

Christian Brothers High School presents

ANIMAL CRACKERS

7 pm April
22nd / 23rd / 29th / 30th

2 pm
April 24th
&
May 1st

ANIMAL CRACKERS,
Book by George S. Kaufman
and Morrie Ryskind;

Music and Lyrics by
Bert Kalmar and
Harry Ruby;

Animal Crackers
is presented by special
arrangement with
SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Original Art By: Laura Gorry '17

Christian Brothers High School
Theatre Department Presents

Animal Crackers

Music and Lyrics by Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby
Book by George S. Kaufman and Morrie Ryskind

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235 Park Ave, South, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10003

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Act 1

Scene 1: The Foyer of Mrs. Rittenhouse's estate on Long Island, a Friday evening in 1928.

"Opening".....Hives, servants and guests
"Hooray for Captain Spalding"Company
"Three Little Words".....Wally and Arabella
"Who's Been Listening to my Heart".....John and Mary
"Everyone Says I Love You".....Ravelli

Scene 2: The Drawing Room, later that night.

"Keep Your Undershirt On"Captain Spalding and Mrs. Rittenhouse
"Why Am I So Romantic"John and Mary
"Oh By Jingo! Oh By Gee!".....Ravelli and Company
"Finaletto"Company

Act Two

Scene 1: The Drawing Room, the next morning.

"Long Island Low Down".....Wally, Arabella and Company
"Show Me a Rose".....Captain Spalding
"Watching the Clouds Roll By"John and Mary
"The Professor's Dream"The Professor

Scene 2: The masquerade party that evening.

"Four of the Three Musketeers".....Jamison, Spalding, Ravelli and The Professor
"Finale"Company

The Cast

HIVES.....	Alexander Vasilyev '19
MRS. RITTENHOUSE.....	Marci Bandala '16
M. DOUCET	Andoni Zarrandikoetxea '17
ARRABELLA RITTENHOUSE.....	Jenn Roberts '18
MRS. WHITEHEAD.....	Madeleine Mason '16
GRACE CARPENTER.....	Cassidy McCallum '18
WALLY WINSTON.....	Patrick Barnes '17
JOHN PARKER	Nathanael Filip '16
ROSCOE W. CHANDLER.....	Ian Ferrell '17
CAPTAIN JEFFREY T. SPAULDING.....	Tony Rodriguez '16
HORATIO JAMISON	Michael Angeles '17
EMANUEL RAVELLI.....	Andrew Warner '16
THE PROFESSOR.....	Jacob Cherry '18
MARY STEWART.....	Bella Bagatelos '16
SGT. HENNESY	Leandro Johnson '16
BUTLER	Will LeGrand '16
BUTLER	Tristan Nieves '16
HARPO'S GIRL	Madeline Perez '19
TAXI DRIVER	Abigail Fitzpatrick '17
MAID.....	Jennifer Rustad '17
MAID.....	Emily Davis '18
CHORUS.....	Allie Hock '19
	Ashley Olds '19
	Simone Soublet '17

Orchestra

PIANO	Graham Sobelman
BASS.....	Perrin Ramos '17
DRUMS	Sean Baker '17
MALLETS	Jonathan Claridad '17
FLUTE	Alanna O'Neill '19
TROMBONE.....	Tim Condon-Lorenz '16
TRUMPET	Sharif Morton '17
ALTO SAX	Ben Hedge '17
TENOR SAX.....	Callahan Shelley '17

Technical Crew

DIRECTOR/ CHOREOGRAPHER	Michael D. Jackson
MUSICAL DIRECTOR.....	Graham Sobelman
ORCHESTRA COORDINATOR	Travis Maslen
STAGE MANAGER	Emily Taylor '16
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....	Xochitl Martin '16
STAGE MANAGEMENT INTERN	Natalie Toth '18
SET/ LIGHTING DESIGN.....	Heather Christianson '01
SOUND DESIGN.....	Gray Schubert '17
COSTUME DESIGN.....	Michael D. Jackson
PROP DESIGN.....	Anna Hashimoto
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR	Isabella Walsh '19
PROPSMASTER.....	Gabrielle Airola '17
SPECIAL MUSICAL CONSULTANT.....	Alanna O'Neill '19
DANCE CAPTAIN.....	Marci Bandala '16

Technical Crew Cont'd.

