



Theatre Company of Saugus PRESENTS:

Much Ado

About Nothing

A play by William Shakespeare

June 4-6 & 11-13, 2021

Outdoors at Breakheart Reservation / Saugus, Massachusetts

Directed by Anna Lee Percuoco

The Theatre Company of Saugus (TCS) was founded in 1968. Through volunteer work, this company has been running strong for 52 wonderful seasons! TCS produces at least four shows in a normal season, and has been very successful in running summer youth workshops, fundraisers, and special events to promote education in theatre for adults and children of all ages. We always welcome new members. You do not need to be an actor or actress! Members can help behind the scenes, with costumes, props, lights, sound, or ticket sales. If you have questions, comments, or want more information, please speak to any of our staff during the intermission or after the show.

Visit our website at: TCSaugus.org

Email us at: TCSaugus@gmail.com

Phone us at: 781-816-7019

And be sure to like us on Facebook!

Board of Directors

- President Larry Segel
- Vice President Jeff Bliss
- Treasurer..... Alicia Groves
- Recording Secretary..... Victoria Isotti
- Corresponding Secretary Deirdre Shaw
- Board Members..... Matthew Garlin, Allison Perry,
..... Sean Perry, Jill Sliby
- Alternate Board Members Rosemary DeGregorio
..... Billy Jenkins, Benjamin Tan

Anytime you shop with Amazon, shop through **AmazonSmile**, donating automatically to TCS. An easy way for you to help us raise funds is by simply shopping! AmazonSmile has all the same products as Amazon and uses the same registration that you already have. Select "Theatre Company of Saugus Inc." as your preferred non-profit beneficiary, and a portion of your purchase will be donated to us. Even easier, go to our website TCSaugus.org and click on the link.

Purchase **Raffle** tickets from our concessions staff. \$1 for 1 chance, \$5 for 6 chances, or \$10 for an arms-length of tickets. If you have items to donate for our raffles: gift cards, restaurant gift certificates, tickets for area attractions or events, or other goodies you think patrons might enjoy, please email us at: TCSaugus@gmail.com

Cast

<i>Beatrice</i>	Nicole Abbondanza
<i>Benedick</i>	Nick Gould
<i>Hero</i>	Talia Cutulle
<i>Claudio</i>	Patrick Conaway
<i>Leonato</i>	John Leonard
<i>Antonia</i>	Sherri Wilcauskas
<i>Don Pedro</i>	Charlie Ferguson
<i>Lady Jane</i>	Katie Speed
<i>Margaret</i>	Hanna Burnett
<i>Ursula, Seacole</i>	Valerie Tracy
<i>Borachio</i>	Tyler Cronin
<i>Bianca, Sexton</i>	Karissa Vincent
<i>Connie</i>	Nicole Jones
<i>Dogberry</i>	Billy Jenkins
<i>Verges</i>	Zackary Perry
<i>Friar Francis, Launce</i>	Katie Demasi
<i>Messenger, Server</i>	Mackayla Beaton

- There will be one 10-minute intermission between acts.
- Please silence your cell phones before the show starts.
- No flash photography.
- Please return all beverage containers to the concessions table for recycling. Thank you!
- Restrooms are at the south end of the visitor center building.

FACEBOOK: SABRINA ORNAE
PHOTOGRAPHY
INSTAGRAM:
@S.ORNAE.PHOTOGRAPHY

SABRINA ORNAE PHOTOGRAPHY

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Engagement, Production Photography,
Events

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and availability.

