

Eleven Weeks of Nuclear Summer

Directed by **Sarena Alexander**
and **Laurie Schmeling**
A Staged Reading
Marshfield, Stevens Point, Wausau
September 19-22, 2024

Side by Side by Sondheim

Directed by **Mark Hanson**
Stevens Point, Wausau
October 4-6, 10-12, 18-20, 2024

The Mousetrap

Directed by **Tyler Marchant**
Jenkins Theatre
November 15-17, 21-23, 2024

Afterimages 2024

Featuring **Student Choreography**
Studio Theatre
December 5-8, 2024

A Cry of Players

Directed by **Greg Prager**
A Staged Reading
Wausau, Stevens Point, Marshfield
February 6-9, 2025

The Pirates of Penzance

Directed by **Mark Hanson**
Jenkins Theatre
February 28-March 2, 2025
March 6-8, 2025

Danstage 2025

Directed by **Michael Estanich**,
Sarah Olson and featuring a guest artist
Jenkins Theatre
April 11-13, 2025

Love's Labor's Won

Directed by **Dana Dancho**
Studio Theatre
May 2-4 & 8-10, 2025



Department of Theatre & Dance
College of Fine Arts & Communication
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

2024-2025 Theatre & Dance Season

A Season of...

Welcome to the Department of Theatre & Dance 2024-2025 Season!

The UWSP Department of Theatre & Dance is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre and the National Association of Schools of Dance.

2024-2025 Theatre & Dance Faculty & Staff

Amy Beversdorf

Associate Lecturer, Dance

Andrew Brackett

Assistant Professor, Theatre

Emily Bustamante

Assistant Professor, Theatre
BFA Design and Technology
Program Coordinator

Dana Dancho

Assistant Professor, Theatre

Michael Estanich

Professor, Dance
Department of Theatre & Dance Chair

Mark Hanson

Associate Professor, Theatre
BFA Musical Theatre
Program Coordinator

Holly Hurda

Administrative Specialist
School of Performing Arts

Sonia Grimsled

Associate Lecturer, Theatre

Jeannie Hill

Professor, Dance

Emily Lotz

Assistant Professor, Theatre

Pamela Luedtke

Associate Lecturer, Dance

Tyler Marchant

Professor, Theatre
BFA Acting Program Coordinator

Kyle Norris

Assistant Professor, Theatre

Jim O'Connell

Associate Professor, Arts Management
Arts Management Program Coordinator

Sarah Olson

Assistant Professor, Dance

Greg Prugel

Lecturer, Theatre

Laurie Schmeling

Lecturer, Theatre
BA Drama Program Coordinator

CeCe Sickler

Costume Shop Manager

Ann Warren

Technical Director

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OF THEATRE

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Indigenous Peoples Land Acknowledgement

The Department of Theatre and Dance would like to recognize that the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point exists upon land inhabited by the indigenous people of this area, including the Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and the many other nations and groups that predate colonial borders.

We acknowledge that with colonization, Native American people have been dispossessed of their lands and irreparably changed by the actions of individuals and institutions.

We acknowledge our responsibility to understand and respond to those actions.

In partnership with the Native American Center, we commit to working together to honor the past, be intentional in the present, and to build our future with truth.

A Note from the Co-Director

Eleven Weeks of Nuclear Summer, by Sophie McIntosh, tells the story of young survivors of a vast nuclear attack of unspecified origin. Isolated in the woods of Maine and cut off from any contact with the world outside Camp Aster, the five camp counselors must find in themselves, and in each other, the courage to persevere and survive in the face of the unimaginable. A disaster of such magnitude demands cooperation. But how do you begin to confront a challenge you never imagined? What do you do when the people you need to rely on are not those you would choose to help you survive the un-survivable? What if there's no one else to turn to and nowhere else to go?

