

Houghton College Lyric Theatre presents...



ORDINARY DAYS

By Adam Gwon

GALLANTRY

By Douglas Moore

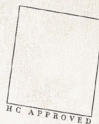
THE WORST ONE EVER

By Gary Belshaw

"HALL"
HOUGHTON
COLLEGE

Directed by Amanda Cox

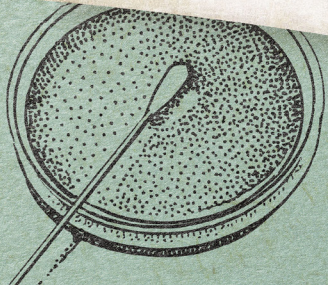
Ordinary Days is produced by special arrangement with
R & H Theatricals: www.rnh.com

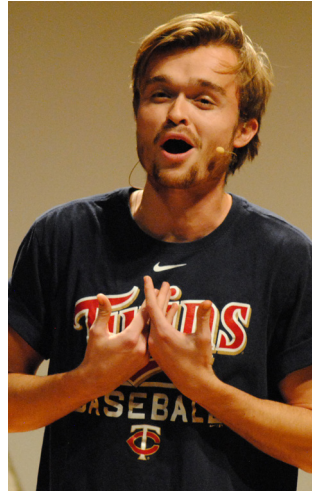


November 14, 15
7:00 PM

November 16
2:00 PM, 7:00 PM

CFA Recital Hall,
Houghton College





Director's Note

I am delighted to welcome each of you to our Fall 2019 Lyric Theatre production! As ever, this semester's preparation has been such a pleasure as I work with these students, helping them to create characters onstage who are real and engaging, encouraging them to seek vulnerability and immediacy in their work, and challenging them beyond what they think they are able to do. The result is the joyful, hilarious, poignant, meaningful production you will see today.

The Worst One Ever, by Gary Belshaw, is a delightful and crazy tale of three college students in their dorm room, commiserating over their respective "worst ones" - a father, a boyfriend, and a professor. They support and encourage one another through the highs and lows, and eventually each receives new information that may very well change her tune! And all of this in about ten minutes!

Gallantry, by Douglas Moore, is a hilarious take on the soap opera concept - this is an actual opera depicting the filming of a soapy medical drama! We begin with our Announcer, who opens the show and introduces our first sponsor - Lochinvar Soap! And then - the action commences. Dr. Gregg is after Nurse Lola, but she is already engaged! But wait, her fiancé is at risk! Whom can she trust? There are scalpels! And the advertisements continue in between scenes for soap and floor wax. It is raucous, campy fun.

Ordinary Days, by Adam Gwon, is a contemporary musical set in New York City about four people and how their lives cross paths and intertwine, and the ways their past and present experiences impact their behavior, their perception of the world, and their relationships. Gwon has created a beautiful story in which they learn from one another, and grow to appreciate and value the ways their differences enhance life for each another and cause their relationships to flourish. Gwon shows us the fun, the irony, the uncertainty, and the beauty of human relationships.

It is an absolute joy and delight to work with these students. They are incredibly talented, hard-working, creative, and kind. They are affirming of one another and they lift each other up. I am so incredibly pleased with their work this semester! These students are willing and eager to think deeply about their characters and to create real people on stage. I am constantly impressed with what they are able to do. God has clearly been at work in each of our lives, strengthening, enabling, lifting us up and inspiring us to live beyond ourselves as we seek to glorify Him and serve Him and His kingdom. We are so thankful.

I look forward to next semester, Spring 2020, when we will produce Marsha Norman and Lucy Simon's musical "The Secret Garden." Be sure to come back and join us!

I absolutely cannot wait to share our show with you all. I know that you will laugh, cry, and be moved and changed by what we have to share. Enjoy the show!

