# Standing O A T T O N CENTRAL IOWA ARTS PROGRAM





The Diary of Anne Frank

by Frances Goodrich & Albert Hackett

## The Diary of Anne Frank Cast In Order of Appearance

Mr. Frank	John Audlehelm*
Miep	Joani Barlow*
Mrs. Van Daan	Jessica Dennis*
Mr. Van Daan	Tyler French*
Peter Van Daan	Josh Zirkle
Mrs. Frank	Lauren Mills*
Anne Frank	Grace Smithey
Margot Frank	Riley Devick
Mr. Kraler	Scott Nielsen
Mr. Dussel	Troy DeStigter
	* ACT Debut

Time: During the years of WWII and immediately thereafter Setting: The Secret Annex, Amsterdam, Netherlands

#### ACT I

Scene 1	Late afternoon in November 1945
Scene 2	Early morning in July 1942
Scene 3	A few minutes after 6 in the evening, two months
	later
Scene 4	Night, a few months later
Scene 5	The first night of Hanukkah, December 1942
	ACT II
Scope 1	Innuary 1 1044

Scene 1	January 1, 1944
Scene 2	An evening after supper
Scene 3	Night, a few weeks later
Scene 4	Afternoon, a few weeks later
Scene 5	Later in the afternoon, November 1945

There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts.

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

The Diary of Anne Frank is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Standing OVATION 2018–2019 SEASON

#### **Production Team**

Director Cheryl Clark
Assistant Director Stacie Bendixen

Producer Michael Hollister

Set Designer Cheryl Clark

Set Construction David Bendixen, Michael Hollister,

Abby Martin, Scott Nielsen,

Matt Tuttle

Light Design Michael Hollister, Matt Tuttle

Light Technician Price Jacobsen
Sound Design Mark Toebben

Sound Technician Joe Kirwen

Costumes Cheryl Clark

Props Tamra Mullen
Program Lynn Arterburn

Program Lynn Arterburn
Photographers Amber Romans, Greg Romans

Logo Design Rebekah Tuttle

Marketing Doug Arterburn, Lynn Arterburn,

Stacie Bendixen, Cheryl Clark, Adam Haselhuhn, Allyson Martens, Tammy Sposeto, Rebekah Tuttle

#### Special Acknowledgements

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Heuss Publishing, Inc. - programs
Banberry Design
Bev Ellis
Sandi Yoder, Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines

#### **Director's Notes**

Directing *The Diary of Anne Frank* has been a journey of discovery for me. This is so much more than a story, much more than an account of what happened to one young girl, a family or eight Jewish people during WWII. As I devoured as much literature about this time period as I could in the past 14 months, over and over I heard this theme: Almost all the Jews who survived in war-torn territory did so with the help of one or more people who were not of the Jewish faith. So, as we learn about Anne in the Secret Annex, may we also reflect on the universality of her experiences and the part we each play in insuring that all humans are safe, accepted, and free.



#### **Biographies**

**John Audlehelm** (Mr. Frank) is making his debut at ACT. He has performed in Iowa Stage Theater Company's *A View From the Bridge* and in Karen Schaeffer's scriptease play *Recompense*. He has been a criminal defense attorney for twelve years and drove a cab in Des Moines before starting his practice – "a seamless transition." John's twin dark secrets are his penchant for bad puns and his ability to forget that he has told you a joke already!



Joani Barlow (Miep) is appearing in her first show at ACT. She appeared in *Sideways Stories from Wayside School* at the Des Moines Playhouse, *Alice in Wonderland* at CAP Theater in Altoona, and *The Lion King* at Southeast Polk Junior High School. She enjoys skating, being around friends and making treats for friends! A big part of Joani's life is her mom, Wendy, and Joani says, "She is the most gorgeous, intelligent person I know and I love her very much."





Riley Devick (Margot Frank) has either seen or been on stage with her cousins, parents, grandparents, and siblings throughout her whole life. She has played Mrs. Crossley in *Treasure Island*, Nori in *The Hobbit*, in the ensemble of *James and the Giant Peach* at DMYAT, and is a regular on the ACT stage. Riley enjoys photography, reading cheesy romance novels, and writing. Riley is a local babysitter and works at ACT Summer Camps.



