

W&L Department of Theater, Dance, and Film Studies
PREMIERE PERFORMANCE OF



1984

By George Orwell
Adapted and Directed by Stephanie Sandberg

(Copyright, 1949) by permission of Bill Hamilton as the
Literary Executor of the Estate of the late Sonia Brownell Orwell

November 9-11, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

November 12, 2017 at 2 p.m.

Keller Theatre • Lenfest Hall

Tickets are required
wlu.edu/lenfest-center

wlu.edu/theater-dance-and-film



University Swipe Available
Lenfest box office 540-458-8000
wlu.edu/lenfest-center

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Lenfest Hall

Stephanie Sandberg, *Director*

Owen Collins, *Set Design*

Shawn Paul Evans, *Lighting Design*

Owen Collins and Shawn Paul Evans, *Projection Design*

Jessica Miller, *Costume Designer*

John Lindberg, *Sound Engineer*

Michael Rasbury, *Sound Designer and Composer*

Tom Hackman, *Technical Director*

Susan Wager, *Marketing Director*

Chris DuPont '20, *Stage Manager*

There will be a Talk Back

following the Friday, November 10 performance.

Panel Members include: Assistant Professor Kevin Finch,
Assistant Professor Mark Coddington, and Professor Toni Locy

*Please silence all cellular phones and personal paging devices
before the performance begins.*

*The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and
the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, are strictly prohibited.*

1984 Company



Stephanie
Sandberg
Director



Chris
DuPont '20
Stage Manager



Kacie
Carter '19



Charlotte
Cook '19



Elise
George '19



Ramonah
Gibson '20



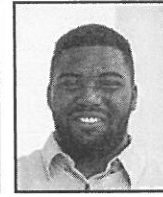
Win
Gustin '20



Eli
Hattersley



Chase
Isbell '21



Arthur
Love '18



Abigail
Lynch



Willa
Stieler



Samuel
Womack '21

THE CAST

Winston	Samuel Womack '21
Julia	Charlotte Cook '19
O'Brien	Win Gustin '20
Parson	Chase Isbell '21
Mrs. Parson/Mother leader in future	Kacie Carter '19
Martin/Chorus leader in the future	Arthur Love '18
Charrington.	Ramonah Gibson '20
Syme/Chorus	Elise George '19
Parson Child/Future Child	Abigail Lynch
Young Winston/Future Child	Eli Hattersley
Winston's Sister/Future Child	Willa Stieler

CARPENTERS

Mike Bracey '20, Ramonah Gibson '20, Micah Holcomb '21, Gabriel Leasure
Brittany Osaseri '19, Students of THTR 131 Class

RUN CREW

Hannah Dewing '19, Chase Fleming '21, Callie Garst '21
Will McLearn '20, Mike Bracey '20, Hanh Doan '21
Mary Stewart '21, Ali Carmody '20, Sean Puleo '20

COSTUME CREW

Anna Alexander '18, Autumn Alvarado, Charlotte Cook '19
Ramonah Gibson '20, Simon Marland '20, Julia Mayol '19, Accacia Mullen
Brianna Osaseri '19, Anne Walker '18, Kayleigh Yavorski '19

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

When George Orwell composed his masterpiece *1984*, he was not only suffering from severe illness, but many close to him believe that the writing of this novel was his final creative act and that it literally killed him. As a commentary on the totalitarian Eastern Bloc regimes settling in over Europe in 1949, he was writing a warning to the world that the fight against the falsehoods of official governments and the swarming of surveillance mechanisms were distinct threats to freedom. But what does Orwell ask of us, his audience?

First, he is asking us to read, and to value the freedom of information to the point that we fact-check and seek out the truth that is beyond our screens. Somehow, prophetically, he saw that the telescreen was about to take over our lives. He asks us to “look up and out” from our screens to see the truth. “Objective truth,” he asks, “is it possible?” The journalist in him says a resounding “yes.”

Second, he is asking us to value relationships, to seek for intimacy and truth in our closest bonds. We witness this in Winston Smith’s encounter with Julia, as they seek to know one another’s darkest secrets and uncover their pasts together. We are to value relationships beyond everything and fight against easy losses. Orwell saw that we were entering an age where the individual would be nearly worshipped; conspicuous individualism separates us from one another, divides, and then conquers us into a state of lonely apathy. Orwell wanted us to fight against this.

Third, he is asking us to heed his warning and call upon our governments to change not only to ruling that values the “inner party,” but one that sees all peoples as equals with the rights to tell their stories, to live in freedom, to raise families and to seek justice. The Dystopian landscape of *1984* reveals to us a bleak place where the party of Big Brother dictates every aspect of their lives. And today, we are dangerously close to such realities.

In this adaptation of Orwell’s *1984* we hold hope for the future, in the people, like us, who find ourselves in Winston’s struggle and long to escape the strangleholds of oppressive surveillance and media domination. We are Winston.

