

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

BY OSCAR WILDE



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Original Cover art by Chase Owens '23

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I. Algernon Moncrieff's Flat in Half-Moon Street,
Westminster, London

10 minute intermission

ACT II. The Garden at the Manor House, Woolton.

5 minute pause

ACT III. Drawing-Room at the Manor House, Woolton.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES
IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

This classic comedy of manners by Oscar Wilde has been a perennial favorite since 1895. The play is absolute fluff, though it did aim at blowing up the social rules of the upper class in England by making them ridiculous. This witty confection has proven to stand the test of time, productions being too numerous to have been set down in the historical record, though we know it has been seen on Broadway in nine separate productions—the last being 2011.

The play has been adapted for the movies three times: 1952 with Dame Edith Evans, who was well-known for playing Lady Bracknell on the London stage, a 1992 film used an all black cast, and a 2002 film with Dame Judi Dench, Reese Witherspoon, Colin Firth and Rupert Everett.

Oscar Wilde's theatre career began with *Salome* in 1891, which premiered in Paris, but was denied a license to produce in England due to a restriction on portraying Biblical subjects on stage at the time. His London debut play was *Lady Windermere's Fan*, which was a big success and was followed by two more hit comedies: *A Woman of No Importance* and *An Ideal Husband*. All within four years, these plays, plus *The Importance of Being Earnest*, cemented Wilde's reputation as the most successful playwright of his time and added to his already distinguished literary career of poetry, essays, articles, books and the enduring classic, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*.

I have been using "Earnest" as an example of Comedy of Manners and late 19th Century theatre in my Theatre Arts class all along. When we finish reading the play as a class, someone always suggests that we do a production—it seems that contemporary teenagers find it to still be amusing. Our 2023 cast is excited to share the fun with you!

THE PERSONS IN THE PLAY
(In order of appearance)

Lane.....	ANEIL HARMON '24
Algernon Moncrieff.....	TYCHO FONG '23
John ("Jack") Worthing.....	JOSIAH FOSTER '23
Lady Bracknell.....	ALEXXA RILEY '23
Gwendolen Fairfax.....	CAROLINE KRAMER '23
Cecily Cardew.....	ABIGAIL VANDEPOL '23
Miss Prism.....	MADELYN WHITNELL '24
Rev. Canon Chasuble.....	TANNER MEADE '23
Merriman.....	AUBRIANA LENE '23
Footman.....	TYLER SPERRY '26

TECHNICAL CREW

DIRECTOR.....	Michael D. Jackson
STAGE MANAGER.....	Isabella Davis '23
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER....	Zoey Frasca '26
SET DESIGN.....	Heather Christianson '01
LIGHTING DESIGN.....	Heather Christianson '01
SOUND DESIGN.....	Michael D. Jackson
COSTUME DESIGN.....	Michael D. Jackson
PROP DESIGN.....	Anna Hashimoto
CUE CALL.....	Easton Serrano '26
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR.....	Oscar Galvin '26
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR.....	Cara McIntyre '23
STAGE CREW.....	Derrick DeVaughnier-Beverly '23 Austin Miller '25 Daniela Rodriguez '26 Maxwell Scott '23 Tyler Sperry '26
DRESSERS.....	Hannah Parkinson '24 Haylee Potter '25 Brooke Steele '24

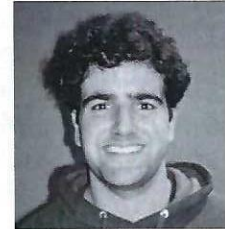
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW



TYCHO FONG '23 is enthralled by the opportunity to bring Algernon Moncrieff to the stage. After his experience in *Seussical*, he's amped to be back in theatre. Outside of the stage, you can find him playing drums or biking around town.



JOSIAH FOSTER '23 is honored to be returning for his sixth and final CB production. He will be playing the role of Jack and is thrilled to be doing so. Josiah would like to thank Mr. Jackson and Ms. C for their years of support and Babu Tanner Meade.



ANEIL HARMON '24 is excited to be playing Lane in his first CB production. He took a two year break from acting after eighth grade. Favorite past productions include *This Way and That* and *Robin Hood*. Aneil enjoys playing football and doing photography which he has been doing since 8th grade.



CAROLINE KRAMER '23 is delighted to be playing Gwendolyn in her final production at Christian Brothers High School. Outside of theatre you can find her cheering as captain of her cheer team. She would like to thank her mom, dad, brother Charlie and sister Ellie for always supporting her wildest dreams



AUBRIANA LENE '23 will be taking her final bow in the CB theatre as Merriman. She looks back at the 4 years she has been in the theatre and thanks Mr. Jackson and Ms. C for every opportunity given! Thanks to her family and friends for all of their support throughout her career. Signing out ♥

WHO'S WHO CONT'D



TANNER MEADE '23 Tanner is glad to be part of his last CB show with his best friend Josiah. Being part of the theater has been so meaningful and he will miss his CB theater family when he graduates.



