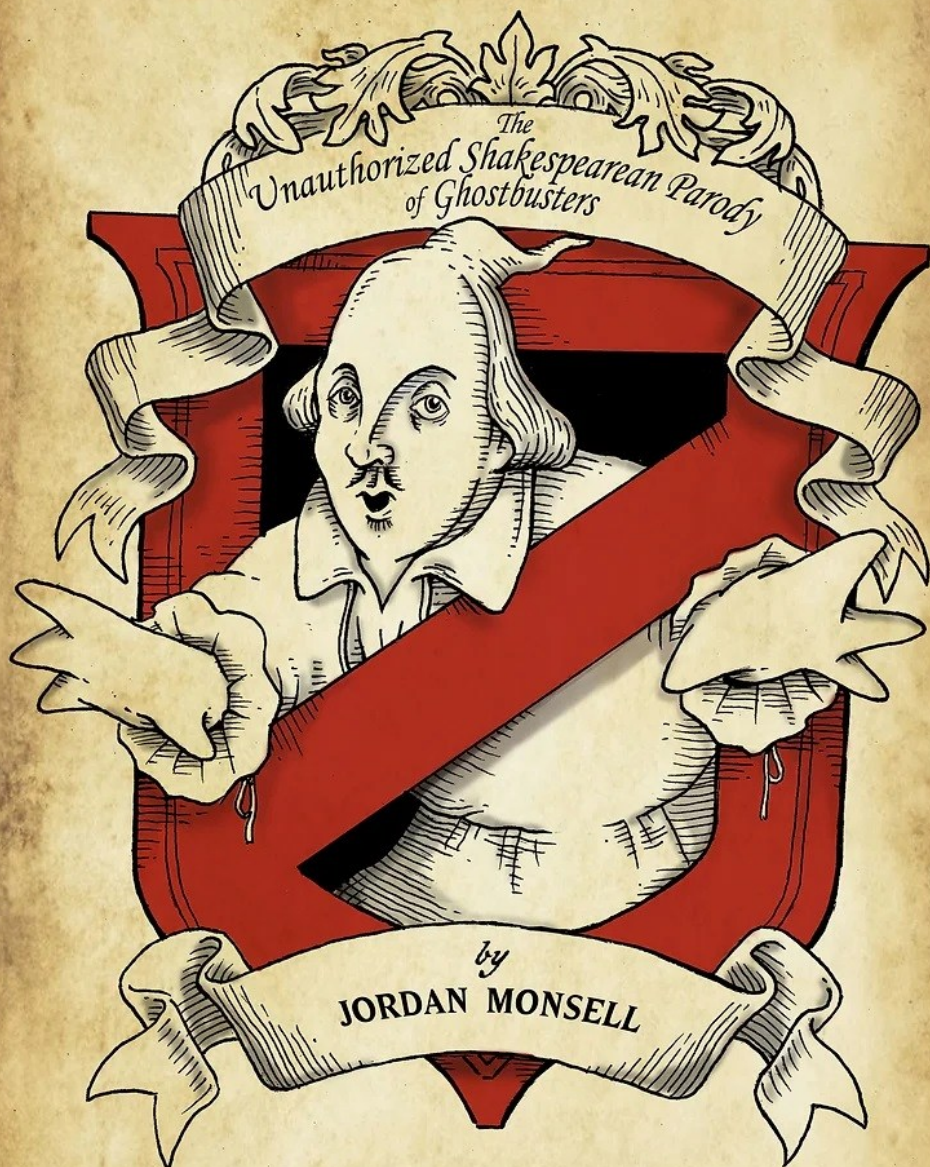


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At the Center, being a member or volunteer is more than a way of showing support and staying involved; it's joining a family. Thank you to all of our members and volunteers.