UPCOMING AUDITIONS

James and the Giant Peach
The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet
November 28-29, 2017
7-10 p.m. • Johnson Theatre

To sign up for AUDITIONS go to
go.wlu.edu/theater/James&TheGiantPeachAuditions
go.wlu.edu/theater/Romeo&JulietAuditions

BIOS

Kacie Carter '19 (Mrs. Parson/Mother leader in future), a junior mathematics and sociology major and poverty and human capability studies minor, is proud to debut on the Keller stage.

Charlotte Cook '19 (Julia), a junior theater and European history major and art history minor, is excited to return to the stage after her performance as Van Helsing in *Dracula*. Additional acting credits include her role as Elinor in *Sense and Sensibility* and Princess of France in *Love's Labors Lost*. Professional acting credit includes King John in *King John* by the 2016 Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey Apprentice Company. Professional training includes theater study program at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey and the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

Chris DuPont '20 (Stage Manager), a sophomore, makes *1984* a technical credit.

Elise George '19 (Syme/Chorus), a junior economics major, makes her debut on the Keller stage.

Ramonah Gibson '20 (Charrington), a sophomore theater major and creative writing minor, returns to the stage after her performance in 2016 Bentley Musical: *The Theory of Relativity*.

Win Gustin '20 (O'Brien), a sophomore history major, returns to the stage after his most recent performance as Male Attendant 2 in *Dracula*. Additional acting credits include the role of Burgundy in Mindbending Student Productions' *Joan! A Divine Musical Comedy, by God*, and the roles of Rocky and Brad in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* produced by the W&L RHPS shadow cast.

Eli Hattersley (Young Winston/Future Child), a homeschooled ninth grader, is excited to join the cast of *1984*.

Chase Isbell '21 (Parson), a first-year, makes his debut on the Keller stage.

Abigail Lynch (Parson Child/Future Child), a ninth grader at Rockbridge County High School, is excited to join the cast of *1984*.

Arthur Love '18 (Martin/Chorus leader in future), a senior neuroscience major and theater, film and visual culture minor, makes his acting debut on the Keller stage. Technical credits include sound engineer for 2014 Dancers Create.... and 2014 Once Acts, lighting designer for 2016 Dancers Create...., and set manager for the 2017 W&L Repertory Dance Concert. Love was a choreographer/aerialist for the 2017 Spring Aerial Dance.

Stephanie Sandberg (Director) teaches theater history, global cinema, and dramatic writing at W&L University. She originally began her training as an actress but went on to study theater history and writing, completing her Ph.D. at the University of California. Sandberg's focus has been the dramaturgy of new plays, especially the theater of social justice or bringing to light themes of important and essential human

interest. As a playwright, she works in adapting novels such as Jane Austen's *Emma* and *Persuasion* for the stage as well as directly confronting important contemporary social issues through her most recent works *Stories in Blue: A Pilgrimage to End Human Trafficking*, and *Lines: The Lived Experience of Race*. Both plays use ethnographic interviewing techniques to address contemporary social issues facing us in our culture. In addition to directing for the Department of Theater, Dance, and Film Studies, she is currently working on two new plays—*Mezzo*, a dramatic musical about the life of an opera singer and *Adam: God's Beloved*, an adaptation of Henri Nouwen's book of the same name.

Willa Stieler (Winston's Sister/Future Child), a sixth grader at Lylburn Downing Middle School, is excited to join the cast of *1984* for its premiere showing on the W&L campus.

Samuel Womack '21 (Winston), a first-year, makes his debut on the Keller stage.

DEPARTMENT OF THEATER, DANCE, AND FILM STUDIES

Shawn Paul Evans, Head
Owen Collins
Jenefer Davies
Jemma Alix Levy
Stephanie Sandberg
Rob Mish
Jessica Miller
Melissa Gualtieri
Liza Deck
Sandra Meythaler
Tom Hackman

LENFEST CENTER

Rob Mish, *Director*
Susan Wager, *Assistant Director*
John Lindberg, *Manager of Technical Operations*
Rena Cromer, *Box Office Coordinator*

Josie Anker '19, Virginia Billings '21, James Brady '19, Caroline Blackmon '19
Micah Holcomb '21, Allie Jue '20, Laura Peck '21
Stephanie Williams '18, *Student Box Office Agents*
Audrey Dangler '18, Dana Schultz '18, *Student Box Office Assistants*
Margaret Higgins, *Box Office Agent*
Caroline Blackmon '19, *Student Publicity Chair*
Allison Jue '20, *Student Marketing*
Hermione Wang '18, *Lead Student Director*
Josie Anker '19, Caroline Blackmon '19, Stephanie Williams '18 *Student House Directors*
Gabrielle Braxton '19, Allison Jue '20, Rose Maxwell '20,
Ben Schaeffer '18, Will Rowson '19, *Student House Managers*
Johana Castillo Segovia '21, Delaney Foster '21, Isabella Fucigna '21
Callan Garst '21, Nicholas Konovalchik '21, Alexis Kriegh '21
Phuong Mai '21, Isabel Ryan '21, *Student House Assistants*
Judy Dunning, Anne Hopkins, John Murphy
Faye Welch, Jan White *House Assistants*