

CELEBRATING

25

YEARS



PLAYHOUSE

DOSTA

THEATRE
GUILD
VALDOSTA

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TO KILL A
MOCKINGBIRD

THEATRE
GUILD
VALDOSTA

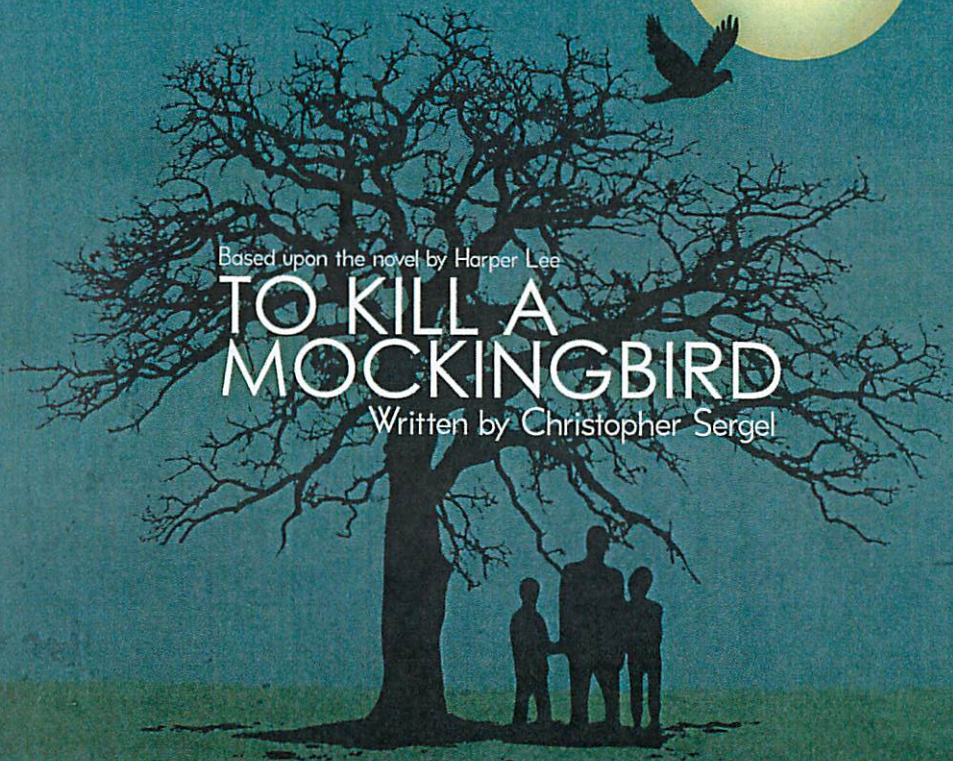
PRESENTS



Based upon the novel by Harper Lee

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

Written by Christopher Sergel



December 5th - 8th & 12th - 14th

At the Dosta Theatre in beautiful downtown Valdosta.

RATED
SE13+

Produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois

Based upon the novel by Harper Lee

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

Written by Christopher Sergel



The CAST

ATTICUS FINCH	JOSH ROBERTSON
JEAN LOUISE (SCOUT) FINCH	MAGGIE TARPLEY
JEM FINCH	SOMMERS COLEMAN
CALPURNIA	CHRISTIE JO MAYO
CHARLES BAKER HARRIS (DILL)	JON MICHAEL SLAWINSKI
MAUDIE ATKINSON	LYNNETTE KENWORTHY
HECK TATE	ANDREW THOMAS
STEPHANIE CRAWFORD	LINDA STIKKEL
BOB EWELL	FRED STIKKEL
MAYELLA EWELL	McKINLEY ANDERSON
TOM ROBINSON	RUSSELL "RO" OWENS
HORACE GILMER	CLAY LEE
JUDGE JOHN TAYLOR	BILL EGER
WALTER CUNNINGHAM, SR	BROCK GILLIARD
REVEREND SIKES	JONATHAN HEADEN
MRS. DUBOSE	JOANNE GRINER
NATHAN RADLEY	BYRON VANCE
CLERK OF THE COURT	BYRON VANCE
LINK DEAS	STEVEN MORRIS
WALTER CUNNINGHAM, JR	AIDEN SLAWINSKI
ARTHUR (BOO) RADLEY	JASON ALLBRITTON