STAGE CREW.....	Efrain Vallejo '16 Kaitlyn Holt '18
DRESSERS.....	Chaila Johnson '16 Kat Jacinto '16
HAIR DESIGN	Jennifer Benton
HAIR AND MAKEUP CREW	Monica Thayer '16 Sabrina Hirsch '18
SPOTLIGHT OPERATORS.....	Matt Miles '18 Emma Roberts '18

Director's Note

Animal Crackers (1928) was the third Broadway show for the Marx Brothers, a family act that had been trouping through Vaudeville since they were kids. Their enduring personas known to all from their classic film comedies of the 1930s were developed slowly through years of traveling across America, adding a bulb horn here and a mustache there, solidifying their specific personalities into characters they would live with for life. They broke out of Vaudeville due to a disagreement with producer E. F. Albee and wanting to take their careers into their own hands, haphazardly put together a Broadway production called *I'll Say She Is!* produced with money from a pretzel mogul who promised his flapper girlfriend she could be a star on Broadway. Turns out the show was a surprise hit with columnist and radio personality Alexander Woollcott trumpeting praise to all who would listen.

The brothers' second Broadway show came along thanks to the wise producer, Sam Harris, who knew the brothers' talents could be put to even better use if top notch theatre people were to build a proper musical comedy to harness their antics. He engaged no less than George S. Kaufman to write the story and Irving Berlin to compose the score, making *Cocoanuts* a hit on Broadway and national tour.

While their third Broadway show, *Animal Crackers*, was underway, the brothers spent their days in Astoria Queens at the Paramount Studio (now the Kaufman Astoria Studio) making a film of *Cocoanuts*—a paired down version of the stage show. After a healthy three years in *Animal Crackers*, that too was made into a cut down version for the movies. This was the second film in a three film deal with Paramount. The brothers then headed to Hollywood to make *Monkey Business* and you might say that the rest is history, except after two more films, *Horse Feathers* and *Duck Soup*, the Marx Brothers' contract was not extended with Paramount.

Irving Thalberg, the head of production for MGM, had just the right sense to take on the Marx Brothers and build good stories around their brand of humor and dolloped with musical numbers produced with the best the business had to offer through the early 1940s. Their first two MGM films, *A Night at the Opera* and *A Day at the Races* represent the very best of the Marx Brothers' work throughout their careers.

By the 1950s, the brothers had broken up to work separately. Groucho launched his hugely successful TV quiz show, "You Bet Your Life" and Chico toured with a band performing his signature piano routines in night clubs. Occasionally, Harpo would join him, but Harpo made solo personal appearances throughout the rest of his life, while raising grapefruits and four adopted children. Zeppo, who had escaped the family act after *Duck Soup*, opened one of the most prestigious talent agencies in Hollywood. And then there was Margaret DuMont, who had played the society matron as a foil to Groucho since the days of *I'll Say She Is!* on Broadway and appeared in every film with the brothers until the end. She was often referred to as "the fourth Marx Brother."

In 1982, the Arena Theatre in Washington D.C. restored *Animal Crackers* so that it could be produced again. Because the shenanigans are so specific to what the Marx Brothers did, the only way to produce the material today is as a Marx Brothers tribute show with three actors imitating the brothers. Turns out, that with careful study in Marxism, *Animal Crackers* still works with the illusion that the Marx Brothers have come back to life to give another anarchic performance. Thanks to the Arena Theatre, what would otherwise be a "lost" musical, has returned in recent decades to become a surprise favorite.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST AND CREW

MICHAEL ANGELES '17

Michael is excited to be back on the stage in *Animal Crackers*. He has previously been seen in *The Tempest* (Caliban), *How To Succeed* (Twimble), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Gangster), *Street Scene* (Milkman and Policeman), and *Portlandia in Sacramento: A One Act Play* (Dave). As always, he would like to thank his friends and family.

BELLA BAGATELOS '16

Bella is thankful for one last opportunity to perform in a CBHS production. She has been in numerous shows with CB, STC, FMP, and the Music Circus. Favorite roles include Hellen Keller in *The Miracle Worker* and Hedy LaRue in *How To Succeed*. Thanks to family, friends, cast, and crew for their love.

MARCI BANDALA '16

Marci will take your breath away. Standing at 4'11", she daunts everyone she meets. Marci is extremely excited to participate in this fabulous production. You will recognize Marci by her long, flowing hair and awkward personality. Follow her on Twitter (haha. She doesn't have one. Just give her a high five or something.)