Amanda Cox, Director

The Worst One Ever

by Gary Belshaw

A messy dorm room

Stephanie: Danielle Ferris

Jennifer: Sarah Halvorson

Jessica: Rebekah Scharf



Gallantry

by Douglas Moore

The filming studio of the medical soap opera "Gallantry"

Announcer: Abigail Aguirre

Dr. Gregg: Caleb Durant

Nurse Lola: Danielle Ferris
(Th/Sat eve)

Sarah Halvorson
(Fri eve/Sat mat)

Donald Hopewell: Michael McLure

— 15 Minute Intermission —

Ordinary Days by Adam Gwon

Warren: Ethan Bast (Th/Sat eve)

Collin Zehr (Fri eve/Sat mat)

Deb: Abigail Aguirre (Th/Sat eve)

Brionna Childs (Fri eve/Sat mat)

Jason: Joshua Ellis (Th/Sat eve)

Daniel Bussey (Fri eve/Sat mat)

Claire: Rebekah Scharf (Th/Sat eve)

Natalie Kyvik (Fri eve/Sat mat)

Songs:

One by One by One

Don't Wanna Be Here

The Space Between

Let Things Go

Dear Professor Thompson/Life Story

I'm Trying

Saturday at the Met

Favorite Places

Sort-Of Fairy Tale

Fine

Big Picture

Hundred-Story City

Party Interlude

Calm

Life Story (Reprise)

Gotta Get Out

Rooftop Duet/Falling

I'll Be Here

Beautiful



Musicians

Conductor for The Worst One Ever and Ordinary Days – Brandon Mellerski

Conductor for Gallantry – Amelia Makus

Piano – Alyssa Pyne

Percussion – Kylie Tomaselli

Production Crew

Director – Amanda Cox

Stage Manager – Michael Earle

Sound – Michael Earle

Lighting – Jackson Edwards, Brady Bowen

Stage Crew – Milena Lima, Grace Deitrick, Andrew Reith

Graduate Assistants – Amelia Makus, Mila Lima, Michael Earle

Publicity and Materials

Houghton College Marketing and Communication:

Amy Tetta, Chris Tetta, Timothy Paschalis, Emma Carpenter

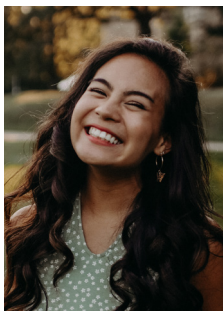
Special thanks to:

Houghton Wesleyan Church

Ben Colter



Meet the Cast:



ABBY AGUIRRE is a junior from Monroe, NY studying Business Administration and Music Industry. This will be her thirteenth production, and her second with Houghton College Lyric Theatre. She is also a Resident Assistant for Gillette Hall, a team leader for Koinonia Ministries, a member of Houghton's Cheerleading team, and a barista in Java 101! Her favorite thing to do is to lead worship, and make music. She sincerely thanks you for attending the show, and would also like to promote her Instagram @abbsaguirre.



ETHAN BAST is in his third year at Houghton, and is majoring in Music Education with a concentration in voice. He comes from a small town in upstate New York called Belleville. He has been as active in our Lyric Theatre program as he possibly could be, starting with his role of Will Parker in Oklahoma! during his first year at Houghton. Last fall, he was a member of the cast of Songs for a New World. Most recently, he played Antonio in our spring production of Le Nozze di Figaro. However, his career on stage did not start with us. Ethan has always been heavily involved with theatre productions for a majority of his life. He has played many roles, including The Minstrel in Once Upon A Mattress, Bert in Mary Poppins, and Troy Bolton in High School Musical on stage. He is delighted to return to the stage with his fellow schoolmates.



DANIEL BUSSEY is a senior vocal performance major from Leicester, England. He moved to Kenya when he was a year old and has lived there since. He loves playing soccer, and has played on the Houghton Men's Soccer Team throughout his time here. This is Dan's sixth production with Houghton College Lyric Theatre; previously he appeared in I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, Menotti's The Telephone, Curly in Rodgers and Hammerstein's Oklahoma!, last fall's Songs for a New World, and most recently the Count in Mozart's Le Nozze di Figaro. Most recently, Dan was named one of twenty-four National Semifinalists in the NATS National Musical Theatre Competition, and will compete in NYC in January. He has thoroughly enjoyed being a part of this show and hopes you enjoy it just as much.



BRIONNA CHILDS is a Junior from Warren, PA studying Communications and Vocal Performance. She has been participating in theatre for many years outside of college, but this will be her third performance with Lyric Theatre. Brionna previously performed with us in Songs for a New World and Le Nozze di Figaro. She is very excited to share this show with you that we've all worked so hard on to bring to life. She hopes you enjoy!