TOWNSPEOPLE: Kaitlyn Allbritton, Elaine McMillan, Lois Allbritton, Erica Pimental, Anna Gibson, Brittany Major, Brooke Major, Merrilea Hatchett

FIRST PURCHASE CHURCH CHOIR: Devante Sanders, Kem Collins, Jeremy Wills, Arianna Roberson, Jabria Lawrence, Flora Maxwell, Amayah Twine

PRODUCTION CREW



Director	Patti Cook
Assistant Director	Brenda Brunston
Stage Manager	Diane Brunston
Front of House Manager	Mary Helen Taylor
Producer	Nancy Redfern-Vance
Set Designers	Grant Brown, John Mitchell
Props Mistresses	Lois Allbritton, Aletha Bryan, Kaitlyn Allbritton, Elaine McMillan, Andrea Slawinski, Lynnette Kenworthy
Costumers	Mary Ann Green, Mary Helen Watson, Elaine McMillan
Light Board Operator	Parker Allbritton
Sound Board Operator	Shelby Stacey
Back Stage Crew	Aiden Slawinski, Andrea Slawinski, Kaitlyn Allbritton, Danielle Costello,
Set Construction Crew	Grant Brown, Lynnette Kenworthy, Andrew Thomas, John Mitchell, Patti Cook, Diane Brunston, Brenda Brunston, Michael Brogdon, Lois Allbritton, Jason Allbritton, McKinley Anderson, Bill Eger, Josh Robertson, Brock Gilliard, P.T. Candelario, Kayden Candelario, Byron Vance, Elaine McMillan, Dan Costello, Fred Stikkel, Mary Helen Taylor, Aletha Bryan, Steven Morris, Danielle Costello, Christie Jo Mayo, and Kaitlyn Allbritton
Raffle Coordinator	Mary Clare Tarpley
Box Office Manager	Adrian Taylor
Publicity	Ryan Swaims

SPECIAL THANKS

Dean Poling and the Valdosta Daily Times
West Hill Ave Flea Market
Bruce Sumner at Central Florist
J.R. Sessions Printing

CAST BIOS



Jason Allbritton (Boo Radley) Although Jason Allbritton has worked backstage on multiple Gingerbread Players productions, this is his first on stage performance with Theater Guild Valdosta. He would like to thank Ms. Patti Cook and Ms. Brenda Brunston for this opportunity.

Kaitlyn Allbritton (Ensemble) This is Kaitlyn's first main stage appearance. She has performed in many plays with Gingerbread Players and has also assisted backstage with other main stage productions. She loves to act and would like to thank Ms. Patti and Ms. Brenda for giving her the opportunity to be in this production. Go, Boo!

Lois Allbritton (Ensemble) Lois is honored to be included in this production of such a classic piece of American literature...there are no small parts, only small actors (Whatever helps her sleep at night, bless her sweet little heart!). Y'all come back now, ya hear?

McKinley Anderson (Mayella Ewell) McKinley Anderson is a 15 year old home school student. She has participated in several GBP shows and is excited to be on stage in her first TGV production! McKinley enjoys dancing, reading, and anything artsy! She wants to thank her family for being so supportive! Enjoy the show!

Sommers Coleman (Jem Finch) Sommers is returning to the TGV stage for his second show of the season. He is also the current Gingerbread Players Liaison. Some of his favorite shows to be a part of have been Cliffhanger, Peter Pan, and Fearful Symmetry. He is grateful for the opportunity to play the role of Jem.

Kem Collins (Ensemble) Kem is an 8th grader at J.L. Newbern Middle School. He enjoys chorus, drama, and various sports. Kem recently played the Tin Man in his school production of "The Wiz". He would like to thank his parents and family for their love and support, and to Patti and Brenda for giving him this opportunity to perform with TVG.

Bill Eger (Judge Taylor) Bill is a Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati native and a charter member of TGV, appearing in its first show, The Mousetrap. Representative roles include: El Gallo in The Fantastiks; Sir Lionel in Camelot, Inspector Rough in Angel Street; Percival Brown in The Boyfriend, and most recently in TGV's Leading Ladies as Doc. Bill has enjoyed directing shows like Steel Magnolias, The Odd Couple, and The Fourposter.

Brock Gilliard (Walter Cunningham, Sr.) Brock is happy to be returning to the stage at TGV. Previous roles at TGV include those in Caught in the Net, Love, Sex and the IRS, and 9 to 5. He would like to thank Patti, Brenda, Diane and the cast for everything that they have put into this production.

