

# VTSU CASTLETON THEATER ARTS

PRESENTS:



IN CONCERT

Written by  
William Shakespeare

Adapted and Directed by  
Marisa Valent Altland

MARCH 27TH, 28TH, AND 29TH AT 7:00 PM • MARCH 30TH AT 2:00 PM • IN CASELLA THEATER  
ADULTS \$15 • STUDENTS & SENIORS \$10 | CONTACT THE CASELLA BOX OFFICE AT 802-468-1119 FOR TICKETS

Department of Music and Theater  
Vermont State University Castleton  
Presents

# HAMLET

*In Concert*



*By William Shakespeare  
Directed & Adapted by Marisa Valent-Altland*

The taking of photographs, video, or audio recordings of this performance is strictly prohibited.

As a courtesy to our other audience members, please turn off all electronic devices.

Save this program as a keepsake or recycle it by placing it in the recycle bins just before exiting the theater.

## Director's Note

Shakespeare's stories are intimidating to many people; Mistakenly, they'll read Shakespeare as opposed to watching the visual medium. Shakespeare's work was never intended to be read on a stagnant page; it was meant to be experienced. Tangentially, people often forget that Shakespeare was written for the general population, not the Elizabethan elite. Although today, we consider the iambic pentameter and old terminology to be "highbrow," it's important to remember that Shakespeare wrote his tales for everyone.

During the earliest stages of our production, Hamlet in Concert, I addressed my production team—with great stress—that this show should be performed by and for college students. Hamlet himself is a college student. Yes, he's a prince, but he's also navigating complex issues that many college students face currently. Leaving his college to attend the funeral of a family member, dealing with the difficulties of familial expectations, and balancing romantic interests while carving your own path. He's faced with the contemplation between life and death—along with the consequences of both. I could go on and on!

This show is for the student body. I implore you to subside your concerns regarding the language; instead, focus your attention onto the similarities you have with Hamlet and his fellow students. Study the actor's body language, their emotions, and their actions. The language will come to you. At the end of the day, it's just "words, words, words."

## **Cast**

**Hamlet** – Ben Robinson

**King Claudius** – Kendrick Madore

**Queen Gertrude** – Kylie Bernier

**Horatio** – Camille Pontius

**Polonius** – Philip Malazarte

**Laertes** – Charley Ballard

**Ophelia** – Carissa Challinor

**Ghost of King Hamlet/Prince Fortinbras** – Zach Brehmeyer

**Francisco** – Andy Cole

**Bernardo** – Kyle Frankenberg

**Marcellus** – Abby Hunter

**Voltimand** – Etta Warren

**Rosencrantz** – Sydney Singh

**Guildenstern** – Ella Myles

**First Player/Lucianis** – Montgomery Crane

**Cornelius/King Player** – Gabrielle Blair

**Queen Player** – Brenna Lee

**Captain/Player** – Jess Hansard

**First Sailor/Player** – Danika Polli

**Gravedigger/Player** – Moe Waldron

**Gravedigger/Player** – Quan Johnson

**Priest/Player** – Puck Bell

**Prologue Professor** – Flo Keys

## **Orchestra**

**Pit Orchestra Director** – Joshua Thompson

**Flute** – Denise Berger

**Flute** – Hannah Bowie

**Clarinet** – Courtney Gomes

**Clarinet** – Olivia Kalinowski

**Bass Clarinet** – Jenseny Lauer

**Bassoon** – Dylan Hopkins

**Trumpet** – Bug Galuszka

**Trumpet** – Honesty Rios

**Euphonium** – Jamison Baker

**Trombone** – Royal Wood

**Tuba** – Benjamin Reed

**String Bass** – Matthew Moore

**Percussion** – Braeden Kloss

## **Production Team**

**Director** – Marisa Valent-Altland  
**Technical Director** – Stefan Billups  
**Asst. Director** – Andy Cole  
**Pit Orchestra Director** – Joshua Thompson  
**Senior Production Manager** – Heidi Gross  
**Production Manager** – Vidur Katyal  
**Fight Choreographer** – Jess Hansard  
**Marketing and Box Office** – Marisa Valent-Altland  
**Stage Manager** – Myles Below  
**Asst. Stage Manager** – Evelyn Bond  
**Costume Design** – Emerson Jolliffe  
**Make-up/Hair Design** – Angela Brande  
**Props Master** – Sydney Singh  
**Costume Asst.** – Denise Berger, Justin Bolduc, Maiden Cross, Emma Ludvigsen, Zoe Martin, Kalynn Stevenson  
**Stage Run Crew** – Ilan Berman