PATRICK BARNES '17

Pat is excited to be in his first musical at Christian Brothers! He participates in athletics and student council, and hopes to continue participating in theatre.

JACOB CHERRY '18

Jacob couldn't be more excited to play The Professor in *Animal Crackers*. He has performed in past Christian Brothers plays and musicals. He wrote the one-act play, *Detective Man*, this year. He would like to thank his family, Mr. Guro, and his FMP co-stars, Ian, Nick, and Meg.

EMILY DAVIS '18

Emily is so excited to be in her first CB musical. She loves theatre and surfing. She participated in the 2016 One Acts and performed at the Lenaea Festival. Despite her small size, she has a big heart.

"Though she be but little, she is fierce" - Shakespeare

IAN FERRELL '17

Animal Crackers is Ian's 6th show at CBHS. Previous productions include *How To Succeed*, *Into The Woods*, and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. He recently performed with Flying Monkey Productions at Disneyland. He thanks his family for helping him to pursue his love of theatre and the performing arts.

NATHANAEL FILIP '16

Nathanael is very excited to be in CB's production of *Animal Crackers*. Nathanael has a large background in music and is excited to be playing John Parker.

ABIGAIL FITZPATRICK '17

Abigail is excited to be a part of *Animal Crackers*. She has enjoyed past CB shows, including *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Street Scene*, *The Tempest*, and *How To Succeed*, as well as Open Mic nights and the One Acts. She is also a member of the CB Theatre Society. She thanks the talented cast and crew, family, friends, and especially her great teachers and directors.

ALLIE HOCK '19

Allie rocked the role of Martha Washington in her first grade presidential play. Aside from playing Rosaline in the 2016 One Acts, this is her first CB performance.

LEANDRO JOHNSON '16

Leandro is thrilled to be resuming his CB acting career with his fellow castmates. He has been in past CB productions and is happy to end his high school career with one last performance and a terrific cast.

WILL LEGRAND '16

Will is excited to be a part of CB's production of *Animal Crackers*. He has participated in previous CB productions of *Godspell*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He also loves biking and skateboarding and plays the piano and clarinet.

MADELEINE MASON '16

Madeline is elated to perform in her last show at CB. She has performed in every single production since her freshman year. Some of her highlights include Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Smitty in *How To Succeed*. Her next role will be a college student; hopefully not in debt.

CASSIDY MCCALLUM '18

Cassidy is very excited to participate in her fourth Christian Brothers production! She has been acting since the fifth grade, and would like to thank her family and friends for their constant love and support. Favorite past roles include Mrs. Krumholtz (*How To Succeed*) and Mrs. Potts (*Beauty And The Beast*).

TRISTAN NIEVES '16

Tristan is making his acting debut with *Animal Crackers*. He is very excited to star in this great play. He is a soccer player and loves to listen to music. He loves his family and thanks them for everything.

ASHLEY OLDS '19

Ashley is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to participate in *Animal Crackers*, her first CB production. She has been in theatre for two years. Favorite past productions include *Honk! The Musical Jr.* (Ida), *Legally Blonde Jr.* (Pilar), and *The Little Mermaid Jr.* (Mersister, Arista). She thanks her wonderful friends and family for always being so supportive! Love you, Mom and Dad!

MADELINE PEREZ '19

Madeline is thrilled to be in her first production at CB. Her favorite past roles have been Elle in *Legally Blonde Jr.*, Little Becky Two Shoes in *Urinetown*, and Janie Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life*. She looks forward to more CB musicals in the future!

JENN ROBERTS '18

Jenn is excited to perform in her second Christian Brothers production and hopes the audience loves *Animal Crackers* as much as she does. She would like to thank Mr. Jackson and Ms. Christianson for all of their help and guidance, her parents for their love and support, and her friends who are reading this right now.

TONY RODRIGUEZ '15

Tony is delighted to be playing Captain Jeffrey T. Spaulding in *Animal Crackers*. It has been a joy for him to hit people across the stage with his slapstick comedy. "Hey, hey!"

JENNIFER RUSTAD '17

Jennifer is very excited to be in CB's production of *Animal Crackers*. She has been nominated for an Elly Award twice for her work in the CB costuming department. She also enjoys playing many different instruments, singing in CB's Vocal Jazz and Honors choirs, and loves working with animals.