Director's Note

Theatre is now experiencing a rebirth after a long hibernation. Bringing back art feels like bringing back joy, after a year devoid of both. What a tremendous privilege it is to be a part of this return. Theatre is finding itself again, and it is helping us find ourselves as well. Just as we are changed (and continue to be changed) by the ongoing pandemic, so have these characters been shaped by the war that they have all survived. The celebratory tone of the first scene is a first breath after a very dark time. In our version, this dark time is World War II. Benedick and Beatrice are reconnected after having a painful breakup in the past, and their constant witty bickering is a source of entertainment for all. Even their fighting is joyful because as Benedick says, they are "too wise to woo peaceably." When their friendship blossoms into something like love, it is richer and sweeter when mixed with the salt of their witty and honest quarreling. It's a surprise to them, because the most salient message of the play is that sometimes you literally cannot believe your eyes. Your eyes can deceive you and people can surprise you with their potential for both good and evil. *Much Ado About Nothing* compels us to ask ourselves: Who have we been underestimating? What potential joy have we been missing?

North Shore!

Summer Adult Dance Classes

with
Samantha Brior-Jones

Tuesdays
July 6 - Aug 24, 2021

American Legion
44 Taylor St, Saugus

5:30 - Beginner Tap
6:30 - Jazz for Musical Theatre
7:30 - Intermediate Tap
8:30 - Jazz for Musical Theater

\$120 per 8-week class: 15 dancers per class
(50% deposit required to hold seat)

Sign-ups at www.signupgenius.com
Click Search in the top-right corner, and search for
sbj.briorbello@gmail.com

Payment Options:
Zelle: 774-776-5747
Venmo: Samantha-Brior-Jones
Paypal: PoisonAppleShopCo

Contact with any questions or concerns:
sbj.briorbello@gmail.com

Time: Summer 1946

Scenes

Act One

Scene 1 A Picnic in the Countryside
Scene 2 Leonato's Bar & Restaurant
Scene 3the same

Act Two

Scene 1 Leonato's Bar & Restaurant
Scene 2the same
Scene 3The Patio at Leonato's

Act Three

Scene 1The Patio at Leonato's
Scene 2 Leonato's Bar & Restaurant

Intermission – 10 minutes

Scene 3 A Street at Night
Scene 4 Leonato's Bar & Restaurant
Scene 5the same

Act Four

Scene 1 Leonato's Bar & Restaurant
Scene 2A Street in the Daytime
Scene 3The Patio at Leonato's

Act Five

Scene 1The Patio at Leonato's
Scene 2 Leonato's Bar & Restaurant
Scene 3the same
Scene 4The Patio at Leonato's

This production is dedicated to the memory of
Leo Nickole (1927-2020)
the founder of TCS

Staff

DirectorAnna Lee Percuoco
Stage Manager.....Chelsea Sutherland
Producers..... Jeff Bliss, Larry Segel
Dance Choreographer Maria Kakolowski
Assistant Choreographers Trisha Gura, Stephen Bart
Fight Choreographer Nick Gould
Music Direction.....Karissa Vincent
Assistant Stage ManagerSherri Wilcauskas
Stage Hand Benjamin Tan
Scenic ConstructionSean Perry, Bob Sutherland
Scenic Painting.....Deb Cutulle
Costume & Sound DesignAnna Lee Percuoco
Costume Coordination..... Jeff Bliss
Costume Assistance Amanda Allen, Lauren Bliss, Joanne Fafard
Props Coordination, Graphic Design Jeff Bliss
Lighting Design Larry Segel
Transportation..... Sean Perry
Equipment Storage.....Alicia Groves
Box Office & Concessions Mike Giusti
Raffles Coordination Amanda Allen, Mike Giusti,
..... Sean Perry, Jill Sliby
Photography Sabrina Ornae

Special Thanks

- Friends of Breakheart & Peter Rosetti
- Mass. Dept. of Conservation and Recreation – Anthony Guthro & Jason Moreira
- American Legion Post 210
- Stoneham High School Drama Department
- Andrea Wurzburger
- James Wlodyka

Back to the Stage – Summer Workshop Series

- **Singing for the Musical Theatre Stage** presented by Lori L'Italien, asst prof of Voice at Boston Conservatory. Sundays and Mondays, August 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 at 7:00 PM.
- **Headshot Photo Session** by Sabrina Ornae
- **How to Read Music** by Benjamin Tan
For more info see: TCSaugus.org

Meet the Cast

Nicole Abbondanza (*Beatrice*, she/her/hers) is thrilled to be making her Theatre Company of Saugus debut! Her most recent roles include Caroline Bingley/Mrs. Gardiner in *Pride & Prejudice* (Skylight Theater Collective) and Ben in *Matt & Ben* (Skylight Theater Collective), both of which earned her EMACT DASH nominations. She is overjoyed to be back in person with a group of such dedicated and passionate people, and truly thankful for every one of them in this wonderful experience.

