



Vanities

Theatre to debut first student-directed play

The Lindsey Wilson College Theatre Program is going to debut the first full length play directed by a student this October.

Directed by Susan “Suzie” Herrington, *Vanities* will be presented 7 p.m. CT Oct. 21-23 in V.P. Henry Auditorium, 210 Lindsey Wilson St.

Written by Jack Heifner, *Vanities* takes place in the ‘60s and ‘70s. It follows the lives of three cheerleader friends through high school and beyond as they grow and mature. They have to deal with not only high school and college life, but also dramatic historical events.

One of the main reasons Herrington chose to direct *Vanities* is because it contains humorous, relatable characters.

“The girls are just so funny,” Herrington said. “And they reminded me of a lot of people in my life, and people I’ve met, and sometimes

even myself. And so I think that there’s a little bit of these girls in everybody.”

Herrington said that a strong element of the play is change.

“Things change over the course of their lives because they start out in the 60’s and then go through to the 70’s,” Herrington said. “And so all these girls are experiencing all that change and in the end they’re all totally different people. It reminds me of experience through college. Just coming here, being one person, and then leaving a totally different person. That’s how I relate to it and I think a lot of people will be able to relate to it in that way.”

LWC Assistant Professor of Theatre Robert Brock is excited about Herrington’s project.

Brock had mentioned to his theatre students how, when he was in school, he and other fellow students presented many stage plays every year with faculty permission. He

said that LWC could be like that. Herrington was the first one to step forward and accept the responsibility of putting on her own show.

“This is the first of what I hope will be a number of endeavours like this where students take the initiative,” Brock said. “That’s what I was looking for.”

The seating arrangement for *Vanities* is going to be black box, which means the seats are going to be on stage surrounding the cast.

“It gives the actors a really intimate experience with an audience, because they’re right there,” Brock said. “And it gives the audience a real wonderful experience.”

While the full proscenium-style auditorium normally seats over 300 people, the black box arrangement means that there will only be 50 seats available for each performance of *Vanities*, so Brock recommends contacting him for reservations. He can be contacted at brockr@lindsey.edu.



Vanities Cast

Callie Botkin of Campbellsville, Ky. (Mary); Caitlin Corder of Wayne County, Ky. (Joanne); Mariah Lane of Henderson, Ky. (Kathy).

Production Crew

Susan “Suzie” Herrington of Dearborn, Mich. (Director); Rachel Finch of Bowling Green, Ky. (Stage Manager); Thomas Alvey of Brownsville, Ky. (Assistant Stage Manager); Carly Strien of Lexington, Ky. (Running Crew/Preshow Music); Micah Stewart-Wilcox of Lexington, Ky. (Running Crew); Michael Hook of Louisville, Ky. (Sound Designer).



Suzie Herrington (top of page), a senior theatre student at LWC, is the first student to direct a full-length play.

The *Vanities* cast and crew (above) discusses improvements from rehearsal.

Caitlin Corder (left) co-stars in the play as Joanne.

Story and photos by James D. McIntosh Jr.