Since the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the United States in World War II, the natural and human devastation in the aftermath of nuclear disasters has been portrayed in numerous films and television shows. The fallout – literal and metaphoric – has fascinated, terrified, and haunted audiences for nearly eighty years. It is a subject, however, rarely addressed in the theatre. An obvious explanation is that movies and TV have the means to recreate this devastation visually in ways not readily available on stage. But the immediacy of theatre – the physical presence of living, breathing humans in performance – can quickly reveal to an audience what is at the heart of every apocalyptic story: the exploration of human nature. Our capacity for cooperation and for destruction, for altruism and selfishness.

This planet we inhabit and share with other living beings is at a tipping point. In the twin threats of climate change and the unchecked proliferation of weapons of mass destruction around the world, we see the consequences of our action and inaction. Do we have it in us to change course? Can we overcome our differences, real and imagined, consequential and petty, and cooperate in saving our shared existence on this planet not just for ourselves, but for future generations of young people like those portrayed in Eleven Weeks of Nuclear Summer?

Serena Alexander
BA Drama Major
Co-Director of Eleven Weeks of Nuclear Summer

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Department of Theatre & Dance
Presents

Eleven Weeks of Nuclear Summer

by Sophie McIntosh**

A Staged Reading
Directed by Serena Alexander
and Laurie Schmeling*

Fight/Intimacy Staging by Greg Prager*

Stage Manager Deirdra Pilgrim

*UWSP Faculty/Staff

**UWSP Alumna

This performance runs approximately 2 hours and
includes a brief intermission.



Guest Artist Sophie McIntosh

Sophie McIntosh (she/her) is a New York-based playwright and theatermaker. Her writing gives voice to women and queer folks, offers empathetic insight into living with mental illness, and explores how the ways we relate to animals and the natural world reflect on our own humanity.

Sophie is also the co-founder of Good Apples Collective, a developmental orchard for new theatrical works that she co-leads with her frequent collaborator Nina Goodheart. Recent productions of Sophie's work include the world premiere of *MACBITCHES* (New York Times Critic's Pick), the premieres of *CUNNICULARII* (recommended by Sara Holdren in NY Magazine) and *CITYSCRAPE* at Good Apples Collective, and college productions of *ELEVEN WEEKS OF NUCLEAR SUMMER* at Notre Dame University and the University of Michigan. Sophie's plays have also been developed by Pioneer Theatre Company, LaGuardia Performing Arts Center, the 24 Hour Plays: Nationals, the Bechdel Group, the Unicorn Theatre, Atlanta Shakespeare Company, and Breaking & Entering Theatre Collective.

She is a proud recipient of a BA in Drama from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and is currently working toward an MFA in Playwriting at Columbia University.

Sophie is represented by Chris Till with Paradigm. She can be reached at sophiemcintoshwrites@gmail.com.

Eleven Weeks of Nuclear Summer

CAST

Dawn.....Stephanie Hogan

Leigh.....Emily Odegard

Roz.....Iz Walsh

Viola.....Amelia Gibbons

Simone.....Stephanie Skemp

Kristen.....Janae Owens

2024/2025 Season Production Staff

Costume/Hair/Makeup Design Mentor.....Emily Bustamante*
Costume Shop Manager.....CeCe Sickler*
Costume Shop Assistants.....Maxine Danni, Cali Grant, Nessa Grant,
Vanessa Guillen, Steph Hogan, Sophie Pitsch,
Aidan Sternberg, S'iah Washington

Light/Sound Shop Mentor.....Andrew Brackett*
Light/Sound Shop Assistants....Ace Ahlstrom, Zach Bruhn, Paul Been

Scenic/Paint/Props Mentor & Prop Shop Manager.....Emily Lotz*
Paint/Props Shop Assistants.....Hayden Othmer,Anna Nowatzki

Scene Shop Manager & Technical Director.....Ann Warren*
Scene Shop Assistants.....Serena Alexander, Paul Been,
Zach Bruhn, Barret Buck, Bastien Howard

Fight/Intimacy Coordinator.....Greg Prager*

House Manager.....Erin Bohn

Student Office Assistants.....Erin Clementich,
Lenna Magdeline Wren, Stephanie Skemp

Meet the Company

Alexander, Serena (*Co-Director, She/Her*)

Senior BA Drama Major and Psychology (Human Services) major and Women's And Gender Studies minor from Nashville, TN. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Drama, the Stages to Equity Scholarship, the Destination Wisconsin Scholarship and the Pointer Partnership Grant.

