision of children. Our performers bring you Wilde's absurdist dream, and the play's celebration of high artifice makes an appropriate finale to his career as a dramatist.

Marti Hinckley — Stage Manager

Marti is a performance director and has been performing, directing, and more for decades. She was born in Chicago, Illinois. Marti was introduced to theater and improv at John Belushi's Art Center at the College of DuPage. She loves to share her talents in many artistic ways: from Chicago to San Francisco, and now Boise. Miss Marti is so very excited to be involved again after a 7-year break. She knows you will love the show!

Additional Information

Our production has utilized the 1899 first edition of *The Importance of Being Earnest* as edited by Oscar Wilde himself, which is freely available in the public domain.

Cast

Dave Meadows as Lane

Having moved to the USA four years ago, Dave is happy to have found his theatrical “home” in Eagle Theatre Company after walking up to an ETC table last year at a street fair! His prior roles for the Company were in *Almost, Maine* and in the staged reading of *In Lieu of Flowers*. He appreciates Oscar Wilde’s sentiment: “I love acting. It is so much more real than life.”

Jordan Bjorkman as Algernon Moncrieff

Making his theatrical debut, Jordan is thrilled to embrace his inner scamp. A developer and tech nerd working from home, he’s stepping out to explore new horizons. Like Algernon, Jordan has a knack for accumulating debts—many of which are in the form of half-finished house projects. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife and pets, playing video games, and strumming his guitar.

Jesse Bauder as John “Jack” Worthing, J.P.

Having always had a propensity toward storytelling, Jesse freely admits that from an early age, those who knew him never saw him miss an opportunity to spin a yarn or play a part in some adventure. Having worked in the film industry, including a stint at Medieval Times, he returns to acting after a catastrophic nerve injury in a motorcycle accident in 2015. *The Importance of Being Earnest* marks his second role since his return.

Sarah Wright as Lady Augusta Bracknell

Sarah is delighted to be a part of her first Eagle Theatre Company production. She loves “treading the boards” (and directing and designing sound) with various theaters in the Valley. Raising her children, Oliver and Harper, has given her unique insight into the role of Lady Bracknell, though she aims for a more gentle and fun parenting style. Thankfully, her husband Travis is much more present than Lord Bracknell, and she deeply appreciates his “earnest” support.

Kimberly Bjorkman as Gwendolen Fairfax

Kimberly delights in bread and butter, both on and off the stage. She has previously performed in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Exit Pursued By a Bear*, and *Second Samuel*. When not acting, Kimberly enjoys spending time with her husband, playing video games, gardening, and doting on her cats. A true foodie, she has a particular fondness for Thai and sushi.

Melissa Brodhead as Cecily Cardew

Melissa is excited to be a part of Eagle Theatre Company! With a passion for storytelling that began in childhood, Melissa has been actively involved in community theater, where she discovered her love for the stage. Her most recent shows have been *Anastasia* with Huckleberry Star Theater and Boise Music Week’s *Cinderella*. Melissa would like to especially thank her husband Brandon for his continued support in following her passion, and her kids for always cheering her on.

Cast (Continued)

Elaine Ambrose as Miss Laetitia Prism

Elaine Ambrose is a bestselling author of 12 books including the humorous titles *Midlife Cabernet* and *Midlife Happy Hour*. A third-generation Idahoan, Elaine was the state's first female TV news reporter. She also is a ventriloquist, viral blogger, storyteller, and writing coach. She appreciates the opportunity to appear in her first play with this splendid cast. Elaine lives in Eagle with her patient husband and near her children and grandchildren.

George Patterson as Rev. Canon Frederick Chasuble D.D.

Although he agrees with Oscar Wilde's advice: "Be yourself, everyone else is taken," George has devoted much time and energy attempting to appear to be someone else on various stages. His recent attempts with his friends at the Eagle Theatre Company have been among the most rewarding of those endeavors.

Timothy Schmidt as Merriman

Many years back on a dark and stormy night, a Furby was painted on a set piece for the Death Star, and ever on, Tim was beknownst as Loki. He loves to have fun and so the jesting continues. He thanks Eagle Theatre Company for giving him the opportunity to act with this cast and director. Tim fell in love with performing in Junior High and has been involved in Theater since. He has played most community theaters in the Treasure Valley. He is also an accomplished artist. With thanks to his three beautiful and smart daughters, for who he can be today.

Kimberly Jensen as Gladys, the Parlourmaid

Growing up, Kimberly spent four summers performing various roles in the Hill Cumorah Pageant, and participated in a few youth plays. *Blithe Spirit* was her first community theatre play. She is very excited to be returning for *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and is delighted to learn from and work with such an amazing cast, director, and crew!