MINISTERS OF GRACE:

The Unauthorized Shakespearean Parody of Ghostbusters

By JODAN MONSELL

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Jeffrey M. Lukas | Peter Venkman |
| Craig Ruska | Raymond Stantz |
| Tyler Walker | Egon Spengler |
| Curtis Williams | Winston Zeddemore, Ensemble |
| Erin Ruska..... | Dana Barrett, Ensemble |
| Samantha Sacasa | Janine Melnitz, Ensemble |
| Allan T. Anderson | Louis Tully, Walter Peck, Ensemble |
| Mary Kay Cyrus..... | Ensemble |
| Director | Neil Bleiweiss |
| Sound/Lighting/Voiceover | Chris Holcom |
| Audio Recording/Editing | Mackley Fogarty |
| Props..... | Paul Berg |

Ministers of Grace is a 5-act staged reading with an estimated run-time of an hour and forty-five minutes. There will be no intermission.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JORDAN MONSELL comes from a family of artists; his great grandfather, Charles Warren Bingham, was a commercial artist who created well-known icons such as the Morton Salt girl and the Camel Cigarettes logo. Jordan's mother, Ruth Monsell, is a successful portrait and silhouette artist.

After receiving his BFA from the University of Connecticut in 2001, Jordan moved to Maine, where he spent four years teaching art to children. In 2005, he moved to Los Angeles, where he works as an actor, writer, and freelance illustrator. In 2010, Jordan's illustrations appeared in *You Might Be a Zombie and Other Bad News*, published through Cracked.com and Penguin Books. Other clients include 20th Century Fox, MSNBC, Avalon Family Entertainment, Sony, and The Hollywood Fringe Festival. In 2011, he directed his first play, *Pulp Shakespeare: The Unauthorized Shakespearean Parody of Pulp Fiction*, which received awards and acclaim in New York City and Los Angeles. His books are available on Amazon.com.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

A directorial debut is something I imagine most people never forget, and with this as my directorial debut I'm sure this is a production I'll remember. Candidly, before being asked to work on this show, I had only seen *Ghostbusters* once in my life, but I can tell you now I know this story about as well as any Ghosthead out there (and I promise I've since watched the movie again)! Taking the reins on this piece was daunting, but I'm so thankful to Chris Holcom for serving as my Shakespeare guru and directing mentor through this process, and to both Chris and Paul Berg for entrusting me to direct.

To my *Ministers of Grace* cast, I am so appreciative and grateful that you all were willing to embark on this journey with me and put your trust in my hands. I hope you've all had a great experience and that we can all work together again in the future; I'm so excited to share our very serious work with the Center's audience.

To all the Ghostheads in the crowd, new and old, I hope you enjoy the show - and remember, never cross the streams!

-Neil Bleiweiss, Director
P.S. Enjoy the custard!

CUSTARD RECIPE

(This is a legitimate page in the script, so I thought we should include it in the program. Enjoy! —Neil)

HOW TO MAKE A PROPER ENGLISH CUSTARD

by Jordan Monsell, *Ministers of Grace* Playwright

Ingredients:

570 ml / 1 pint milk
55 ml / 2 fl oz single cream
1 vanilla pod or ½ tsp vanilla extract
4 eggs, yolks only
30 g / 1 oz caster sugar
2 level tsp cornflour

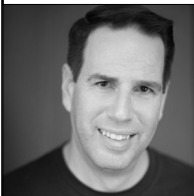
Method:

- Bring the milk, cream, and vanilla pod to a simmering point over low heat.
- Remove the vanilla pod (wash the vanilla pod, dry and store in jar with caster sugar to make vanilla sugar).
- Whisk the yolks, sugar, and cornflour together in a bowl until well blended.
- Pour the hot milk and cream onto the eggs and sugar, whisking all the time with a balloon whisk.
- Return to the pan, (add vanilla extract if using), and over a low heat gently stir with a wooden spatula until thickened.
- Pour the custard into a jug and serve at once.
- To keep hot, stand the jug in a pan of hot water and cover the top with cling film to prevent skin forming.



ALLAN T. ANDERSON (Louis Tully, Walter Peck, Ensemble) studied Theatre Arts at Drew University, worked

with the Tectonic Theatre Project to devise new works, and regularly appears in productions across South and Central Florida. Most recently he was seen in The Missing Piece Theatre's production of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, and is thrilled to keep flexing his absurd/classical muscles in this production. A new resident to the Carrollwood area, this is his first production at the wonderful Carrollwood Cultural Center and he hopes to be featured in many more. A special thanks to the director, Neil Bleiweiss, for giving him this opportunity, the lovely cast for being so welcoming, and to all of you. Enjoy the show!