## **Set**

**Scene Design** – Steven Gross  
**Master Carpenter** – Vidur Katyal  
**Scene Shop Asst.** – Catherine Gifford, Abby Hunter, Emerson Jolliffe, Vidur Katyal, Kendrick Madore, Camille Pontius  
**Set Construction** – Stagecraft Classes  
**Scenic Artist** – Justin Bolduc, Emerson Jolliffe, Ella Myles

## **Sound**

**Master Production Engineer** – Stefan Billups  
**A1 (Front of House Mix Engineer)** – Kathryn Osburn  
**A2 (Mic Tech/RF Tech)** – Andrea González, Vidur Katyal  
**QLab Operator/Sound Playback** – Vidur Katyal

## **Lighting**

**Lighting Designer** – Stefan Billups

**Lighting Programmer** – Stefan Billups

**Light Board Operator** – Andrea González

**Spotlight Operator** – Tech Crew

**Master Electrician** – Stefan Billups

**Deck Electrician** – Tech Crew

**Electricians** – Clay Barcelos, Myles Belove, Marisol Billups,

Valero Echegoyen, Andrea González, Vidur Katyal, Corey Urich

## **Broadcast Video Crew \***

**EIC (Engineer in Charge)** – Marisol Billups

**GFX Op (Graphics Operator)** – Marisol Billups

**Camera Operator (Fixed, PTZ)** – Marisol Billups

## **Broadcast Audio Crew \***

**A1 (Recording and Broadcast Mix Engineer)** – Stefan Billups

**A2 (Mic/Stage Audio Tech)** – Tech Crew

\* Please note: We are not broadcasting live.



## Ballard, Charley | Laertes

Charley Ballard is super excited to be participating in only his second show at VTSU Castleton. Recent shows he has participated in are *Once Upon a Mattress* (Ensemble), *Beauty and the Beast* (Cogsworth), and *Peter and The Starcatcher* (Peter/Boy); both productions were at Amsterdam Highschool in Amsterdam, NY, the high school he graduated from. However, he is now studying as a Music Education Major at VTSU Castleton in hopes of becoming a music teacher.

## Bell, Puck | Priest/Player

Puck Bell is a Theatre & Art major at Vermont State University Castleton. Puck has appeared in many shows, including *Chorus Line* (Zach), *The Old Man And The Old Moon* (Captain & Perry), and *In The Heights* (Kevin)



## Belmont, Laura | Francisco

Laura is a sophomore theater major here at VTSU Castleton. Her previous credits include *Footloose* (Vi) at HHS, *Hate Mail* (Dahlia) here at VTSU, and *Once Upon A Mattress* (Kitchen Wench) also here! She also assisted directed *Jekyll and Hyde* at the Dorset playhouse. She thanks you so much for coming and hopes you enjoy the show!

## Belove, Myles | Stage Manager

Myles Belove is a sophomore at VTSU, this is his third semester at the Castleton campus and first-time stage managing a main stage production. In high school and early college, Myles studied electrical work and electrical engineering, and now uses the tools learned in that time to focus on the backstage and technical elements of theater and performance.



## **Bernier, Kylie | Queen Gertrude**

Kylie Bernier is thrilled to be back on stage with VTSU Castleton. Her credits include *The Prom* (Emma), *Clue* (Mrs. Peacock), and *Rocky Horror Show* (Janet). Kylie has worked with Get Up Stage Company, Landmark Community Theater, VTSU Lyndon's Twilight Players, and more. She is pursuing a Bachelor's in Musical Theater, with minors in Cinema Production and Music. Kylie thanks her friends and family for their endless support and hopes you enjoy the show!



## **Billups, Stefan | Technical Director, Technical Production Manager, LD, LP, ME, MPE**

A visionary in live entertainment, Stefan E. Billups has spent over 35 years at the intersection of theater, music, film, and production, working on hundreds of productions as a Music Director, Actor, Director, Lighting & Sound Designer, Technical Director, Musician, Producer, Composer, Songwriter, and Vocalist—across Broadway-adjacent productions, major concerts, film, and studio recordings. His work has shaped stages and studios alongside legendary artists, blending technical mastery with creative excellence.

As Technical Director for this production and Technical Production Manager at Vermont State University's John and Susan Casella Theater, he has revolutionized the space with state-of-the-art advancements in sound, lighting, and live broadcast technology. A master sound engineer and producer, his collaborations span national touring acts, major recording artists, and innovative theatrical productions. Co-owner of a thriving entertainment company, he remains dedicated to mentoring the next generation of artists, filmmakers, and technicians.