Mackayla Beaton (*Messenger/Server*, she/her/hers) is a friend of animals and people. She enjoyed playing Mollie in *Animal Farm* and Alice in *Alice in Wonderland*. She wants to thank her friends and family for their support!

Hanna Burnett (*Margaret*, she/her/hers) is overjoyed to return to the post-pandemic stage in this, one of her favorite Shakespearean plays. In 2010 she had the pleasure of playing Hero with Flock Theatre of New London, Connecticut. Previous TCS credit: Sister Wilhelm in *Nonsense* (2015). While not on stage, you can find Hanna performing historic tours of Boston with Boston Duck Tours, historic tours of Salem with Boston Historical Tours, entertaining children at Tufts Children's Hospital with Hearts and Noses Hospital Clown Troupe, or featured in a 2019 Shields MRI commercial about "number-one-ityce" (This never gets old!) Love to husband Justin, and numerous supportive friends, family, and coworkers who helped enable this return to the stage!

Patrick Conaway (*Claudio*, he/him/his) is thrilled to join this wonderful cast and creative team here in Saugus. He is an Actor and Educator based in Natick, MA. Past theatrical credits include *A Christmas Carol* (Hartford Stage), *Act Up and Vote!* (Central Square Theatre), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *As You Like It* (Saratoga Shakespeare), *PUFFS!* (FTLO Theatre) among others. He earned a BFA from The Hartt School. He has also trained with Drama Studio London, Shakespeare & Company and Company One Theatre.

Tyler Cronin (*Borachio*, he/him/his) is excited to be back on stage for live theatre and is inspired by the passionate actors in the cast. However, he does not understand how when he gets drunk and ruins a marriage he is "a bad friend" and "should probably go home" but when he does it on stage he is "doing incredible work" and "people will love it". He is thankful for everyone coming to the show.

Talia Cutulle (*Hero*, she/her/hers) is a Saugus native, and a recent graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City, which is where she had been living for the past 3 years up until the pandemic hit! Striving to continue performing through this pandemic, she most recently originated the role of Barbie in the first workshop of the new musical *Toyland*. She also recently was a competitor in BroadwayWorld's National *Next On Stage* competition and placed in the top 15! She is thrilled to be back on the TCS stage, where you may have seen her play Heather Duke in *Heathers*. Huge shoutout to the cast and creative team of *Much Ado* for making her first live production in over a year such a fun one!! :)

Katie DeMasi (*Launce/Friar Francis*, she/her/hers) is performing with TCS for the first time. She is a graduate of Saint Anselm College. She would like to thank her mom, Denise, for her passion for theater. She is grateful for the love and support of her dad, Scott, brother, Anthony, boyfriend, Jon, and best friend, Erika.

Charlie Ferguson (*Don Pedro*, he/him/his) is an actor, teacher, and all-around funny guy. He holds degrees from Emmanuel College, Trinity College Dublin and is excited to be starting at Emerson in the fall. Charlie would like to thank his friends from near and far who always support his many theatrical adventures. Most thanks should be given to Johanna and Kitty for having to hear him recite his lines. Enjoy the show!

Nick Gould (*Benedick*, he/him/his) is thrilled to be returning to live theatre with this incredible cast. Nick is the drama teacher at Breed Middle School in Lynn, where he also heads the after-school drama program. Outside of school, Nick also helps with The Bard Brigade, a Shakespeare focused performance group, as an actor and director. Some of his previous Shakespeare roles include Macduff in *Macbeth* and Feste in *Twelfth Night*, both with The Bard Brigade, and The Ghost in *Hamlet*, produced by the Creative Collective. He would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work, and Laura for her love and support.

