

# Longwood High School

## Presents:

Ed Monk's

# CUT



Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 8:15 pm-9:00 pm

Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 3:15pm-4:15pm & 8:15 pm-9:00 pm

Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 3:15 pm-4:15 pm

## Director's Notes

I normally use my director's note to explain the history of the play we are producing and to outline our rehearsal process. This year is a bit different. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we've had to redefine high school theater and it has not been an easy task. Changes to rehearsal format, compartmentalized productions-within-a-production, quarantines, social distancing onstage, masked acting, possible school closures, and virtual auditions add to the usual challenges of putting on a high school drama. I always say I am proud of our cast and crew. They have shown remarkable resilience and enthusiasm under these bizarre circumstances and I cannot begin to describe the swell of pride I feel this year.

Know this: nearly every actor that you see onstage lost their opportunity to perform on a Longwood stage last year. Both the junior high school and high school musicals were canceled within weeks of opening. Each cast had put in endless hours of preparation and rehearsal time. They were nearly ready for an audience and were then denied the opportunity to share their work with friends, loved ones, and their community. Though fully understandable and necessary, my most solemn moment in over a decade of directing was informing the cast of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* that their performances were canceled.

This year's drama is different. Instead of performing one long play with one large cast, we are performing four small plays with four smaller casts. Each one act play is performed masked and follows social distancing guidelines. Below is a small summary of these short plays, each of which is a comedy.

"The Still Alarm" by George S. Kaufman begins as two old friends have finished visiting over lunch. Unfortunately, the hotel they are in catches fire. They continue to go about their business with little urgency, and encounter a rather oblivious bellboy and two highly eccentric firefighters. It is a hysterical look at taking serious situations a bit too lightly.

"That's Not How I Remember It" by Don Zolidis involves two parents telling their son about the day they met. Of course, each parent has a wildly different (and equally ridiculous) tale. From (socially distanced) karate battles to bad '80s hair, overdramatic love triangles, and embarrassing parental moments, we see that memory can certainly divert from reality with the passing of time.

"The Actor's Nightmare" by Christopher Durang finds a clueless accountant in the middle of a shifting theatrical production, fully unaware of any of his lines, the plot, who he's playing, and what is going on. Is he in a romantic comedy, Shakespearian tragedy, a modern play involving garbage cans, or some strange combination of them all?

"Cut" by Ed Monk follows a cast of actors in a play within a play that might just be another play. The character relationships get so complicated and the script so convoluted that many begin to question where reality ends and the play begins. In a production of so many layers, is it even possible for it to end?

I know our production is live streamed this year. This is nowhere near as wonderful as live theater, but at least it's an opportunity for our amazing actors to perform and our stage crew to work their magic. You can also eat popcorn while watching!

So sit back, relax, and laugh with us. Goodness knows we all need it.

David Burt, Director



**LONGWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS**

**Ed Monk's**

**CUT**

*Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.  
(www.playscripts.com)*

David Burt.....Director

Cynthia Gerard.....Props & Costume Design

James Linker.....Stage Crew Advisor

John J. Gallagher, Ed.D.....Executive Producer

# ***The 202One Acts***

## **Cast List**

David Adejare.....	D
Laura Alt.....	G
David Bailey.....	Nick
Chris DeMeo.....	B
Franki Dobias-Moskowitz.....	Jackie
Alphonse Isaac.....	H
Jess Konik.....	E
Lucadson Luissaint.....	Techie 1
Cheyenne Mancuso.....	F
Tom Norman.....	C
Breanna Prezeau.....	Jennifer
Paige Seguine.....	Shannon
Leyla Sigirci.....	Techie 2
Maren Taylor.....	A
Mackenzie Williams.....	The Director

## Cast Biographies

**David Adejare (D)** is thrilled to be a part of the cast of *Cut*. This is his first stage production at Longwood High School. He has been selected to SCMEA All County. David would like to thank his Mom and Dad for their love and support.

