



DEPARTMENT  
OF THEATRE

# DRACULA

A FEMINIST REVENGE FANTASY, REALLY  
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY BRAM STOKER  
BY KATE HAMILL

Proscenium Theatre  
November 2-12, 2023  
Director: Kathryn Chase Bryer





UMBC

## DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

# Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really

Based on the novel by Bram Stoker

By Kate Hamill

Originally produced by Classic Stage Company; John Doyle, Artistic Director

Directed by Kathryn Chase Bryer

**Costume Designer**  
Joan Larkins Mather

**Sound Designer**  
Adam Mendelson

**Lighting Designer &  
Co-Multimedia Designer**  
Sarah Tundermann

**Scenic Designer &  
Co-Multimedia Designer**  
Nate Sinnott

**Dialect Coach**  
Gerrad Alex Taylor

**Intimacy & Fight Choreographer**  
Sierra Young

**Blood Designer**  
Tessara Morgan Farley

**Stage Manager**  
Alexander Hamilton

This production will have one 15 minute intermission between Acts 1 and 2.  
The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.  
Please note that there will be theatrical haze and fog.

**Content Advisory:** Please keep in mind, this is a play based on the classic horror story told through the lens of feminist satire. While strong elements of horror can be expected, the playwright often spoofs, critiques and investigates these horror elements, in order to comment on the patriarchy. There is supposed to be comedy and commentary. It is a revenge fantasy. If this play were a movie it would be more *Jennifer's Body* or *Kill Bill* than *Saw*. This play includes staged violence/gore which includes blood and knives; screaming; depictions and talk of death/dying, and mental illness; sexually suggestive moments including biting, kissing, passionate embraces; depictions of physical and emotional abuse including the objectification of women; descriptions of graphic imagery including implied infant death, cannibalism, murder, and suicide.

*Dracula: A Feminist Revenge Fantasy, Really* is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by TRW PLAYS, 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. [www.trwplays.com](http://www.trwplays.com)

## **Cast**

**Dracula** ..... C.C. Smith

**Drusilla/Merchant/Miller** ..... Alissa Suser

**Jonathan Harker** ..... Lucas Sanchez

**Mina Harker** ..... Mady Sims

**Doctor Van Helsing** ..... Franchesca Parker

**Renfield** ..... Shaylee (Shay) Chubin

**Marilla/Maid** ..... Katie Hetzer

**Lucy Westenra** ..... Liza Mupende

**Doctor George Seward** ..... Ifechukwu "Ife" Alachebe

**Dracula/Jonathan/Seward Understudy** ..... Marcus King

**Lucy/Marilla/Drusilla Understudy** ..... Hannah Worley

**Mina/Van Helsing/Renfield Understudy** ..... Nia Zagami

### **TIME:**

The Present

### **PLACE:**

Transylvania, London and Whitby-by-the-Sea

## **Production Faculty & Staff**

### **Production Manager & Technical Director**

Greggory Schraven

### **Costume Shop Supervisor**

Joan Larkins Mather

### **Assistant Technical Director**

Evan McDougall

### **Production Stage Manager**

Tessara Morgan Farley

### **Carpenter, Properties, & Scenic Artist**

Tyler Brust

### **Assistant Costume Shop Manager**

Margaret Caster

### **Carpenter/Electricians**

Miles Abramson, Seth Kolbe, Nicholas Colantuono

## Student Production Staff

**Assistant Stage Managers** Oriana E. Montes,  
Jamia Tutt, Alexander Hamilton

**Associate Costume Designer** Lilli Malone

**Assistant Costume Designer** Jennie Hardman

**Assistant Sound Designer** Jay Shovan

**Assistant Scenic Designers** Ian Maxwell,  
Emerson Balthis

**Wardrobe Head** Jennie Hardman

**Programmer** Niya John

**Head Electrician** Niya John

**Light Board Operator** Jude Barnhart

**Sound Board Operator** Ajay Harris

**Deck Crew** Dario Prioleau, Sam Pelletier

**Box Office Assistant** Renata Taylor-Smith

**Electricians** Renata Taylor-Smith, Garrett Palmer,  
Karyn Fuquen

**Scenic Artists** Charlie Woods, Emerson Balthis,  
Ezra Leone, Ian Maxwell

**Carpenters** Nia Zagami, Brenden Thompson, Cece  
Smith, Ezra Leone, Emerson Balthis, Katie Givens,  
Mady Sims, Niya John, Charlie Woods, Adam  
Harper, Renata Taylor-Smith, Moe Cooper, Lauren  
Rivarde, Doreen Ehiedu-Arinze, Students of THTR  
264 & 100