Billy Jenkins (*Dogberry*, he/him/his) is an actor, writer, and puppeteer. This is Billy's first show with TCS. He is beyond thrilled to be playing Dogberry (a role that he has been dreaming to play since high school), and to be doing an actual live production since before COVID. Past credits include: Zoom productions of *The Crucible* and *A Christmas Carol* (Misfit Artist Company), *The Wizard of Oz* (CIC Theatre Company), and *Hamlet* (Third Citizen Theatre Company and Salem Theatre Company). He made his film debut by playing Eddy in *Gutterbug* (available on Amazon Prime and iTunes). His 10-minute one act, *Of Muppets and Vampires* was one of the eight 10-minute one acts workshopped and developed at the 2019 Assn. for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) Conference in Orlando, Florida. He is also on the board of TCS. He would like to thank his family and friends for continuing love and support. Enjoy the show!

Nicole Jones (*Connie*, she/her/hers) is happy to be typecast in the role of Connie, the bartender. A Musical Theatre graduate of UNH, Nicole has performed in a variety of capacities. In the past she has played Katherine in *Taming of the Shrew* (UNH), Helena in *A Midsummer Nights' Dream* (Cue Zero) and Gertrude in *Seussical* (Sad Café).

Maria Kakolowski (Choreographer, she/her/hers) fell in love with vernacular jazz dancing in 2004 and is thrilled to share the joy of this art form with you. She has collaborated on choreographies for the Roaring Twenties Lawn Party and *Club Drosselmeyer*, and is grateful for learning, performing, and teaching opportunities through Boston Lindy Hop, The Riff, Boston Lindy Bomb Squad, Boston Swing Central, and Hop to the Beat.

John Leonard (*Leonato*, he/his/him) is thrilled to be in his first production at TCS, but he has been involved in community theatre since his high school days in the 1970s, starting at the Garrett Theatre in Lawrence. He has been involved in productions ever since, both on stage and in a technical role, in Massachusetts and Florida. He was most recently in the Georgetown Theatre Workshop's ZOOM production of the radio play *The Black Figurine of Death*. After a forced year off, he is overjoyed to be appearing in front of a real, live audience again.

Anna Lee Percuoco (Director, she/her/hers) is so grateful for this incredible opportunity to direct one of her favorite Shakespearean comedies. Past directing credits include *As You Like It* (Bigelow Drama, Newton), *Seussical, Jr.* (Galvin Drama, Wakefield) and *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (MVRCS Drama, Malden). She wants to thank the board, her performance crew and most especially this delightful cast for welcoming her into the TCS family. Additionally, she wouldn't be where she is now without the love (and childcare help) of her family and friends. For Simon and Cecily, and last but not least, Mike: "I do love nothing in the world so well as you."

Zackary Perry (*Verges*, he/him/his) is looking forward to getting back into the swing of things with the TCS and *Much Ado*, his very first Shakespeare show! A sophomore attending St. Mary's High School, he had been missing the lack of a drama club in recent years, and yearning for a new show to be in. In the past, he's done a surplus of performances with TCS, starring in shows in the youth workshop such as *Elf Jr.*, *Once Upon a Mattress Jr.*, *Seussical Jr.*, and many more! He's also in many shows outside of Saugus, like *Willy Wonka Jr.* and *Into the Woods Jr.* with Entr'acte Theatre Company in Danvers, as well as school plays that include *Bye Bye Birdie* at St. Mary's. In his spare time, Zack enjoys singing, going on bike rides, playing video games, and spending time with his family. He can't wait to be performing in *Much Ado*, and plans on giving it his all!