**Laura Alt (G)** is thrilled to perform in *Cut*. This is her first stage production at Longwood High School. Laura wants to acknowledge the love and support of her friends, family and teachers. She wishes to congratulate the cast and crew of all four shows on their amazing hard work and dedication.

**David Bailey (Nick)** is happy to be a part of *Cut*. This is his first stage production at Longwood High School. David has been selected to SCMEA All County. He would like to thank his mom, dad and siblings for their love and support. He can't wait to do his best while having fun in the show!

**Chris Demeo (B)** is excited to perform in *Cut*. He has also appeared in *Romeo & Juliet* (2019) and *Yip! Yip! Yaphank!* (2018). Chris has been selected to NYSCAME/SCMEA All County, SCMEA All County. He is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society and the Choralions. He wants to acknowledge the love and support his family and fellow cast members. As a senior, Chris is very happy and thankful that he gets the chance to perform in this year's production, even during this troubling time.

**Franki Dobias-Moskowitz (Jackie)** is thrilled to be in Longwood High School's production of *Cut*. This is her first stage production. Franki has been selected to SCMEA All County. She wishes to thank her family for their love and support and for always encouraging her to follow her dreams.

**Alphonse Isaac (H)** is happy to be in the production of *Cut*. This is his first stage production at Longwood High School. Alphonse wants to acknowledge the love and support from his friends, family, and all the other people who helped him get this far. He is happy to be in the show this year and hopes to do his best during his performances.

**Jessica Konik (E)** is thrilled to perform in *Cut*. This is her first stage production at Longwood High School. Jessica is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. She would like to acknowledge the love and support of her family, friends, staff and kids at LYTE Theater. Jessica would also like to thank Paul Story for his guidance through the theater world and Mr. Burt for being an outstanding director and for giving her the amazing opportunity to do what she loves.

**Lucadson Luissaint (Techie 1)** is thrilled to perform in *Cut*. This is his first stage production at Longwood High School. Lucadson wants to acknowledge the love and support of his family. He hopes you enjoy *Cut*.

**Cheyenne Mancuso (F)** is thrilled to be a part of *Cut*. She also appeared in *Romeo & Juliet* (2019). Cheyenne is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. She wants to thank her peers, family and director. This is her last non-musical performance at Longwood High School and she is happy to have this opportunity to perform. Cheyenne gives her best wishes to all!

**Thomas Norman (C)** is thrilled to be in Longwood High School's production of *Cut*. He also appeared in *Romeo & Juliet* (2019). Thomas has been selected to SCMEA All County and is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Thomas wants to acknowledge Sam. He says, "This year has been rough, but the thought of even having a show is more than I expected." He is very happy to be a part of the production.

## Cast Biographies (Continued)

**Breanna Prezeau (Jennifer)** is thrilled to be a part of *Cut*. This is her first stage production at Longwood High School. Breanna is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Breanna wants to thank her best friends Mackenzie and Pelumi, and her teachers, classmates and family. She adds, “With the circumstances of the coronavirus pandemic, rehearsal has been difficult but going great.” Breanna hopes you enjoy the show

**Paige Seguire (Shannon)** is thrilled to appear in *Cut*. This is her first stage production at Longwood High School. She wants to acknowledge the actors from the three other plays, the cast from *Cut*, and the crew.

**Leyla Sigirci (Techie 2)** is thrilled to perform in *Cut*. This is her first stage production at Longwood High School. She wishes to acknowledge the support from Julianna Lewis.

**Maren Taylor (A)** is thrilled to be a part of *Cut*. She also appeared in *Romeo & Juliet* (2019), *Yip! Yip! Yaphank!* (2018), and *Our Town* (2017). Maren has been selected to NYSCAME/SCMEA All County, SCMEA All County, and is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. She thanks her entire family for their love, support and encouragement of her passions for theater and music. Maren hopes you enjoy the show and says “break a leg” to the cast and crew.

**Mackenzie Williams (The Director)** is excited to be a part of *Cut*. This is her first stage production at Longwood High School. She wishes to acknowledge the love and support of her mother. She is thankful for the opportunity to be in this show, and says it will be something to remember!