**Stitchers** Jennie Hardman, Richie Verbeten, Roya  
Nur Zofar, Charlie Woods, Gabby Grant,  
Franchesca Parker, Ife Alachebe, Ana Fairouz  
Marinez, Katie Givens

**Wardrobe Crew** AnnaSophia Gutierrez, Roya Nur  
Zofar

## Director's Note

"I'm interested in creating these new feminist female classics because I feel like these stories, whether or not we realize it, they really shape our perceptions of the world. The reason why it takes dozens and dozens of women in the #MeToo movement to take down one extremely toxic predator is because we believe in the primacy of the male narrative." ----Kate Hamill, Playwright *DRACULA, A FEMINIST REVENGE FANTASY, REALLY*

"The fight is here. Whether or not you want it...There are monsters in this world Mina. Somebody has to stand against them. Why not us? The monsters look just like us." --Dr. Van Helsing

Just about the time that Harvey Weinstein was exposed and "me too" became the cry of the day, the movement was interrupted by the murder of George Floyd, the Black Lives Matter movement, and a worldwide pandemic. Because these tragedies took precedence (as they should have), "me too" was quietly shelved for the time being. Kate Hamill's adaptation of the traditional tale opened off Broadway right before these events occurred, and now post pandemic, we have the opportunity to revisit Me Too, and perhaps discover how this movement intersects with BLM and the ongoing fallout from the pandemic. In this time when we are moving towards a "person first" culture, and the challenging of gender norms, this play is even more timely than ever.

I am grateful to these actors for being willing to go to the dark places in order to shed light on the issues of our day, allowing all of us in the audience to examine the way we see the world and perhaps make kinder, more empathetic choices.

## Playwright Bio



**Kate Hamill** Originally from the farms and fields of upstate New York, Kate is an award-winning NYC-based actor/playwright. She is deeply passionate about creating new feminist, female-centered classics, both in new plays and in adaptation: stories that center around complicated women. Her work as a playwright celebrates theatricality, often features absurdity, and closely examines social and gender issues - as well as the timeless struggle to reconcile conscience / identity with social pressures. As an actor, she tends to play truth-tellers, oddballs, and misfits.

Kate was named 2017's Playwright of the Year by the Wall Street Journal. She has been one of the 10 most-produced playwrights in the country, 3 seasons running (2017-2020); in both 2017-2018 and 2018-2019, she wrote two of the top 10 most produced plays in the U.S.; many of her plays have been produced internationally. Future productions, including 4

world premieres in 2019/2020: *Dracula* at Classic Stage Company, *Emma* at the Guthrie, *Prostitute Play* at Cygnet Theater, and *Scarlet Letter* at South Coast Rep. Her previously-produced plays include *Sense and Sensibility* (Bedlam; in which she originated the role of Marianne) - Winner, Off-Broadway Alliance Award; Nominee, Drama League Award; 265+ performances off-Broadway; "Top Ten Theater of 2014" - Ben Brantley; "the greatest stage adaptation of this novel in history" - Huffington Post. Other plays include *Vanity Fair* (The Pearl; in which she originated the role of Becky Sharp; Nominee, Off Broadway Alliance Award; WSJ Critic's Pick), *Pride and Prejudice* (Primary Stages / HVSF; in which she originated the role of Lizzy Bennet; Nominee, Off Broadway Alliance Award; "Best Theater of 2017", Huffington Post; WSJ Critic's Pick), *Little Women*, *Mansfield Park* (originated role of Mary Crawford), and *Dracula* (Classic Stage Company; originated role of Renfield; WSJ Critic's Pick.)