His journey—from a young musician in Springfield, MA, to an industry veteran collaborating with legends—stands as a testament to the power of perseverance, passion, and artistry. To every dreamer stepping onto a stage or behind a console: never stop creating, never stop learning, and never stop believing in the magic of live performance.

I extend my deepest gratitude to my wife, Marisol, for her unwavering support, to my brilliant child, Illyana, whose courage and authenticity inspire me every day, and to my brother, Tobias, for his steadfast encouragement and camaraderie. I am also forever grateful to my family, whose love and support continue to fuel my journey.



## Blair, Gabi | Cornelius/King Player

This is Gabi's second show with VTSU Castleton, and they are so excited! Gabi is a first-year Musical Theatre student and is so excited to be in their first play! Gabi is also currently working on *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* with Pride's Young Artist as assistant stage manager and choreographer. They thank you all for coming and hope you enjoy the show!

## Bolduc, Justin | Wardrobe

Justin Bolduc is excited to be working on Hamlet with such a talented cast and crew. He has worked wardrobe for *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, *She Kills Monsters*, and more, as well as playing Chuck in *She Kills Monsters*. Justin looks forward to the show and hopes you enjoy it!



## Bond, Evelyn | Asst. Stage Manager

Evelyn Bond is a sophomore nursing student at VTSU Castleton, a graduate of Burr and Burton Academy, and a resident of Londonderry, Vermont. She works at Mike and Tammy's and is active in community theater. Evelyn has performed in *A Christmas Carol* (Cratchet Daughter and Belle) at The Dorset Playhouse and *Jack and the Beanstalk* (Mother) with Missoula Children's Theater. She has also contributed to lighting, sound, backstage, and set design for several productions.

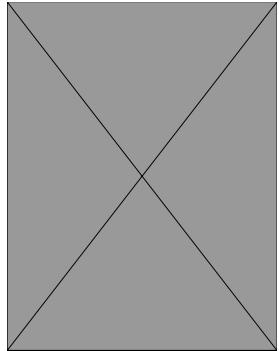
## Brande, Angela | Hair/Make Up Design

Angela Brande has been designing costumes since she could play with scissors and pins and she has the scars to prove it. Recent work at VTSU Castleton includes *She Kills Monsters* and *Once Upon a Mattress*. She teaches in the Theatre Department and runs the Costume Shop while on campus. Beyond campus, she has worked in the garment industry on 7th Ave, was design associate on several films, helped research museums preserve vintage garment collections, and designed costumes for professional theatres in Vermont.



## **Brehmeyer, Zach | Ghost of King Hamlet/ Prince Fortinbras**

Zach is one of the football coaches at Castleton. When he is not on stage he is calling plays for the Spartans. He has been involved with both theatre and football since high school. He got into theatre his freshman year of high school when his grandfather asked him to be in his last show before he retired. That show was *As You Like It* by William Shakespeare. He found his love for theatre with that production and has been in 10 straight plays and 1 musical since then. He did not perform for over six years while he pursued a career in football. The last productions he was in were *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Multiple Roles) and *The Women of Lockerbie* (George). He is so excited to be able to act and coach football at this stage in his life. He feels like he is in high school again and hopes that you enjoy the show.



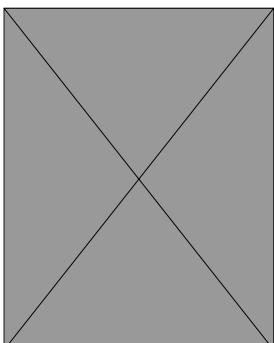
## **Challinor, Carissa | Ophelia**

Carissa Challinor is a Junior Media and Communications major concentrating in Film Production, with minors in Theater Arts and Dance. She is thrilled to play Ophelia, a dream role, and grateful for her supportive family and friends. Previous credits include *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* (Trisha), *She Kills Monsters* (Agnes), *No Exit* (Inez), and *Once Upon a Mattress* (Asst. Director).



## **Cole, Andy | Asst. Director/Francisco**

Andy Cole is a first-year Political Science and Social Work student at VTSU Castleton. Previously, Andy has been an actor in *A Doll's House* (Torvald), *The Little Mermaid* (Prince Eric), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Shprintze), and a variety of smaller one-acts. Off the stage, he's contributed to shows as a Prop Assistant and Set Designer. He enthusiastically hopes that you find great enjoyment in the show!





## Crane, Montgomery | First Player/Lucianis

Montgomery Crane is a Junior at VTSU Castleton this semester. She is a Theater Arts Major with a concentration in Acting and Directing. Her previous credits include *Silent Sky* (Willamina), *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Linus), *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* (Mindy), and *Once Upon a Mattress* (Lady Merrill). She is so excited to be able to work with such an amazing cast and crew once again! She also thanks her family and friends for their love and support!