Anna Gibson (Ensemble) Anna is ten years old and extremely excited to be a part of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Anna lives in Valdosta with her family and is in 4th grade at SL Mason Elementary. She previously performed with the Gingerbread Players in *The Princess and the Pea* and *Arabian Nights*. She loves art, reading, acting, and is learning to play fiddle.

Joanne Griner (Mrs. Dubose) has been busy on stage in 2013 playing Carrie Watts in *The Trip to Bountiful*, Madame Armfeldt in PSST's *A Little Night Music*, and Daisy in *Driving Miss Daisy* on the Dosta Stage. Now she is grateful to Patti and Brenda for the opportunity to create the mean-spirited Mrs. Dubose in this powerful drama, from a time in America's history when fair-minded people dared to stand firm against injustice, despite the consequences.

Jonathan Headen (Reverend Sykes) Jonathan is the Drama, Chorus, and step team instructor for J.L. Newbern Middle School. He recently played Eddie Lee in the play *Serenity* by V.O.I.C.E. Productions, Bob Enright in TGV's *9 to 5*, and plays the bassoon with the VSO. He thanks God, his parents, and family for always being a driving force behind him, and to Patti and Brenda for giving him this chance to perform with TGV.

Lynnette Kenworthy (Miss Maudie) Although more comfortable holding a drill than a play script, Lynnette Kenworthy is most grateful for the opportunity to perform her first main stage production as Ms. Maudie. She is very excited to work with such a wonderful and diverse cast to tell this emotional story of morality and injustice. Lynnette is thankful for the love and support of her husband Kevin and daughter Katelynn and she is truly blessed.

Jabria Lawrence (Ensemble) Jabria is an 8th grader at J.L. Newbern Middle School where she is a member of the step team, chorus, drama, and Newbern Inspirational Voices. She recently played Evalenne in *The Wiz* with the Newbern Drama Team. She would like to thank God, her Mom, and sister for being her biggest supporters, and would like to thank Patti and Brenda for the chance to perform.

Clay Lee (Horace Gilmer) Clay is glad to be returning to the TGV stage after an 18 month hiatus. He was last seen on stage wearing a dress (several in fact) in the hit comedy *Leading Ladies*. Clay is proud to be part of the TGV 25th anniversary season.

Brittany Major (Ensemble) Brittany is excited to make her TGV debut. Previous favorite roles include Cecily in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Little Red in *Into The Woods*, Liesel in *The Sound of Music*, and Dorthy in *The Wizard of Oz*. She wants to thank her Math Professor, Ms. Cook, for informing her about this play and hopes to be a part of the Dosta Playhouse for a long time.

Flora Maxwell (Ensemble) is a 7th grader at J. L. Newbern Middle School where she is a member of chorus, drama, Newbern Inspirational Voices, and FBLA. She recently played Glenda in *The Wiz* with Newbern Middle's Drama program. She would like to thank her mother and family for always being there for her, and to Patti and Brenda for giving her this opportunity.

Christie Jo Mayo (Calpurnia) Christie's happy to be a part of the show after having read the book as a freshman in high school. Now she's a freshman at VSU working to complete a degree in Theatre Performance. Christie thanks you for attending the show, without you there would be no reason to perform.

Elaine McMillan (Ensemble) This show is Valdosta native Elaine McMillan's theater debut. Because of her work with the Gingerbread Players in costuming, she decided to venture to the stage in a minor role. Elaine is mother to two daughters and grandmother to six including Katie and Rebecca Lancaster, actors in *The Gingerbread Players* troupe.

Steven Morris (Link Deas)

Steven Morris attends Valdosta State University. He participated in three musicals throughout his high school career. First, he played the part of the young Jojo in *Seussical*. The following year he was Rico Castelli in *Copacabana*. And his senior year he landed the lead role in *Footloose* as Ren McCormack.

Russell "RO" Owens (Tom Robinson) Ro loves the stage! He's performed in 14 theatrical productions. He has also performed in many cities throughout the southeast as a hip-hop artist. He is currently enrolled in graduate school, hoping to obtain a masters in clinical psychology. For him, the world truly is a stage!