Jessica Dennis (Mrs. Van Daan) has been on stage since the 5th grade. Favorite shows have been *Oklahoma* (Ado Annie), *The Diviners* (Jennie Mae), *Steel Magnolias* (Shelby), and *Fiddler On The Roof* (Sprintza). She loves to knit, garden and swim and is the mother of four kids (who always keep her busy!). Engaged to be married in June 2020, she is a Speech Pathologist in a long-term care facility in Des Moines.



**Troy DeStigter** (Mr. Dussel) was last seen on the ACT stage in our production of *Unnecessary Farce*. His favorite roles have been in these plays: *You Can't Take It With You, Rumors, A Nice Family Gathering, Play On,* and *Come Blow Your Horn*. When not on stage, Troy enjoys collecting rock 'n roll music records and memorabilia. He is employed at Meredith Corporation.



Tyler French (Mr. Van Daan) most recently played Lucien P. Smith in *The Boys Next Door* with the Great River Players in Keokuk. He also appeared in numerous plays at Wartburg College and Norwalk High School. Tyler works in Promotions and Sports for Cumulus Radio Group in Des Moines and says he is basically a professional binge watcher, obsesses over Game of Thrones, anime, Greek Mythology, or Star Wars. You could be Tyler's best friend if you bring him tacos!



Lauren Mills (Mrs. Frank) is making her ACT debut, with this show being her first full-length play since middle school. Besides theater, she likes to spend her time baking, doing puzzles, and enjoys all things movies, books, and podcasts. Born and raised in Marshalltown, IA, Lauren now lives in Ankeny and works locally as a sign language interpreter.



**Scott Nielsen** (Mr. Kraler) has acted and directed in many different shows over the years at ACT, most recently directing *The Elevator Family* and acting in the role of the Narrator in *Passing Notes*. He has also acted at the Lofte Community Theatre in Nebraska. Scott says, "For me, community theater has always been about family. Some of that family may be your relatives, but a lot of that family is made up of friends you never knew existed until you shared the stage with them!"



Grace Smithey (Anne Frank) is an 8th grader at North Polk Middle School who enjoys singing, acting, playing flute, bass guitar, ukulele, reading, art, photography, and school sports. She lives with her parents, two siblings, one cat, and two dogs. Grace recently performed as Ti Moune in *Once On This Island* at North Polk Middle School and played Penny in *Honk!*, Cathy in *The Elevator Family* and Tiny Tim 1/Grace in *A Christmas Chaos*, all at ACT.



Josh Zirkle (Peter Van Daan) is no stranger to the ACT stage, appearing this season in *Passing Notes* (Matty) and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Linus). He likes to relax and play board games with friends and family when not busy with schoolwork. Josh has a large family of four brothers and four sisters and is a senior at Ankeny Centennial High School! He plans to go to Northwest Missouri State University for a Bachelor of Science in Theatre: Performance. Go Bearcats!



#### Cheryl Clark

(Director) discovered the stage in high school and has acted, directed, and designed costumes in Iowa Falls and the metro area. Favorite acting roles include The Witch (*Into the Woods*), Truvey (*Steel Magnolias*), and Sister Amnesia (*Nunsense*). She lives in Des Moines with her husband, Max, and has three daughters & four grandchildren. Cheryl works for ISU, enjoys sewing & knitting, gardening, traveling, and reading. She serves on the ACT Board of Directors (is a past-president) and the Iowa Community Theatre Association Board of Directors.



Stacie Bendixen (Assistant Director) is happy to be making her assistant-directorial debut with such a meaningful show. She has appeared onstage at ACT, most recently in *Kiss Me, Kate*, as well as at Urbandale Community Theatre and CAP in Altoona. Stacie is currently the Past President of the ACT Board of Directors. She works in corporate communications at Wells Fargo, and spends free time catching up on TV shows that everyone else has been talking about for years. (No Game of Thrones spoilers!)



Michael Hollister (Producer) directed his second show for ACT this fall (Frankenstein), after having directed A Few Good Men last season. Recently, he directed ACT's Dancing Lessons for the AACT Region V Festival in Aberdeen, South Dakota and received the Outstanding Directing Award. Michael also leads workshops for Ankeny Community Theatre's adult education outreach program. In his spare time, Michael likes cozy dinners and television at home with Jonah, his husband of eight years.

#### 2018 - 2019 Contributors

Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank the following individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generous support of our organization.

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