## Gross, Heidi | Senior Production Manager

Heidi Gross brings 26 years of leadership experience as a senior HR professional. In 2024, she founded HG Creative Works, combining her passion for publishing and storytelling. Heidi published her first book, *Embracing Love: A Parent's Guide to Nurturing & Celebrating Your Child's LGBTQ+ Identity*, combining research and personal experience as an LGBTQ+ parent. She is also an experienced genealogist, offering research services and seminars through Forge Research Associates. Heidi is committed to fostering intergenerational connections through community programs. In October, Heidi published her second book, *Unlocking Your Roots*, a beginner's resource for researching family heritage. As Production Manager, she leverages her organizational expertise to ensure smooth operations for this season's performances, as well as special projects. She holds a BS in Communications and will complete her MBA with VTSU in the Spring of 2025.



## Gross, Steven | Scene Designer, Chair of the Department of Music and Theater

Professor Steven Gross has been a faculty member at Castleton since 2007. He is currently the Chair of the Department of Music and Theater at Vermont State University. Professor Gross has designed more than fifty productions over the past thirty years. He is extraordinarily proud of the students in the department and applauds their resilience in the face of adversity.



## Hansard, Jess | Captain/Player

Jess Hansard's previous roles include *Footloose* (Willard), *Almost, Maine* (Pete), and *Check, Please* (Guy). With a love for modern theater, Jess enjoys acting as an outlet for fun and creative expression. While Shakespeare isn't his usual style, he is embracing the challenge and continues to find joy in acting. Jess is also a nationally rated fencer, and his knowledge of the sport has played a key role in our production's swordplay.



## Hunter, Abagail | Marcellus

Abagail Hunter, a junior Theater Arts major, is excited to play Marcellus in this production. She thanks her family, friends, and the cast and crew for their support. Previous credits include *Once Upon a Mattress* (Jester), *She Kills Monsters* (Evil Gabbi/The Beholder), and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Sally Brown). She hopes you enjoy the show!

## Jolliffe, Emerson | Costume Design

Emerson Jolliffe, a senior Theater Tech major at VTSU Castleton, specializes in SFX/stage makeup, hair, and costuming. With a lifelong passion for theater and four years of design experience, their credits include *The Mousetrap*, *A Gentleman's Guide*, *She Kills Monsters*, *Hamlet*, and more. They have also performed as Henrietta in *Silent Sky* and Loveday in *The Victorian Detective Ladies Collective*. Emerson is thrilled to join Shenandoah Summer Music Theater as Wardrobe Supervisor!



## Katyal, Vidur | Master Carpenter, Production Manager

Vidur Katyal, a graduating senior in Theater and Music at VTSU Castleton, has performed in *Once Upon a Mattress* (Prince Dauntless), *As You Like It* (Orlando), and more. A two-time Irene Ryan Award nominee and KC/ACTF finalist, he directed the 2023 Theater Arts Capstone The House of Yes and won the Academic Excellence Award. Vidur will join the Woodstock Playhouse in New York as Technical Director in May.



## Keyes, Flo | Prologue Professor

Flo Keyes has been a Professor of English at Castleton for over 30 years, teaching Shakespeare among other things. Because Castleton is amazing, I have also had the privilege of both acting in and directing productions here. I appeared in *Romeo and Juliet* (Duke) and *The Crucible* (Rebecca Nurse). I directed *Dinner* by Moira Buffet and *Pretty Theft* by Adam Szymkowicz.

## Lee, Brenna | Queen Player

Brenna Lee, a first-year Theater Arts and Early Education major at Castleton, is from Williamstown, Vermont. She has performed with Unadilla Theatre, Acorn Youth Arts, and Dirt Road Theater, with recent roles in *Carrie The Musical* (Margaret White), *Heathers* (Veronica Sawyer), and *Be More Chill* (Christine). Outside of classes, Brenna assists with kids' theater classes and performance camps at Dirt Road Theater, where she also occasionally writes music.



## Madore, Kendrick | King Claudius

Kendrick Madore is a Music Education and Theater student at VTSU Castleton, aspiring to teach in Vermont. Excited for his first leading mainstage role, he has previously worked on *The Mousetrap*, *Silent Sky*, *She Kills Monsters*, *Dog Sees God*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and more, contributing as a performer, sound designer, and musician.