Get Involved with Eagle Theatre Company

- Become a Member Donor and support our vision and purpose.
- Consider one of the many ETC volunteer opportunities:
 - **Acting, Directing, Behind the Scenes**
 - **House Staff:** Ushering, Box Office, Concessions
 - **Committees:** Budget and Finance, Fundraising, Marketing, Membership, Play Selection/Play Production, Volunteers

To join, donate or volunteer please visit eagletc.org

Production Crew

DirectorJoseph Wright
Stage Manager Marti Hinckley
Lighting and Sound.....David Garrison and Joseph Wright
Set Illustrations Timothy Schmidt and Joseph Wright
Costume Lead Elizabeth Greeley
Costume and Hair AssistantKalene Fowler
Properties and Crew Lead..... Paula Wright
Properties and Crew Assistant Kimberly Jensen

Director's Special Thanks

Hume's Handyman Service
Cheryl Blauer – On With The Show
Gary Miller – Boise Little Theater
Lady Bracknell's Costumes – Shannon Peterson
Claudia Scott and Deborah Hertzog

House Staff and Volunteers

Opening Night Reception Karen Arguello, Stacy Beem
House Staff and Set Crew Volunteers Susan Hume (House Manager)
Linda Fulkerson, Carol Westphal
Marianne Robinson, Heidi Prigge
Linda Odom, Siobhan Reynolds
Shari Gonzales, Fred Plassman
Debbie DePaul, Peter Robbins
Ray Arguello, Karen Arguello
Irina Kazakova, Patricia Walker
Bethany Bertulis, Deborah Hertzog, Kathryn Hendricksen

ETC's Grateful Acknowledgements

Albertsons, Foothills Christian Church (new theatre chairs)

Heartwood Properties (trailer used to transport the chairs)

Raffle Basket Donors: Porterhouse Market, the Chocolate bar,
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Eagle Theatre Company



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Member Donations for 2024/2025

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Annette and Craig Christensen • Donna and Steve Guerber
Paula and Greg Culet

Friend (\$30+)

Naomi Kinert

Upcoming Events

Visit eagletc.org/events for more information

*Auditions for ETC's production of "These Shining Lives" November
16, 17 (eagletc.org/auditions)*

Giving Tuesday – December 3 (National Fundraiser)

Community Gathering/Holiday Celebration – December 9

Run of "These Shining Lives" – January 24 – February 9, 2025



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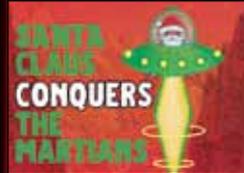
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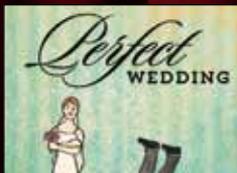
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Nov 29 - Dec 23, 2024



Jan 30 - 23, 2025



Jan 30 - Feb 8, 2025



Feb 21 - Mar 8, 2025



Mar 13 - 23, 2025



Apr 8 - 19, 2025



Apr 24 - May 4, 2025



May 16 - Jun 7, 2025



Jun 11 - 23, 2025



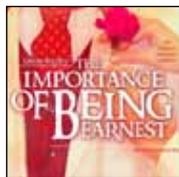
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November 2024

The Importance of Being Earnest

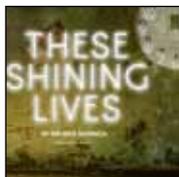
Written by Oscar Wilde

Directed by Joseph Wright

Follow the hilarious misadventures of two friends as they navigate the complexities of Victorian society and love. Jack Worthing, whose alter-ego “Ernest” comes back to haunt him in the form of his rakish friend Algernon Moncrieff, who adopts the false identity to woo Jack’s ward Cecily. But Jack-as-Ernest has just proposed to Algernon’s cousin Gwendolen, to the great disapproval of her mother, the rigid Lady Bracknell. When the two ladies—both engaged to “Ernest Worthing”—meet up, chaos and hilarity ensue.

Genre: Comedy/Farce

Audience Age: 13+



January/February 2025

These Shining Lives

Written by Melanie Marnich

Directed by Tara Bastian

These Shining Lives, based on a true story, chronicles the strength and determination of women considered expendable in their day, exploring their true story and its continued resonance. Catherine and her friends are dying, it’s true; but theirs is a story of survival in its most transcendent sense, as they refuse to allow the company that stole their health to kill their spirits—or endanger the lives of those who come after them.

Genre: Dramey

Audience Age: 13+



April 2025

Southern Fried Funeral

Written by Osborne & Eppler

Directed by Jesse Sundet

Dewey Frye has just died, and the rest of his family is left to pick up the pieces—that is if they don’t do each other in first! Not only does matriarch Dorothy have to contend with sudden widowhood, but she’s also faced with church-committee harpy Ozella Meeks sticking her nose in the family business, Dewey’s snake-in-the-grass brother making a grab for her house, and two grown daughters reliving their childhood rivalry. Funerals bring out the worst, the best, and the funniest in people, and the Fryes are no exception. A big-hearted story about family—Southern style!

Genre: Comedy

Audience Age: 13+