CALEB DURANT is a sophomore at Houghton College. He is very excited to be performing in Gallantry as a part of this fall's Lyric Theatre production. The cast has worked tirelessly to make this show a great one! Caleb has played in a few other shows, including Le Nozze di Figaro, which lyric theatre performed last spring. Besides this, he has also played as Albert in Bye Bye Birdie, Scar in Lion King Jr, and Sebastian in The Little Mermaid. Caleb would like to thank Professor Cox for motivating him and all of her other students this semester to work hard to make this show a success. He would also like to thank Dr. Kimberly Prins Moeller, his voice teacher, for helping him sing this part the best that he can. He has had so much fun working with his fellow cast members to put these shows together, and he hopes you enjoy!



JOSHUA ELLIS is a Junior vocal performance major from Forestville, New York in his fourth production with the Greatbatch School of Music Lyric Theatre program as well as his fourteenth show. He has performed in four master works with the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus and Orchestra including Beethoven's 9th Symphony and William Walton's "Belshazzar's Feast" under the baton of JoAnn Falletta. He was also nominated for best actor in a leading role in the Kenny awards at Shea's Buffalo Theatre. He placed first in his category at the 2019 CNYFL District NATS Student Auditions and is a two time recipient of the Heritage Festival's Maestro Award. He would like to thank his cast and the incredible vocal faculty here at Houghton for another amazing experience.



DANIELLE FERRIS (STEPHANIE, NURSE LOLA) is thrilled to be participating in Lyric Theatre this fall! Although she participated in *Le Nozze di Figaro* last spring semester as a member of the chorus, *The Worst One Ever* and *Gallantry* are her first principal roles in opera. She has also participated in many musicals from elementary age all the way up through highschool, her favorite show being *The Wizard of Oz* where she played the role of "Dorothy". Danielle is a sophomore music education major with a vocal concentration. She would like to thank Professor Cox and the cast for all of their hard work in putting on these performances! She would also like to thank her vocal professor Dr. Prins Moeller for all of her help and her family for driving five hours to support her! She hopes you enjoy the shows!



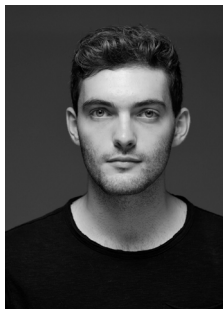
SARAH HALVORSON (Jennifer, Nurse Lola) is excited to be a part of the casts of *The Worst One Ever* as Jennifer and *Gallantry* as Lola for her Houghton Lyric Theatre debut. As a sophomore, she is studying English Education with a minor in music. She has been a part of many musicals over her High School career, most notably starring as Cosette in *Les Miserables*, but this is her opera debut. She would like to give a special thanks to her family for all their support, Professor Cox for directing the shows, and Professor Kimberly Prins Moeller for her vocal coaching. Sarah would also like to give a shoutout to her very first voice teacher, Brandi Icard, who was the first to inspire her to pursue music. Enjoy the show!



NATALIE KYVIK (CLAIRE) is a senior from Monroe, NY (just an hour outside NYC) and is pursuing a degree in Environmental Biology with a minor in Chemistry. She has been involved in many musical theatre productions since elementary school, some of her favorites including *Pippin* and *Legally Blonde the Musical*. During her time at Houghton, she has been involved in Lyric Theatre's productions of *Oklahoma!* and *Songs for a New World*. While music has always been one of her greatest passions in life, Natalie also has an incredible love for animals and the environment. After she graduates from Houghton, she is hoping to advance her studies and pursue a career in wildlife conservation.



AMELIA MAKUS (CONDUCTOR) is a second-year graduate student pursuing a Masters of Music in choral conducting, with additional studies in voice. She received her Bachelors of Music Education in 2018 from Clarks Summit University. During her time at CSU she sang in the college's premier chamber ensemble, and performed two seasons with the Arcadia Chorale. Amelia currently enjoys the privilege of working with Houghton's College Choir and has conducted them in performance on several pieces, including movements from Brahms' Requiem and Handel's Messiah.