Her plays have been produced off-Broadway, at A.R.T., Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Guthrie Theatre, Portland Center Stage, Seattle Rep, PlayMaker's Rep, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, Dallas Theater Center, Folger Theatre (8 Helen Hayes Award nominations; Winner, best production) & more. Kate's *Sense and Sensibility*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Little Women* are published by DPS. She is currently working on an adaptation of *The Odyssey* (commissioned by A.R.T.) as well as several new original plays - including *Love Poem*, *In The Mines* (Sundance Semi-Finalist; now collaborating with The Bengsons on this piece), *Em* (Red Bull New Play finalist), *the Prostitute Play* (O'Neill Semi-Finalist), and *The Piper* (O'Neill Finalist, PlayPenn Haas Fellow play).

Additional acting credits include: *Talley's Folly* (Syracuse Stage; WSJ Critic's Pick; TheaterMania best productions of 2020) *The Seagull* (Bedlam; "best classical productions of 2014" - WSJ) *Noises Off* (Syracuse Stage), *The General from America* (HVSF), *Cyrano* ("Outstanding Performance by an Actress"- DFW Critics Awards, Amphibian Stage), *Internet Famous* (Youngblood), *Dreams of A West Texas Marsupial Girl* (PearlDamour), *All That Fall* (Cherry Lane), and more. Numerous independent films that she has performed in have gone on to festival success, including: Clermont Ferrand Film Festival, Cannes Film Festival, Festival del Film Locarno, Brooklyn Film Festival, Boston Int'l Film Festival, New Orleans Film Festival (Jury Award Finalist), Honolulu Film Festival, Black Maria Film Festival (Stellar Award), etc. Kate has a BFA in Acting, Ithaca College.

## Director Bio



**Kathryn Chase Bryer** is the Associate Artistic Director of Imagination Stage. She is a theatre artist with a background in directing, acting, dramaturgy, teaching, and administration and holds a B.S. from Northwestern University. For Imagination Stage, Kathryn has directed over 50 productions in the last 25 years and has helped to develop and commission over a dozen scripts.

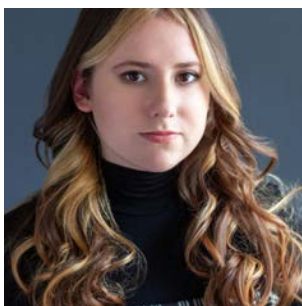
In 2014, she directed *The BFG* which won the 2014 Helen Hayes for Best Scenic Design and Best Production, Theatre for Young Audiences, and her production of *Wiley and the Hairy Man* won the 2015 Best Production, Theatre for Young Audiences. In 2018, Kate won the Helen Hayes for Best Director of a Musical for her production of *Wonderland, Alice's Rock and Roll Adventures* which also won Best Production Theatre for Young Audiences. At Imagination Stage this past season she directed *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed the Rock Experience* (winner 2021 Helen Hayes Best Production for Theatre for Young Audiences), and *The New Kid*.

In addition to her duties at Imagination Stage, she has directed *Scapin* (2014) and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (winner of Helen Hayes 2018 Best Ensemble, Musical) and *The Last Five Years* (2021) at Constellation Theatre Company, *The Late Wedding* (2017) and *American Spies and other Homegrown Fables* (2019) at the Hub Theatre and *Fly By Night* (2018) at 1st Stage, VA (nominated for 11 Helen Hayes Awards winning 5 including Best Director of a Musical, Hayes), *The Wolves* (2020) at Next Stop Theatre in Herndon, Va., *The Oldest Boy* (2019) at Spooky Action Theatre, and, *A Doll House* (2020), *The Late Wedding* (2023) at UMD. Upcoming: *Urinetown, the Musical* at American University