CRAIG RUSKA (Raymond Stantz) is thrilled to honor the cult classic, comedy legend that is *Ghostbusters* from 2016. Although

widely considered the greatest of the series, Craig's character inspiration focuses more on a lesser-known film, of the same title, from 1984 which starred the guy who played Harry Sultenfuss in *My Girl 2*. Much love to the cast, crew, and leading lady Erin. Shakespeare said it best in his unfinished *Hamlet 2: Electric Boogaloo*, "I ain'tith afraid of no specter. Holy \$#%!, what is thou?"



CURTIS WILLIAMS (Winston Zeddemore, Ensemble) surely taketh great joy in appearing as

Sir Winston in *Ministers of Grace* at the Carrollwood Cultural Center. His past roles here include Thomas Andrews in *Titanic: The Musical*, Nanki Poo in *Hot Mikado*, and Jules in *Sunday in the Park with George*. When not performing, Curtis works in IT and co-hosts a sports and film podcast. He's grateful to the Center for the opportunity, and to his family and friends for their support—especially as he spent weeks pondering whether to "get thee to a nunnery" or just cross the streams!



ERIN RUSKA (Dana Barrett, Ensemble) has appeared in many local Bay Area productions and can safely say this is a first for her and is excited to

be a part of such a unique experience. She was last seen here at The Center as the Nurse in *Sunday In The Park with George*. Other favorite roles: Lady of the Lake in *Spamalot*; Kate McGowan in *Titanic: The Musical*; Judy Bernly in *9 to 5: The Musical*; Hope Harcourt in *Anything Goes*; Robert Anne in *Nunsense*, Catherine in *Pippin*; and Grandma Ida/Lauren in *First Date*. Much love and thanks for everyone involved in this production, her family, friends, husband Craig and their holy terrier Cooper, who was her inspiration for becoming a demon cur.



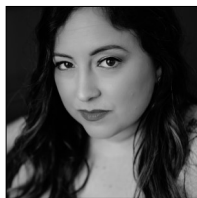
JEFFREY M. LUKAS (Peter Venkman) is a performer, director, and unabashed *Ghostbusters* superfan, so it's no surprise that he is excited to play Peter

Venkman for this Shakespearean in-

terpretation of the 1984 Comedy Classic! Jeff has tackled roles from the suave Gomez Addams in *The Addams Family* (SPCT) to the unpredictable Nostradamus in *Something Rotten!* (FWP). Other credits include the Duke of Cornwall in *King Lear* (Tampa Rep), Shrek in *Shrek: The Musical* (Dreamhouse), and the tortured Jekyll/Hyde from the musical *Jekyll & Hyde* (Aeon Life). He brings humor, heart, and just a hint of supernatural charm to every role. Much thanks to Neil and the Center's production team for this opportunity and much Love to Tammy, Scarlett and Zoey for their love and support.



MARY KAY CYRUS (Ensemble) has performed in many theatres in the Tampa Bay area but this is just her third show with the Center. Prior performances were in *Things My Mother Taught Me* and *True West*. Glad to be back and so close to home.

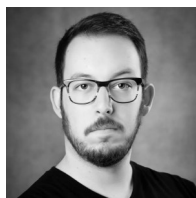


SAM SACASA (Janine Melnitz, Ensemble) is a playwright and actor from Tampa, FL. Her previous acting credits include Johnna in *August: Osage County* and Annelle in *Steel Magnolias*, amongst others. She was also the recipient of the 2024 Best Dramatic Short Play award at the Tampa Bay Theatre Festival. When Sam isn't spending time at the beach or traveling with her beloved family, you can find her supporting her local community theaters in numerous capacities. She is honored to be making her Carrollwood Cultural Center debut where she

hopes you'll enjoy this quirky and hilarious parody. Thanks hubs, for holding down the fort. Te Quiero, Mama!



TYLER WALKER (Egon Spengler) With a passion for theater ignited at a young age, Tyler has honed his skills through various performances, embodying diverse characters. From comedic timing to dramatic flair, he relishes every opportunity to bring stories to life on stage. He thanks the cast, crew, and audience for their support and looks forward to delivering a memorable performance that captures the essence of this beloved character.



