Falling Playbill

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Falling
by Deanna Jent

February 16th-18th
Angell Blackfriars Theatre

Friday and Saturday
at 7:30pm & Saturday
and Sunday at 2pm

401.865.2218
providence.edu/theatre
PHOTOGRAPHY OR VIDEO RECORDING of any kind is strictly prohibited during performances in the Angell Blackfriars Theatre and the Bowab Studio Theatre.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELLULAR PHONES AND PAGERS before the performance begins.

TEXT MESSAGING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE THEATRE during the performance out of respect to the performers and as a courtesy to those seated near you.

THE MAIN RESTROOMS are located down the stairs in the lower lobby.

ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS are located at either end of the main lobby. If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate in events in the Smith Center, please contact the Central Reservations Coordinator (401-865-2070; M-F 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) well in advance.

TICKETS FOR EVENTS in the Angell Blackfriars Theatre and the Bowab Studio Theatre may be purchased online or over the telephone by Visa or Mastercard. If we have an accurate email for you, information will be sent to you prior to all mainstage events. To add your name to our list or to purchase tickets, call 401-865-2218 or visit www.providence.edu/theatre.

THE BOX OFFICE AT THE SMITH CENTER FOR THE ARTS is open for walk-up sales 1:30-5:00 PM Monday through Friday when classes are in session, and one hour prior to curtain on performance days. Cash, check, or credit cards are accepted for walk-up sales.

ALL TICKET SALES ARE FINAL AND CANNOT BE REFUNDED. You may exchange tickets for a different performance of the same production by returning your tickets to the Box Office up to 24 hours prior to curtain, subject to seat availability.
Providence College Department of Theatre, Dance and Film
Presents...

Falling

by Deanna Jent

An Independent Student Production directed by Gaby DeParis '18

Scenic Design
GABY DEPARIS '18

Costume Design
TEDDY KIRITSY '19

Lighting Design &
Sound Design
GABY DEPARIS '18
THE CAST

Bill........................................ THOMAS EDWARDS
Grammy................................ KATE FITZPATRICK
Tami...................................... CAPRIAL HARRIS
Lisa...................................... REAGAN QUITTSCHREIBER
Josh...................................... BRYAN SABBAG

PRODUCTION CREW

Stage Manager
SABRINA GUILBEAULT

Front of House Assistants
TIM BROWN
GRACE DOLAN

Light Board Operator
WILL OSER

Sound Board Operator
KEVIN SKIRVIN

Running Crew
TIM BROWN
GRACE DOLAN
KEVIN SKIRVIN

Wardrobe Crew
TEDDY KIRITSY

Poster Design
GABY DEPARIS

Box Office Manager
KATHLEEN MOORE

House Manager
GABI DESS

Box Office and Publicity
EMILY CLARK
GABI DESS
OLIVIA FERRI
THALEA GAUTHIER
KATHLEEN MOORE
ANNIE ROMANO
LAURA ROSTKOWSKI

Scene Shop Crew
DANIEL CRONIN
RICHARD CUSTODIO
GERARDO DAVILA
JAKE DENTON
EMMANUEL LAZO MANGUAL
MIREYA LOPEZ
ANNIE RODRIGUEZ
JUAN VELEZ
There will be no intermission.

Special Thanks

Kathleen and Larry DeParis
Grace Dolan
Maxine Wheelock
Trevor Elliot
George Marks
Jimmy Calitri
Susan Werner
Megan Chang
Ali Boyd

Director’s Notes

This journey began for me long before the rehearsal process started, and even before I held auditions. For as long as I can remember, I knew that when I chose a piece to direct for my senior capstone I wanted it to tie together both of my loves, theatre and psychology. It just so happens that I was lucky enough to double major in these areas. I have always been drawn to the fact that theatre can be used as a tool for social change, and I wanted to make sure I tapped into that. Mental illness is something everyone deals with in one way or another, and I am no exception to that. I have no concerns in sharing that mental illness has been a huge part of my life, which is why I probably ended up so interested in psychology in the first place.