Erica Pimental (Ensemble) This is Erica's second show with TGV this season. She is a theatre major at VSU, and wants to become a theatre teacher. A few of her most recognizable roles have been as Jan in *Grease*, Vera in *The Odd Couple* (female version) and Clariee in *Steel Magnolias*.

Arianna Roberson (Ensemble) Arianna is a 7th grader at J.L. Newbern Middle School where she is a member of chorus, drama, and Newbern Inspirational Voices. At J.L. Newbern she played Addapearle in *The Wiz* and a lead dancer/ensemble in *Godspell*. She would like to thank God and her family for always being there for her, and would like to thank Patti and Brenda for this opportunity.

Josh Robertson (Atticus Finch) Josh really wanted to play the role of Dolphus Raymond, but that character is not in the play. Honest mistake on the part of the playwright, surely. Josh will settle for this; he guesses. Thanks to cast, crew, and creative. Thanks to you for supporting local theatre!

Devante Sanders (Ensemble) Devante is an 8th grader at J.L. Newbern Middle school and is a member of the drama team, chorus, Newbern Inspirational Voices, and step team. He played Papa Ge in *Once on this Island*, the Lion in *The Wiz*, and Jesus in *Godspell* with the Newbern Drama Team. He thanks his mother and family for their love and support, and to Patti and Brenda for this opportunity.

Aiden Slawinski (Walter Cunningham, Jr.) Aiden is 10 years old. He attends Westside Elementary. This is his first play with Dosta Playhouse. He helped back stage with *The Fabulous Fable Factory*. He enjoys playing basketball, riding his bike and looking for turtles.

Jon Michael Slawinski (Charles Baker "Dill" Harris) Jon Michael is 13 yrs old and attends LMS. He has been in two Gingerbread Players productions. He was Earthworm in James and the Giant Peach and Aesop in The Fabulous Fable Factory. This is his first adult play at the theatre. He enjoys being on stage performing.

Fred Stikkel (Bob Ewell) Fred has been involved with TGV for 18 years. He was last seen on stage in Peter Pan playing Noodler, one of Captain Hook's pirates. Fred says playing Bob Ewell is his first role as a "bad man" and has found the experience to be interesting. He also says "It's good to be back."

Linda Stikkel (Miss Stephanie) Linda is a longtime member of TGV and is a past-president, board member, and director. She directed Of Mice and Men and has performed in numerous plays, most recently in Harvey. She has enjoyed being back on stage with her TGV friends.

Mary Margaret "Maggie" Tarpley (Jean Louise "Scout" Finch) Maggie is the ten year old daughter of Brad and Mary Clare Tarpley. She is in the fifth grade at Westside Elementary. Maggie most recently played Brigitta Von Trapp in The Sound of Music at Georgia's Peach State Summer Theater. When not on stage, you can usually find her reading.

Andrew Thomas (Sheriff Heck Tate) Andrew has become a veteran on the TGV stage having recently played Henry in Cliffhanger, The Narrator in Into the Woods, and Arnold Grunoin in Love, Sex, and the IRS. Andrew enjoys volunteering at St. John School and the St. Francis Center. Andrew would like to thank his family, Patti, and Brenda for putting up with his shenanigans!

Amayah Twine (Ensemble) Amayah is a 7th grader at J. L. Newbern Middle School where she is a member of chorus, drama, and Newbern Inspirational Voices. She played Dorothy in The Wiz with the Newbern Drama Team. She would like to thank God, her Mom, family, and Mr. Headen for being supportive, and to Patti and Brenda for giving her this opportunity.

Byron Vance (Nathan Radley/Clerk of the Court) Byron decided to pursue his boyhood passion for acting after retiring to Lake Park from the Florida Dept. of Corrections. He has performed in several TGV plays, most recently as "Raynerd" in Christmas Belles. Byron is grateful for his TGV "family" and for Valdosta's generous community support.

Jeremy Wills (Ensemble) Jeremy is an 8th grader at J. L. Newbern Middle School and a member of the step team, chorus, drama, and Newbern Inspirational Voices. He played John the Baptist in Godspell and The Tin Man in The Wiz with Newbern Middle School. He would like to thank his grandmother, mother, and family for always believing in him, he would also like to thank Patti and Brenda for this opportunity.