NEIL BLEIWEISS (Director, Stage Directions) is no stranger to the Center's stage, having most recently performed in *Death-trap* (Clifford Ander-

son), *SpongeBob* (Perch Perkins) and *Sunday in the Park with George* (Boatman/Redmond) all at the Center in the past year. Additionally, Neil has been seen in New Tampa Players' *Shrek* (Papa Ogre/Papa Bear), and mad Theatre's *The Drowsy Chaperone* (George) and *The Prom* (Principal Hawkins, regional premiere) along with other productions around the Tampa area. Neil hopes you all enjoy this high-brow, serious dramatic piece, and remember that the arts in Florida are at risk with recent dramatic cuts to funding, so thank you for your continued support of the arts!

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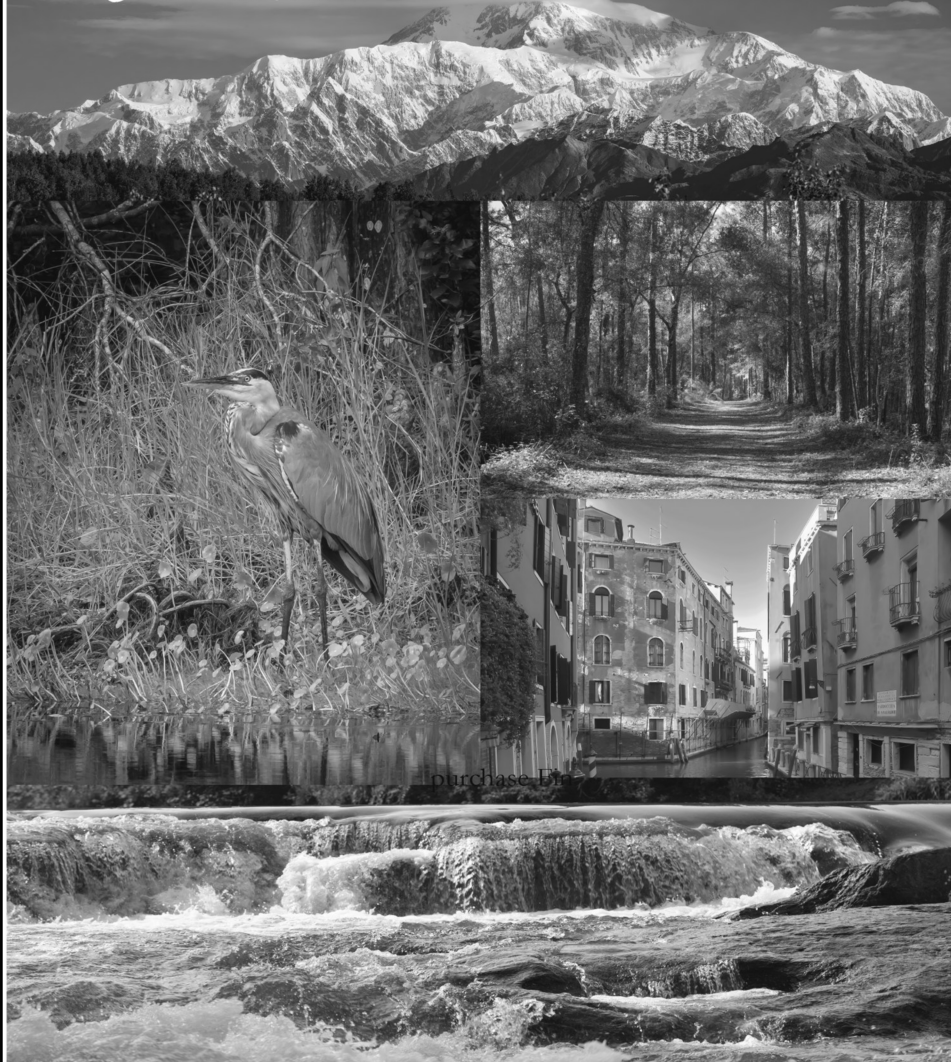
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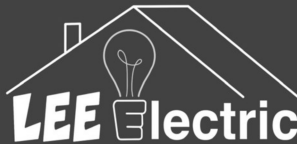
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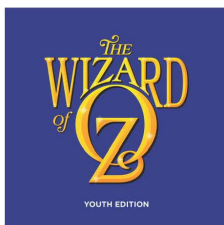
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Youth Theatre

Please join us as our older camp students ages 11-13 and 14-16 present their summer productions for the community. Performance admission is free; however, seating is limited.