Katie Speed (*Lady Jane*, she/her/hers) is thrilled to be making her TCS debut, and even more thrilled to be (finally) performing theatre, live, in-person, in front of an audience she can see and hear. Performing credits include: Myrtle Mae Simmons in *Harvey* (Footlight Club), Siobhan in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* (Pilgrim Soul Productions), Odysseus in *The Odyssey of Homer* (Ragnarok Productions at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival), Elena in *A Future Perfect* (Flyleaf Theater Company), and Ensemble in *American Idiot* (Phoenix Playmakers). Katie also recently directed a virtual revival of *Matt & Ben* with Skylight Theater Collective, following a successful run of the production in the summer of 2019. Katie is a drama teacher at Wellesley Middle School. Thanks and love to the cast and crew for being so welcoming, to the Adventure Gals for always making time for each other, and to Dad, Mom, Meg, Suze, and James, for always being there. www.katiespeed.net

Chelsea Sutherland (Stage Manager, she/her/hers) is a graduate from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. There she received her BA in Performing Arts with a concentration in Theatre and a minor in Arts Management. She has been an active member of the theatre community for 14 years starting at the Mystic Valley Regional Charter School in Malden, MA. Some of her stage management credits include: *Into the Woods*, *Tartuffe*, *She Kills Monsters*, *Alice in Wonderland* and *Awakening Cabaret: Deconstructive Musical Theatre*. Other credits include: *Cloud 9* (Production Stage Manager), *Failure a Love Story* (Director), and *Road* (Director, Technical Director, and Production Manager).

Valerie Tracy (*Ursula/Seacole*, she/her/hers) is absolutely thrilled to be a part of TCS' production of *Much Ado*. She has been involved in community theatre for years, and favorite shows include *Cabaret* (Producer), *Music Man* (Props), *True West* (Props), *Xanadu* (Producer), and *Sound of Music* (Nun ensemble). Her day job is video production, she loves to cook and host parties, and she's very involved in her City Church family. Being part of this cast has been a rare privilege and a joy. She swears you will love this show, and she shall not eat it!

Karissa Vincent (*Bianca/Sexton/Music Director*, she/her/hers) is very excited to be in her first show with TCS. Karissa originally is from New Hampshire, but moved to Massachusetts around two years ago. Although this is Karissa's first show in MA, she is not new to the stage. She has been performing since she was a little girl in elementary school all throughout high school doing a range of shows (*Wizard of Oz*, *Godspell*, *The Laramie Project*, *Cabaret*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Twelfth Night*, and others). She has also performed on a summer stock theatre stage in NH (in plays such as *Picnic* and *Harvey*) as well as performed on the Stratford Stage in Ontario, Canada (in plays such as *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Comedy of Errors*, and *Romeo and Juliet*). Karissa continued to act throughout college, where she double majored in Geochemistry and Music and minored in Theater and Arabic. Karissa is honored to join such a wonderful cast, crew and production team and is excited for all of you to see this great show!

Sherri Wilcauskas (*Antonia/Assistant Stage Manager*, she/her/hers) is pleased to return to TCS after being part of their production of *Jack the Ripper: The Whitechapel Musical*. Other Shakespearean roles she has played include Witch 3/Murderer 2 in the Bard Brigade's production of *Macbeth*, and Blunt/Warwick/Sheriff/Page in Striving Artist Company's production of *The Henriad*. Sherri is also active, on stage and off, with Stage 284 in Hamilton and Wide Eyes Theatre in Boxford. She's played Sister Hubert in *Nunsense*, Aunt March in *Little Women*, Panch in *Spelling Bee*, Snoopy in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, Sarah in *Company*, and Jetsam in *Little Mermaid*. She has also stage managed *My Fair Lady*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Into the Woods*, *Homebody* (Tony Kushner) and *White Christmas* (asst.). In her 9-5 (8-6?) life, Sherri is the Director of Federal Relations for CAST (www.cast.org), an educational equity organization that pioneered the Universal Design for Learning framework, now used worldwide to make education more inclusive. Many thanks to the *Much Ado* family for this joyous, creative return to post-COVID theatre! Love to Matt, forever and always.

THE PSYCH
DRAMA
COMPANY
PRESENTS

SEPTEMBER
2021

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