When I first started looking for plays that portrayed mental illness on the stage, I was disheartened. Many of the works already written seemed forced, and more educational than entertaining and thought provoking. None of them had plot to them; none of them had a storyline that would draw audiences in. There was a point in which I feared my dream of fusing my majors together into this project would not come true, or that I was going to have to undertake the difficult process of writing my own piece. After hours and hours sitting in front of my computer, for at least the seventh day of searching, I fell upon this show that you are about to see.
Falling is more than just a play about a young man with severe autism spectrum disorder and his family. It is about sending forth a message of love, and how important it is to love even those who are hard to love. That is the main reason I was drawn to this play. In a world filled with so much hate, it is important to see that every single person is capable of loving and of being loved in return. There should be no exceptions to this, and no excuse for treating those around you with the same level of respect you would want to be given in return.

The second reason I was drawn to this play is because it authentically and unapologetically gives an inside look into a home and family that has been so deeply effected by mental illness. More often than not, mental illness such as autism spectrum disorder is glorified, focusing on the aspects of unique talent in specific areas such as music or science. This is not the full story. Not even close. People don’t want to know or see the harsh reality of mental illness, because to be quite honest it isn’t pretty. Without revealing what goes on behind closed doors and only providing people with knowledge based on what they see on a movie screen, we will never get any closer to creating more awareness and enabling people to be a voice of change.

With all of that being said, I hope you enjoy watching this play as much as I enjoyed directing it. This has been one of the most difficult and rewarding experiences of my life, and I am so blessed to have such dedicated actors and supportive faculty members to help make this all happen. I am so grateful Deanna Jent wrote this play, and I am honored to share her story with you. For those of you who may be wondering, yes, this play is based off of true events in the life of the playwright. It takes immense courage to be as vulnerable as Deanna was when writing and releasing this play to the public, and I hope I have done justice to her work.

Throughout this performance you may experience a whirlwind of emotions, but if there were one thing I would want everyone to take away from this experience, it would be hope of a future filled with love for oneself and others. So sit back, enlighten yourselves, and be prepared to (hopefully) fall in love with the Martin family.
We have a goal to make all of our scholarships full-tuition scholarships. Help us reach that goal for a talented student you have seen on stage by directing your tax-deductible donation to any of our scholarships.

Give to the scholarship of your choice:
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Department of Theatre, Dance & Film
Providence College
One Cunningham Square
Providence, RI 02918

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PROVIDENCE COLLEGE
THEATRE, DANCE & FILM
2017-2018 SEASON

THE 25TH ANNUAL
PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE
AUDITIONS: TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER
music and lyrics by William Finn; book by Rachel Sheinkin
October 20-22 and October 27-29

ALMOST, MAINE by John Coriani
AUDITIONS: TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER
an Independent Student Production: November 3-5

BLACKFRIARS DANCE CONCERT
AUDITIONS: THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER
Providence College Dance Company: November 17 & 18

HAMLET
AUDITIONS: WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER
an experimental production of William Shakespeare’s
epochal tragedy: January 26-28 and February 9-11

FALLING by Deanna Jent
AUDITIONS: WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER
an Independent Student Production: February 16-18

CREATIVE WRITERS FESTIVAL
INFORMATIONAL MEETING: TBD
March 23 & 24

THE MOORS by Jen Silverman
AUDITIONS: TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY
April 13-15 and April 20-22

SPRING DANCE CONCERT
AUDITIONS: TBD
Providence College Dance Company: April 27 & 28

STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL May 3
SUBMISSIONS DUE: FRIDAY 27 APRIL

AUDITIONS ARE OPEN TO ALL PC STUDENTS. You do not need previous experience to be considered for a role or for production crew. The Department of Theatre, Dance & Film supports diverse, nontraditional casting as a regular part of all its theatre productions.

Smith Center Box Office: 401.865.2218
TDF Academic Office: 401.865.2327

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Photography: Gabrielle Marks
Program and audition dates subject to change.