The Wizard of Oz: Youth Edition

Thu., June 19 • 5:30 pm

Join Dorothy and her loyal companion Toto as they "Follow the Yellow Brick Road" through the Land of Oz, determined to reach the Emerald City. (11-13)

SHOW CREDITS: Written by L. Frank Baum | Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg | Background Music by Herbert Stothart | Dance and Vocal Arrangements by Peter Howard | Orchestration by Larry Wilcox | Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company | Based upon the Classic Motion Picture owned by Turner Entertainment Co. and distributed in all media by Warner Bros. The Wizard of Oz: Youth Edition is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams-Whitmark LLC.



War of the Worlds

Thu., June 26 • 5:30 pm

Where were you when the Martians arrived? Teens will recreate the famous radio dramatization of H.G. Wells' novel *The War of the Worlds* directed by Orson Welles on October 30, 1938. (14-16)

SHOW CREDITS: War of the Worlds by H.G. Wells | Originally performed by The Mercury Theatre directed and narrated by Orson Welles

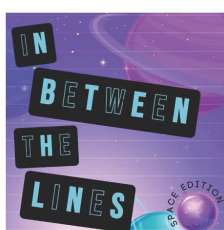


Adventures in Filmmaking

Thu., July 10 • 5:30 pm

Working with film buffs and professionals, students will showcase original vignettes that they wrote, directed, acted, and produced within an ensemble setting. It will be a movie premiere fit for Hollywood! (11-13)

SHOW CREDITS: Carrollwood Cultural Center Summer Intensive Students

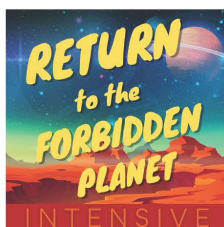


In Between the Lines: Space Edition

Thu., July 31 • 5:30 pm

Working with the overarching theme of outer space, this ensemble of campers used the force of their imaginations to devise an original play never before seen by humans or aliens alike. (11-13)

SHOW CREDITS: Carrollwood Cultural Center Summer Intensive Students



Return to the Forbidden Planet Intensive

Thu., July 31 • 6:30 pm

During this intensive, students gained skills to perform a one-act performance of chosen favorites from Shakespeare's forgotten rock and roll masterpiece! (14-16)

SHOW CREDITS: Return to the Forbidden Planet by Bob Carlton | Presented through Concord Theatricals.

WELCOME

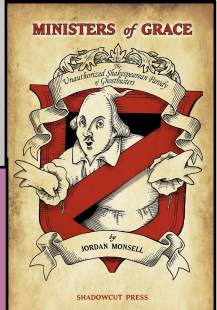
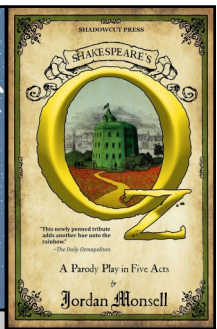
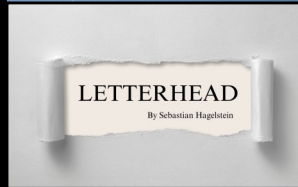
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Adapted by JOE LANDRY | Playscripts, Inc.

Jan. 24-26: *Letterhead*

By SEBASTIAN HAGELSTEIN | Arrangement with the author

Feb. 8-9: *Shakespeare's Oz: A Parody Play in Five Acts*

By JORDAN MONSELL | Arrangement with the author

March 14-23: *Steel Magnolias*

By ROBERT HARLING | Dramatists Play Service

May 17-18: *Ministers of Grace:*

The Unauthorized Shakespearean Parody of Ghostbusters

By JORDAN MONSELL | Arrangement with the author

July 18-27: *Return to the Forbidden Planet*

By BOB CAROLTON | Concord Theatricals

Sept. 13-14: *Every Brilliant Thing*

By DUNCAN MACMILLAN with JONNY DONAHOE | Dramatists Play Service



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