## **Stage Crew**

Maia Moosmueller, Stage Manager

Aiden Antonelli

Dennis Bannon

Anthony Dimeck

Sofia Fianza

Giovanni Gotay

Gia Lalone

Nathan Maldonado

Zoe Nicholas

Barry Sherlock

Hailey Simon

## **About The Director, Advisors and Producer**

**David Burt (Director)** has directed fourteen Longwood High School productions, including *Romeo and Juliet*, *Monty Python's SPAMALOT*, and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Mr. Burt also serves as the high school's ninth and tenth Grade Chorus Teacher and is advisor to the Tri-M Music Honor Society. He holds dual bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Vocal Performance from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam, and a master's degree from Stony Brook University. Many thanks to our amazing cast and crew of students, the Longwood community for embracing theater arts, and the high school's unparalleled creative team for working wonders! This one's for the Longwood theater students whose productions were canceled last year. The show will go on. Thank you.

**Cynthia Gerard (Props & Costume Coordinator)** is an art teacher at Longwood High School. This is her second play production coordinating costumes and props after last year's *Romeo & Juliet*. She is excited to be a part of the theater productions at Longwood. Ms. Gerard finds it to be extremely rewarding and energizing. "The talent of the students and staff is inspiring and I am just thrilled to contribute to the productions! I learn something from all of them every day."

**James Linker (Stage Crew Adviser)** has been a technology teacher for the Longwood School District for sixteen years. Mr. Linker's Tenure as Stage Crew Advisor includes such credits as *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Bad Auditions by Bad Actors*, *Fools*, *Macbeth*, *Our Town*, *Yip! Yip! Yaphank!*, *Damn Yankees*, *Hairspray*, *Cinderella*, *Dirty rotten Scoundrels*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *SPAMALOT*, and *Romeo & Juliet*. He would like to express his gratitude for the opportunity he has had to work with the talented cast and production staff of this year's productions. He wishes the best of luck to all involved.

**John J. Gallagher, Ed.D (Executive Producer)** is the Director of Music & Fine Arts for the Longwood Central School District and is proud to present our students on stage in a virtual format!

During his tenure, he has produced memorable dramatic and comedic productions including *Romeo & Juliet* (2019), Irving Berlin's *Yip Yip! Yaphank!* (2018), *M\*A\*S\*H* (2012), *Get Smart* (2010), *To Kill A Mockingbird* (2009), and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (2006).

Longwood's arts education programs are an integral part of the educational process. They bring enormous intrinsic value through the exposure to and cultivation of creativity in students. The National Association for Music Education states, "The arts, with their strong emphasis on team-building and self-reflection are supremely suited to re-ignite students' interest in learning through collaboration, while simultaneously fostering creativity, critical thinking, and communication."

All of the educators involved in this production are proud of the student actors, stage crew and technicians who worked to make this new endeavor possible. Congratulations to director David Burt, set designer James Linker and costumes & props coordinator Cynthia Gerard.

## **Special Thank You To**

Terri Heinrichs-Logistics & Support

Jennifer Stallone-Program Design

Anthony Dimeck-Lighting and Sound

Longwood High School Administration

Longwood High School Custodians

Longwood High School Secretarial Staff

District Technology Office

District Operations & Maintenance Staff

Our Amazing Theater Families

# **Longwood High School Administration**

## **Principal**

Scott Schuster

## **Assistant Principals**

Melissa Conlon

Michael Kapfer

Barbara Merkle

Scott Reese

Alicia Smith

Jamal Walcott

## **Department Chairperson**

Kimberly Burns



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Assistant Superintendent for District Operations

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Assistant Superintendent for Pupil Personnel and Community Services

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Assistant to the Superintendent for Administration

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Christopher Foster  
Coordinator of Special Education

John J. Gallagher, Ed.D.  
Director of Music and Fine Arts

Pierre Gay  
Director of Instructional and Administrative Technology

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Executive Director of Special Education

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