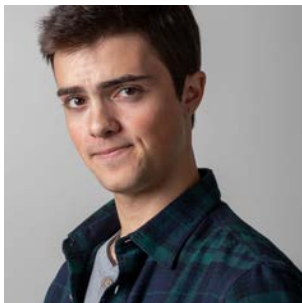
## Cast Bios



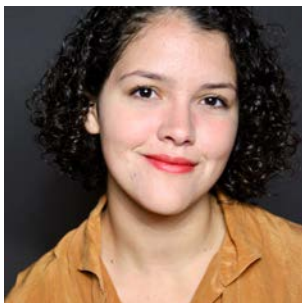
**C.C. Smith (Dracula)** (any pronouns) is a Senior BFA Acting Major with a music minor focused in vocal performance. Favorite roles at UMBC include Tony (*West Side Story* in Concert), Actor A Understudy (*The Grown-Up*), Alfredo (*La Traviata* in Concert), and Eddie (*Trouble in Mind*). Favorites elsewhere include Feste (*Twelfth Night*), Morris Delancey (*Newsies*), and Henry Clerval (*Frankenstein*). You can see more of C.C. at UMBC this December, where he will be playing Rodolfo in a limited concert staging of *La Boheme*. You can also find him as @c.c.\_smith on Instagram. They would like to thank their parents for instilling him with a love of the performing arts.



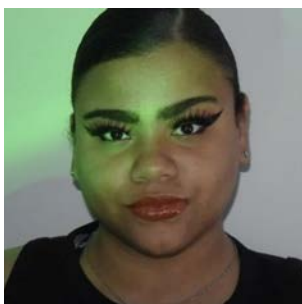
**Alissa Suser (Drusilla/Merchant/Miller)** is a Sophomore Acting BFA. This is her first show with the UMBC Theatre Department. Previously she has been in the Other Voices Theater production of *Spongebob the Musical* as part of the ensemble and in Atholton High School's production of *Hairspray* as Tracy Turnblad. Alissa is very excited to be a part of *Dracula*! She would like to thank Kate and the production team for being so incredibly patient and fun to work with!



**Lucas Sanchez (Jonathan Harker)** (He/Him) is a Sophomore Acting BFA from Frederick, MD. He recently made his cinema debut in *Satanic Hispanics*, which had a brief theatrical run at the end of the summer. He's excited to be seen in several more films set to premiere throughout the next year. Lucas would like to thank his friends, family, and Shimsham.



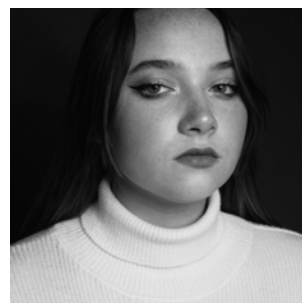
**Mady Sims (Mina Harker)** (she/they) is a junior BFA Acting major. Some of her favorite past roles include: Lamp Head from *This Remains*, Rosie from *Things I Know to be True*, and Ophelia from *Hamlet*. I'm so excited for this opportunity to share this story of *Dracula* with the community and my peers. I am so grateful to my fellow actors, director, designers etc for making this such an amazing production! Instagram: @madisonsims.acting



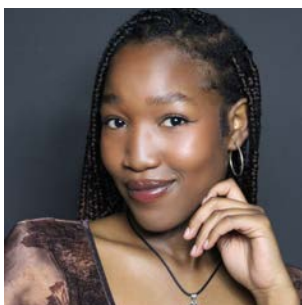
**Franchesca Parker (Doctor Van Helsing)** (she/her) is a Junior BFA Acting major from Philadelphia, PA. One of her favorite past roles at UMBC was playing Wiletta Mayer in Alice Childress' *Trouble in Mind*. Outside of UMBC, a favorite role of hers would be Fairy May in *The Curious Savage* with the Interboro Theater Dept. She would like to thank her mom, sister Gabby and even her 3 dogs, Barbie, Ken and Harry for loving and supporting her even when she couldn't do it herself! She would also like to thank the production team and her cohort for all their hard work, supporting her and helping her be her best self and actress! For all things Franchesca and her theater journey, you can find her on Instagram @franchescaparker\_acting



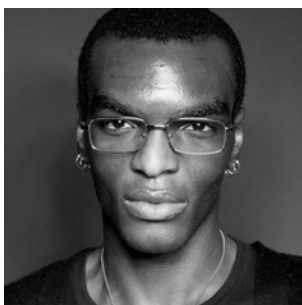
**Shaylee (Shay) Chubin (Renfield)** is a third year BFA acting major pursuing a certification in early childhood education. This will be Shay's third production performing onstage with the UMBC theater department, previous roles/backstage experience have included; (Puppeteer) *Stories Told Small*, (Understudy) *She Kills Monsters*, and (Sound Tech/ Camerawoman) *Everything is Performance*. Other favorite past roles include; (Grandma) *The Addams Family Musical*, (Della) *The Gift of the Magi*, (Lucy) *Sense and Sensibility*, (Marty) *Madagascar Jr.*, and (Nurse) *Shakespeare in Love*. Shay could not be more thrilled to be taking on the everlasting iconic Renfeild, madwoman style of course. She would send a major thank you to her parents, and other family members for encouraging her to follow her passion, her endlessly supportive friends and boyfriend, and everyone on the design team behind the production.