SIMONE SOUBLET '17

Simone is excited to be back in CB's theatre. She has performed in *The Drowsy Chaperone* as a freshman, *Street Scene* and *How To Succeed* as a sophomore, and now *Animal Crackers* as a junior. Simone would like to thank her family and friends for the love and support, and she would like to thank the directors and crew for making this show come alive!

ALEXANDER VASILYEV '19

Alexander is very excited to potentially make or shatter his confidence at acting with this performance. He has never been in a musical and looks forward to a great experience.

ANDREW WARNER '16

Andrew is molto excited to be playing Emanuel Ravelli in his final show at CB. Past shows include *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Ensemble/Superintendent) and *Street Scene* (Mr. Easter). Andrew has really enjoyed his time with the CB Theatre Department and would like to thank all his friends and family for supporting him over the years.

ANDONI ZARRANDIKOETXEA '17

Andoni is an ISP (International Student Program) student from the Basque Country that is studying at CBHS for his junior year. He discovered his love of theatre in Ms. Wanket's American Literature class while reading *The Crucible*, by Arthur Miller. He has acted in the CB One Acts in February. He warns the audience that he has a strong accent which he can't get rid of, so...don't freak out.

Michael D. Jackson (Director/ Choreographer)

Following 10 seasons with California Musical Theatre in a variety of capacities, Mr. Jackson worked in NYC as director, playwright, theatre critic and agent for Music Theatre International for 14 years. In June 2014, he returned to California and joined the CBHS family to serve as Artistic Director to the growing Theatre Department.

Emily Taylor '16 (Stage Manager)

Emily has been involved in many productions since kindergarten, participating as Stage Manager for the last three years. She has a special appreciation for CB Theatre and hopes the audience will enjoy the show!

Xochitl Martin '16 (Assistant Stage Manager)

Xochitl would like to thank her parents for all of their support as she works as CB's Assistant Stage Manager once again. She has enjoyed working with the cast and Emily Taylor, the Stage Manager.

Heather Christianson '01 (Technical Director)

Heather is a proud graduate of Christian Brothers and the USC School of Theatre. Her technical theatre background began at CB, and gave her the opportunity to study in Los Angeles and London and to work at Sacramento Theatre Company, California Musical Theatre (Music Circus), and Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company. She is impressed by CB's commitment to the arts and is thrilled to return to this exciting, growing program.

Graham Sobelman (Music Director/Piano)

Music Director/Piano: *Forbidden Broadway* and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (California Musical Theatre); *The Behavior of Broadus* (Capital Stage); *Little Fish, Celebration, It's Only Life, tick, tick...BOOM!, They're Playing Our Song*, and *Songs For An Unmade Bed* (New Helvetia Theatre); *A Christmas Carol* and *Ruthless* (Sacramento Theatre Company), *The Who's Tommy* (UC Davis); *Tell Me On A Sunday* (Ensemble Theatre Company); *The Next Big Thing* (Edinburgh Fringe).

Composition: *Love Is Eternal* (Lyrics: David Kent); *Having It Out With Melancholy* (Text: Jane Kenyon).

Recordings: *Another Shade Of Blue* (with Maggie Hollinbeck); *This Ain't Betty* (with Melva Barbula).

Website: grahamsobelman.com

Travis Maslen (Orchestra Director)

Mr. Travis Maslen has been the director of the instrumental music program at Christian Brothers High School for 12 years. The ensembles he directs include Beginning Band, Concert Band, Honors Band, Jazz Band, Drumline, and String Orchestra. He also moderates the Ukulele Club. Mr. Maslen is also an active member of the Elk Grove Community Band. He is the composer/arranger for several professional ensembles including "Bones West", "Vox Musica", "Tuba Christmas", and has been published through the "Trombone Christmas" affiliation. Mr. Maslen has enjoyed working with CB's Theatre Department as the director of the orchestra for musical productions. Favorite shows include *The Music Man*, *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*, and *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

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

Emma Roberts '18, Ian Ferrell '17, Jacob Cherry '18, Matthew Miles '18, Miles Magaletti '18, Natalie Toth '18, Tim Condon-Lorenz '16, Zach Martin '19, Gabrielle Airola '17, Andoni Zarandikoetxea '17, Emily Davis '18, Spencer Fitzpatrick '20, Abigail Fitzpatrick '17, Jennifer Roberts '18, Brady Johnson '19

AND TO OUR ADULT SUPPORT

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