Director's Notes:

Exploring the themes of To Kill a Mockingbird has affected me more deeply than any other play on which I have worked. It is a challenge to express my thoughts about our production in this limited space. I can only offer an attempt. I asked the cast during the rehearsal process to tackle the underlying themes of the play: Youth and Innocence; Racial Injustice; Fear and Courage; Right and Wrong; Compassion and Forgiveness; Justice and Judgment. When we finally stepped back from this maze of themes, we found one theme that ties them all together - Perspective. Although To Kill a Mockingbird takes place in the 1930s in a small southern town, its themes remain universal and timeless. The story reminds us that bigotry and injustice will only end when we do as Atticus advises Jem and Scout: "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view ... Until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

It is my hope that To Kill a Mockingbird will be more than a one-time theatre experience. My hope is that it will challenge us all to have the courage of Atticus Finch... to always do what is right and to look at others without judgment. It is my prayer that one day we will live in a world where all the mockingbirds can sing without being afraid, where liberty and justice are truly for all, and where all of us weep for justice unattained.

I would like to thank the board of TGV for trusting me with this show; to Grant Brown for bringing Maycomb, Alabama to life through the set; to the cast and crew for their hard work and their trust; and to Brenda Brunston for her guidance and willingness to share her expertise.

- Patti Cook



A Brief History of Theatre Guild Valdosta

In February, 1989, a Lowndes Valdosta Arts Commission (LVAC) ad hoc team announced auditions for a production of Agatha Christie's *The Mousetrap*. The purpose of this effort was to establish a community theatre for the area. Following a weekend of performances in VSC's Sawyer Theater, and with the show profits as seed money, LVAC Theatre Guild was born. The group was incorporated, established as a non-profit entity and began producing plays in various venues all over Lowndes County. In 1992, these vagabond players bought the old dilapidated Dosta Movie Theater. At the time, 122 N. Ashley was "one shell of a building", with no seats, no heat or a/c, and not much of a roof. What it did have in abundance was opportunity. After three long years of fundraising and backbreaking work, alongside the production of four shows a year in the building, the renovations were complete. With an organizational name change, in 1995 Theatre Guild Valdosta was ready to celebrate its permanent home. The occasion was marked by a formal dedication gala: Klieg lights, champagne and caviar served in the middle of a closed Ashely Street, a ribbon-cutting by City and County dignitaries and the switch flipped on the first neon lights in downtown in many years.

Later, as audiences and productions grew, the two adjoining buildings, 118 and 116 N. Ashley, were purchased separately and turned into production space. It was a red-letter day when a door was cut between 118 and the theater so that actors no longer had to go through the alley to make a stage entrance! While technical work on the buildings has been done by professionals, many volunteers have put in countless hours of "sweat equity" to bring these three buildings to their present condition. Many people have made it possible for TGV to reach its 25th season: The local banker who made a no-interest loan for the purchase of the theater itself; the owner of the three buildings who allowed TGV use of his empty space; architects who donated time and expertise; City and County governments, organizations, and individuals who made donations from \$1 to \$300,000; businesses that donated materials and loaned set furniture; and ultimately, loyal patrons who purchased tickets. So this year, Theatre Guild Valdosta is proud to reflect on past accomplishments and is excited to look forward to the next 25 seasons. From cardboard sets transported in someone's car, to three buildings and 135-plus shows, it can be said that LVAC's 1989 goal has been successfully achieved!

SEE THE RATINGS, KNOW THE FACTS

SE

SUITABLE FOR EVERYONE

This show has no inappropriate content and is suitable for all ages.

SEI3+

SUITABLE FOR AGES 13+

This show may include mild violence, adult themes, mild sexual themes and/or mild explicit language. Parents should be cautioned that this show is not intended for young children.

NAC

NOT APPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN

This show may include explicit or excessive violence, explicit adult themes, explicit sexual themes, or excessive explicit language. Parents should be strongly cautioned that this show is not intended for children.

*Rating system is designed to educate potential audiences of the subject matter and level of appropriateness, but is in no way an indication of restrictions for attendance. Ratings should be used as a suggestion only.



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PRESENTS

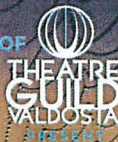
THE DIXIE SWIM CLUB

JANUARY 30TH - FEB. 2ND & FEB. 6TH - 8TH, 2014

Auditions: December 9th and 10th 2013



GINGERBREAD PLAYERS OF



Charlotte's Web

March, 21st-23rd, 28th-30th, 2014

Auditions: February, 3rd and 4th, 2014

RATED
SE