Gibbons, Amelia (*Viola, She/Her*)

Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major and Child, Youth and Family Studies Minor from De Pere, WI. Recipient of the After the Flags Scholarship, the Alumni Generations Scholarship and the Presidential Purple Scholarship.

Hogan, Stephanie (*Dawn, She/Her*)

Senior BFA Acting Major and Arts Management Minor from Oconomowoc, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Acting, the After The Flags Theatre Scholarship in Acting, the Kassi Dallmann Memorial Scholarship and the Theatre in London Scholarship.

Odegard, Emily (*Leigh, She/Her*)

Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre Major from River Falls, WI. Recipient of the Presidential Gold Scholarship.

Owens, Janae (*Kristen, She/They*)

Junior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Neenah, WI.

Pilgrim, Deirdra (*Stage Manager, She/Her*)

Junior BA Drama Major from Edgar, WI. Recipient of the Dean's Distinguished Achievement Award.

Skemp, Stephanie (*Simone, She/Her*)

Junior BFA Musical Theatre Major, Arts Management Minor and Dance Minor from La Crosse, WI. Recipient of the James Mueller Award and the Theatre in London Scholarship.

Walsh, Iz (*Roz, They/Them*)

Junior BFA Musical Theatre Major from Altoona, WI.

Our Mission

The mission of the Department of Theatre and Dance is to serve:

- its majors and minors through curricular offerings and performance/production activities that heighten intellectual, artistic, cultural, and humane sensitivities.
- the general student population through curricular offerings and stage productions that engender an appreciation and understanding of the performing arts and their contribution to the cultural and aesthetic enrichment of life.
- the University community and Central Wisconsin population through the production of quality stage performances.

Department of Theatre & Dance Student Support Funds

BACKSTAGE FUND

Contributions to Backstage Fund support student scholarships, production enhancements, guest artists, faculty professional development and other department priorities.

STAGES TO EQUITY

In an ongoing effort to broaden and enrich our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity practices, this award supports students who come from historically under-represented populations within the theatre, dance, and arts management student body.

This academic year, we hope to grow the Stages to Equity endowment to support two annual scholarships for our students.

Backstage Fund Donors

Angel (\$1000+)

Dave & Amy Bakken	Meryl L. Nelson
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Jim & Madeline Haine	Kimberly L. & Jason Shields
Cynthia A. Lindau	Stevens Point Noon Lions Club
Neenah Paper, Inc.	Ann Stock

FIRST NIGHTERS

Traditionally, opening nights of theatre and dance performances include celebrating with friends and family. Following this tradition, we invite you to join our First Nighters series. This is a great way to see terrific theatre and dance, get to know our students, meet new friends and enjoy a delicious meal before the show! We look forward to welcoming you to our incredible 2024-2025 production season!

Michael Estanich, Chair

Department of Theatre & Dance

Consider Supporting Our Students

Ticket sales are strong, yet cover only a portion of our production costs. Each year we rely on patrons' support to create exceptional productions, support Senior Showcase, student research, conference attendance, and endowments for student scholarships.

Thank you to participating businesses for their willingness to match employee contributions. If your employer has a matching gift program, please include the matching gift form with your reply.

Suggested Contribution Levels

Angel	\$1000+
Producer	\$750+
Artistic Director	\$500+
Managing Director	\$250+
Director	\$100+
Stage Manager	\$50+

To make a contribution:

Visit the Foundation's Give Now page to support our students through either the

Backstage Fund or **Stages to Equity Fund**.

(www.give.uwsp.edu)



If including a check, please make payable to UWSP Foundation – (fund name).

Or contact the UWSP Foundation at 715-346-3811 or alumni@re.uwsp.edu

Your contribution will be acknowledged in each production program, unless you wish to remain anonymous.



tickets.uwsp.edu

UWSP BOX OFFICE: 715-346-4100
www.uwsp.edu/theatre-dance