ALEXXA RILEY '23 is excited to participate in her 7th CB production! She intends to pursue Acting as her career, and has since participated in the Young Professionals Conservatory with Sacramento Theater Company, ARC's production of "Something Rotten", and "Gumbo" and Music Circus' summer internship program. She thanks her parents for their continuous support.



MADELYN WHITNELL '24 is very excited to be in this year's play as Ms. Prism! And wants to give a big thanks to all the seniors who helped her along the way, such as Bella, Tanner, Aubri, Abby, Jean, Madison, Kate, and many more, she loves you all. Thank You!



ABIGAIL VANDEPOL '23 is delighted to be completing her time at Cristian Brothers on stage. She wants to thank her loved ones for their unwavering support and for putting up with her theatre kid energy throughout the years. She also wishes to express her gratitude to CB for allowing this once-timid freshman to follow her passions and develop into the person she is today.

MICHAEL D. JACKSON (Director) is in his 9th year as Artistic Director for CB. He started in theatre at age 8 with the Placerville Children's Theatre, completed a BA and MA in Theatre Arts at CSUS while working in a variety of capacities for Broadway Sacramento over 11 seasons. Between 2000 and 2014, Mr. Jackson lived in New York City, working as a director, playwright, theatre critic and agent for Music Theatre International. "Earnest" is his 18th production at CB.

HEATHER CHRISTIANSON '01 (Technical Director) Heather is a proud graduate of Christian Brothers and the USC School of Dramatic Art. Her technical theatre background began at CB, (under Choral Director Christian Bohm!) and gave her the opportunity to study in Los Angeles and London and to work at Sacramento Theatre Company, Broadway at Music Circus, and Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company. She is in her ninth year as Technical Director and Theatre Arts teacher at Christian Brothers High School.

BELLA DAVIS '23 (Stage Manager) is excited to run "The Importance of Being Earnest". She is eager to get back into managing backstage and is looking forward to being with the crew and cast. She is disappointed that this will be her last show as she is graduating this year. She wishes to convey the best of luck in future endeavors to her fellow seniors in the cast and crew, and that she will miss them dearly.

ZOEY FRASCA '26 (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be Assistant Stage Manager for her second show at CB. When not in rehearsal she is a visual artist and enjoys drawing, but her favorite activity is reading. She thanks her family, friends, and the cast and crew for their love and support.

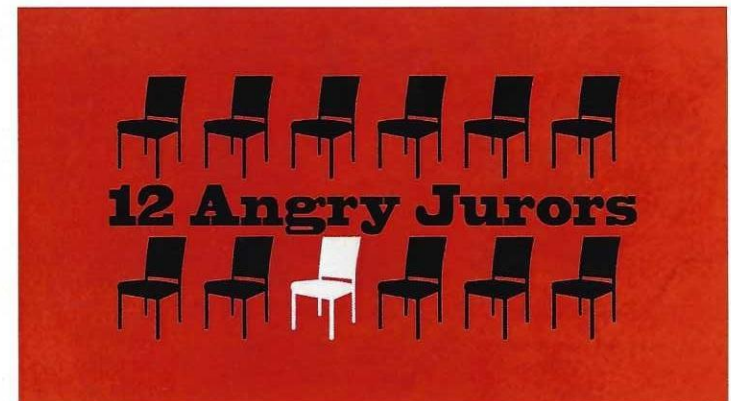
Coming up in 2022-23

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR STUDENTS IN THE TECH FACTOR FOR THEIR WORK ON SETS AND LIGHTING

Avi Hammel '26, Erin Diga '24, Nora Cosgrove '24,
Nicholas Cosgrove '26, Marco Murphy '26, Oscar Galvin '26,
Zoey Frasca '26, Aneil Harmon '24, Elie Veerkamp '24,
Daniela Rodriguez '26, Aubriana Lene '23,
Isabelle Veridiano-Saechou '26, Jason Ellermeyer '26,
Easton Serrano '26, Aves Cartwright '26

AND TO OUR ADULT SUPPORT

The staff and administration of Christian Brothers High School,
Friends Of The Arts, Kristen McCarthy, Joe Sousa and the custodial
staff, Jaime Gutierrez, Alan Milligan and Lorna Hannon,
Stacia Cosgrove, Martha Kight, David and Linda Christianson, and
all of the parent volunteers who donate their time and energy to the
arts.



Join us for our upcoming events!



Choral Spring Concert
Saturday, April 22, @ 5 and 7 pm

Instrumental Spring Concert
Thursday, April 27 @ 7pm



The La Salle Art Show
Friday, April 28 @ 4-6 pm