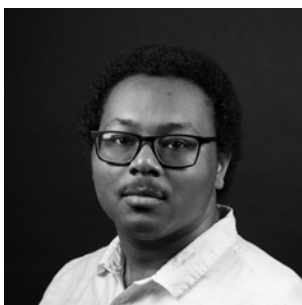
**Katie Hetzer (Marilla/Maid)** (she/her) is a junior BFA acting major and is working towards her Early Childhood Education Teaching Certification. Favorite roles at UMBC include: Lilith Morningstar in *She Kills Monsters* and participating in the Fall 2022 devised show *You Can See Me In the Dark*. During her breaks, Katie works at Starlight Theatricals as an assistant director, makeup-artist, and choreographer. She would like to thank her family and friends for all of the love and support.



**Liza Mupende (Lucy Westenra)** (she/they) is a Transfer Junior BFA Acting and Information Systems double major from Baltimore, Maryland. This is Liza's first production at UMBC! Some of her past roles include Jackie in the original play *On National Road* (2022) and Jean in *Outed* (2022). She is beyond excited for her first UMBC show! @lizamupende on Instagram.



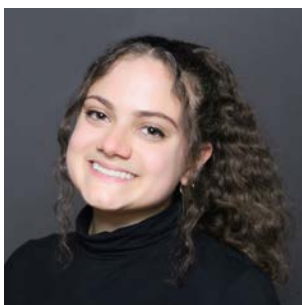
**Ifechukwu "Ife" Alachebe (Doctor George Seward)** is originally from Lagos, Nigeria, now residing between the DMV area and NYC. Ife is currently a senior at UMBC pursuing a BFA Acting Degree. Ife is so excited to play Dr. Seward in *Dracula*. Ife would like to thank the Lovely: Production/Stage Management, Cast, Designers, Staff and Director for an amazing process. Their Favorite Recent Roles include: Barry/Grandpa/First Mate in *The Grown-Up* and Sheldon in *Trouble in Mind*.



**Marcus King (Dracula/Jonathan/Seward Understudy)** (He/Him) is a Junior in UMBC Theatre Department's BFA program from Baltimore, Maryland. His past roles off-campus include: Steve (*She Kills Monsters* - CCBC) Father Tuyishime (*Our Lady of Kibeho* - CCBC). He'd like to thank Quizlet for compiling all 456 of his lines.



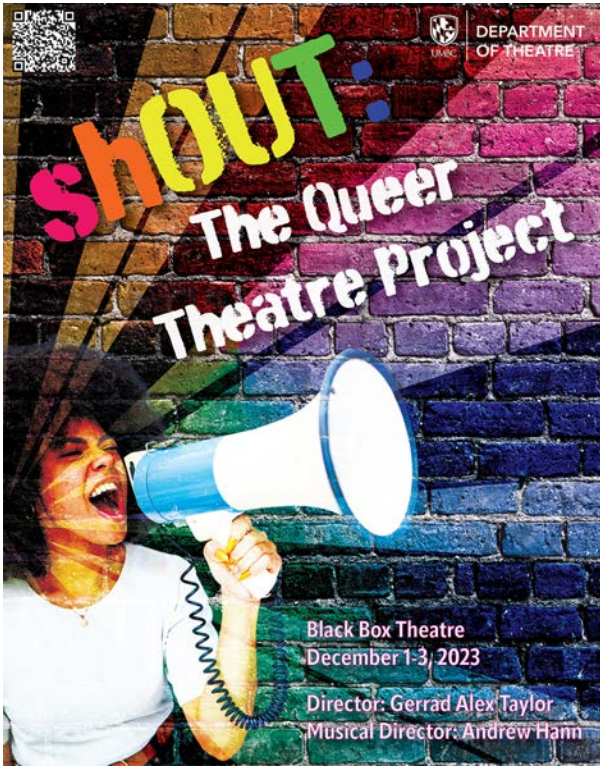
**Hannah Worley (Lucy/Marilla/Drusilla Understudy)** (she/her) is a Sophomore Theatre Studies Major with a concentration in Theatre Education and a Vocal Music Minor from Walkersville, MD. Favorite roles at UMBC include the Lighting Operator for *Stories Told Small*. Favorite roles elsewhere include Gary in the *Spongebob Musical*, Sally Perks and Others in *Puffs*, Mrs. Dashwood in *Sense and Sensibility*, and Liesl in *The Sound of Music*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their endless support.