MICHAEL MCLURE (DONALD HOPEWELL) is a junior Vocal Performance Major from Johnson, Vermont. Michael has always been passionate about theater and has been performing in musicals since first grade. He has played a variety of roles including Lumiere in Beauty and the Beast as well as Gomez Addams in The Addams Family. This is his third production at Houghton, after Songs for a New World and Le Nozze di Figaro last year, and he is absolutely loving it! He hopes you'll find just as much joy in the show, if not more!



BRANDON MELLERSKI (CONDUCTOR) is a second year M.M. Choral Conducting graduate student from Buffalo, NY. He has his B.A. in Music Education from Houghton College. This is Brandon's first time conducting theatre performance and he is very excited to be working on The Worst One Ever and Ordinary Days. Brandon has been involved in many musical productions throughout his career. He has performed and held lead roles in Le Nozze di Figaro, Children of Eden, Bye Bye Birdie, Cinderella, Once on this Island, Les Misérables, Phantom of the Opera, L'elisir D'amore, Gianni Schicchi and Bastien und Bastienne. He would like to thank his family and his fiancée for their continuous support and encouragement. Brandon would also like to thank Professor Cox for giving him this opportunity and Alyssa Pyne for her hard work in all the rehearsals.



ALYSSA PYNE (PIANO) is a lover of chocolate, mac n' cheese, and a good thrift store. She is a recent graduate of the master's program of the Greatbatch School of Music, where she studied Collaborative Piano Performance with Dr. Sharon Johnson. Now she is on staff at the GSoM and the Willard J. Houghton library and wears many hats, including staff pianist, Music Library coordinator, interlibrary loan lending, and assessment coordinator. She received her undergraduate degree in music education at Clarks Summit University where she stayed to complete her Master of Education degree.

While a graduate student at CSU, she had the opportunity to serve as the staff accompanist in the department of music, where she discovered her passion for making music with others. Since then, Alyssa has had the opportunity to collaborate with both vocalists and instrumentalists in a variety of genres, including concerto, aria, sonata, musical theater, art song, band, and choral music. She loves the opportunity to work with a variety of musicians to craft unique musical experiences, learning something new from each artist she has the pleasure to partner with. This is the second Lyric Theatre production she has had the privilege to play for, and she is so proud of the cast and conductors for all their hard work! Enjoy the show!



REBEKAH SCHARF (JESSICA, CLAIRE) is a junior Music Education major from West Seneca, NY. Music and performing has always been a part of her life. She has been in many performances, such as Godspell, Over the Tavern, Shrek the Musical, and The Addams Family. She has also portrayed roles such as Boss's Boss in No Place Like Nowhere, Rona Lisa Peretti in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and Miss Briggs in Mary Poppins. This is not Rebekah's first Lyric Theater performance, as last year she was a part of Houghton College's performance of Songs for a New World, as well as getting the chance to play Cherubino in Mozart's Le Nozze de Figaro. Bekah is so excited to be a part of another Lyric Theater performance, and thanks her professors, friends and family for all of their love and support.



COLLIN ZEHR (WARREN) is a sophomore from Lowville, New York and is majoring in Music Education with a concentration in voice. Collin has been a part of theatre and musical theatre throughout High School including Jay Gatsby in The Great Gatsby and Shrek in Shrek the Musical his senior year. He is excited to continue performing with Houghton College Lyric Theatre. Collin has performed previously with Lyric Theatre in Songs For A New World in 2018. Collin has participated in Master Classes with Lisa Vroman, Rachel Harris, and Bryant Vance. Most recently, Collin received first place in the Regional National Association for Teachers of Singers in the Lower College Men's Musical Theatre Division. Collin would like to thank his family and friends for all of their support as well as Professor Cox. He hopes you enjoy the show!

We would like to thank the Houghton College administration for its faithful support of the Greatbatch School of Music.

Shirley A. Mullen – President

Paul Young – Dean of the Faculty and Chief Academic Officer

Dale Wright – Vice President for Finance

And thanks to the Greatbatch School of Music faculty, staff, and administration

As a courtesy to the performers and your fellow audience members, please be certain that all cell phones, watch alarms, and pagers are either turned off or set for silent operation. Flash photography can be very disconcerting to performers and is not permitted during the performance. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please enjoy the show!

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