## Malazarte, Philip | Polonius

Philip is a Nursing Student at VTSU Castleton, but harbors a deep passion for acting and drama. Philip participated in many of his middle school and high school theater productions, and has appeared in *Mamma Mia* (Sam), *Beauty And The Beast* (Lefou), *Clue* (Wadsworth), *Almost, Maine* (Phil), *Grease* (Eugene), and *Shakespeare Abridged* (one of the 3 main storytellers). He hopes to continue to pursue acting in whatever way he can.



## Myles, Ella | Guildenstern

Ella Myles is a junior and is so excited to take on the role of Guildenstern. This is her first role in a Shakespeare show and would like to thank all her friends and family, as well as professors for all their support. Previous credits include *Five Women Wearing The Same Dress* (Meredith), *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Lucy Understudy/Marcy), *She Kills Monsters* (Kaliopoe), and *Once Upon A Mattress* (King Understudy/Kitchen Wench).



## Osburn, Kathryn | Front of House Mix Engineer

Kathryn Osburn will graduate in May with BAs in Musical Theatre and Theatre Studies and a Dance minor from VTSU Castleton. Favorite credits include *Once Upon a Mattress* (Winnifred), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Snoopy), and *The IT Girl* (Molly/Daisy). She has also directed *The Victorian Ladies Detective Collective* and worked in stage management, sound, and costume design. Professionally, she has been a Costume Shop Assistant, Arts Administration Assistant, and Theatre Technical Crew member.

## Pontius, Camille | Horatio

Camille Pontius is excited to be performing Shakespeare for the first time. She would like to thank her friends and family for all their continuous support. Previous credits include *Silent Sky* (Backstage Crew), *The It Girl* (Spot Op), *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Asst. Stage Manager), *She Kills Monsters* (Tilly Evans), *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* (Frances), and *Once Upon A Mattress* (Stage Manager).



## Polli, Danika | First Sailor/Player

Danika has been doing theater for 4 years. This is her first college show, and she is very excited about it. She does theater at her high school, Otter Valley, as she is an early college student. She has been in 11 shows all together and is excited to be in her first college show.

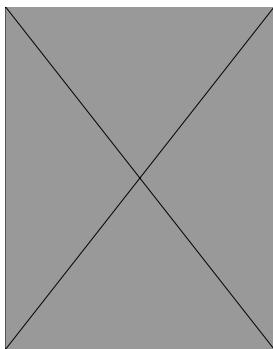


## Robinson, Ben | Hamlet

Ben Robinson, a graduate of Harwood Union High School, is currently a freshman at Vermont State University Castleton, majoring in Theater Arts with a focus on Acting and Directing. Over the past few years, he has taken on several roles in productions, including *Romeo and Juliet* (Romeo), *The Addams Family* (Mal Beineke), *The Laramie Project* (multiple roles), and *The Sound of Music* (Franz). Ben has performed both at Harwood Union High School and in a production at Vermont State University Castleton.

## Singh, Sydney | Rosencrantz

Sydney Singh is a junior, studying Theater Arts with a concentration in Acting and Directing. She has a passion for all things theater and hopes to keep it in her life past school. Right now, Sydney wants to work in children's theater, in hopes of passing on that same love.



## Thompson, Joshua | Pit Orchestra Director

Joshua Thompson is currently the Coordinator of Arts Recruitment and Instrumental Studies here at VTSU Castleton. In addition to conducting the pit orchestra, he also conducts the wind symphony and is music director of the Saratoga Youth Symphony organization. He maintains an active private studio for French horn and trumpet.

## Valent-Altland, Marisa | Director

Marisa Valent-Altland is an actor, director, and playwright when not serving as the Director of the Fine Arts Center at VTSU Castleton. She would like to offer her congratulations to the cast, crew, and production team of *Hamlet: In Concert* for all their hard work. Special thanks to Alex Altland for their continued support of Marisa's artistic endeavors.



## **Warren, Etta | Voltimand**

Etta is a Junior Communications major at VTSU Castleton. In this exciting production of *Hamlet: In Concert*, she plays the role of Voltimand and one of King Claudius' attendants. During her time at Castleton, Etta has contributed to the costume design team for *The IT Girl* (2023). She is also a key member of the Alto section in both the University Chorale and Chamber Singers. Singing, for Etta, serves as a therapeutic outlet and a distraction from life's chaos. Etta is deeply grateful for the love and support of her family and friends.







**Special Thanks**

Dominic Trevisani,

*Designer*

Box Office Staff

Conference and Events

Technical Services Crew

Student Government Association

Castleton Facilities and Public Safety

David Kupferman,

*Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences*



Vermont State  
University