**Nia Zagami (Mina/Van Helsing/Renfield Understudy)** (she/her) is a third-year Pre-Nursing student earning her BFA in Acting with a minor in Psychology. You may have caught Nia as a puppeteer in the UMBC Theatre Department's production of *Stories Told Small*, Mimi Marquez in The Fredericktowne Players' production of *Rent*, or Heather Duke in the UMBC Musical Theatre Club's production of *Heathers*. As a new member of UMBC's Dog-Collar Comedy Troupe, you can now find Nia in the club's upcoming improv shows. Nia would like to humbly thank the staff of the Taco Bell on Baltimore National Pike for sustaining her nearly every night after rehearsal.



## 2023 - 2024 Season On Stage Next...



### shOUT: The Queer Theatre Project

Directed by Gerrad Alex Taylor  
Musical Direction by Andrew Hann

December 1 – 3, 2023  
Black Box Theatre

[Buy Tickets Here!](#)

Facilitated by director Gerrad Alex Taylor, designer Eric Abele, and dramaturg Susan McCully, shOUT celebrates LGBTQIA+ playwrights, characters, and innovations. The performance includes scenes, songs, and monologues drawn from plays that show us that queer theatre history IS American theatre history. An exhibit of costume design and dramaturgy will accompany the performance.

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UMBC

# DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

At UMBC we believe that theatre is an ever-changing art form, responding to and creating new ideas that confront our ethical, political, and artistic ideas and practices. Degree programs leading to an Acting, BFA, a Theatre BA; Theatre Studies Track, or a Theatre BA; Design & Production Track provide students with the interdisciplinary skills to become actively engaged with their art and with the world around them. A dedicated faculty focuses on each student's evolution as an artist and as a person, making the study of theatre at UMBC a life-changing experience that stimulates, challenges and inspires.

## **New Ways and New Plays — Our Vision for the Future:**

UMBC Theatre fosters artistically innovative and socially engaged graduates in a leading liberal arts program. Using the latest technologies and practices, we experiment with theatrical forms, create provocative new work, and give voice where it is most needed.

Learn more at [theatre.umbc.edu](http://theatre.umbc.edu).

**Full-Time Faculty/Staff** Eve Muson (Chair), Eric Abele, Tyler Brust, Tessara Morgan Farley, Nikki Hartman, Joan Larkins Mather, Susan McCully, Evan McDougall, Adam Mendelson, Laurie Newton, Margaret Caster, Gregory Schraven, Colette Searls, Nigel Semaj, Nate Sinnott, Gerrad Alex Taylor

**Part-Time and Adjunct Faculty/Staff** Melissa Freilich, Katie Hileman, Susan Rome, Susan Stroupe

**Special Thanks To** Dean Kimberly Moffitt, Director of Arts and Culture Tom Moore, Kiirstn Pagan, Laura Schraven and Commonvision, Cael Mulcahy, the CAHSS Operations, and Lynn Cazabon.

**Poster Design** by Eric Abele

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**shOUT:**  
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Black Box Theatre  
December 1-3, 2023  
Director: Gerrad Alex Taylor  
Musical Director: Andrew Hamn

**SLIME**  
BY BRYONY LAVERY

Proscenium Theatre  
April 4-14, 2024  
Director: Nigel Semaj

**GREEN  
THEATRE  
REVOLUTION**

Black Box Theatre  
May 3-5, 2024  
Directors:  
Susan McCully & Katie Hileman

**2023 - 2024 SEASON**

