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DRACULA

A COMEDY OF TERRORS

BY GORDON GREENBERG AND STEVE ROSEN

OCTOBER 23-31, 2026

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DRACULA

A COMEDY OF TERRORS

BY GORDON GREENBERG AND STEVE ROSEN

Originally produced in New York by Drew Desky and Dane Levens, Drew & Dane Productions.

DRACULA: A COMEDY OF TERRORS was commissioned and originally produced by Maltz Jupiter Theatre Andrew Kato, Producing Artistic Director/Chief Executive

DRACULA: A COMEDY OF TERRORS is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

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A Note from the Director...



I've always been drawn to the macabre, so this production caught my attention as soon as it was announced. I was fascinated by the idea that someone could take one of the most famously frightening novels ever written and think, "You know what this needs? Comedy."

Then again, I often respond to trauma with humor myself. Fear makes us uncomfortable, and laughter is one of the ways we cope with that discomfort. There's something wonderfully human about laughing at the very things that frighten us. That push and pull between fear and humor–the tension of being unsettled one moment and laughing the next–became my greatest inspiration in directing *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors*.

Perhaps that same balance of darkness and joy is part of what makes theatre so extraordinary. Those of us drawn to this art form often find that the stories we tell, the experiences we share, and, most importantly, the people we share them with, help carry us through some of our darkest moments and celebrate our greatest joys. To me, that is one of the most beautiful things about theatre.

This production also holds a special tribute to my longtime theatre friend, Patrick Cotner, whom we lost unexpectedly last spring. One of the final pivotal scenes is staged as a nod to a moment we shared in *Escanaba in da Moonlight*. It's a small callback to a treasured memory and a friendship that will always be part of my theatrical journey. Patrick would have absolutely loved this show, and I can think of no better way to honor him than to let a little piece of our shared theatrical history live on in it.

This one's for you, Patrick.

Thank you all, for your love and support of this art form.

– Colleen Hill-Rakunas, Director

Cast Biographies


Ian Greenlaw


Chase Mead


Henry W. Parvel


Ashley Patti


Jay Simon

Ian Greenlaw (Actor 2: Westfeldt/Renfield/Captain)
Occupation: Freelance baritone opera singer, voice teacher, and stage director. Traditional Service Music Director at Presbyterian Church of Traverse City. OTP Debut!
Baritone Ian Greenlaw merges the musical and dramatic arts with what the Chicago Sun-Times referred to as "a voice both strong and sweet." Although he has performed a wealth of principal roles with opera companies on both sides of the Atlantic, his Old Town Playhouse debut in *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors*, counts as his first production of a straight play. Regardless, Ian does manage to find a way to sing in this production.
Ian has degrees from the Eastman School of Music, the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and the University of Michigan, where he received his Doctorate of Musical Arts degree. In addition to his freelance work as a baritone performer and voice teacher, he currently serves as Traditional Service Music Director at Presbyterian Church of Traverse City and is an opera scenes director at Interlochen Arts Camp, where he has been mentoring young artists for the past 11 summers.

Chase Mead *he/him* (Actor 1: Harker/Suitors/Gravedigger)
Occupation: Machinist. Previously at OTP: *Misery* (Buster)
This is Chase's second show at OTP, having also done shows at Michigan Tech and the AuSable Artisan Village. Chase enjoys walks in the cold, video games, and movie nights. Chase is already prone to fits of foreign accents so this show was perfect.

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Henry W. Parvel *he/him* (Actor 4: Mina/Dr. Van Helsing) Occupation: Licensed Funeral Director/Mortician. Previously at OTP: *The Addams Family* (Lucas), *Elf! The Musical* (Chadwick), *A Christmas Story* (Scut Farkas), and numerous OTP Young Company shows.
When he's not busy helping people plan their final farewell, Henry is determined to spend his evenings taking the stigmas away from death, through comedy. As a licensed Funeral Director and Mortician at Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home, he brings his professional experience with the dearly departed to the stage portraying the delightfully dramatic Mina Westfeldt and the legendary Dr. Van Helsing.
Outside of death, Henry loves to explore life! He can usually be found enjoying local breweries and restaurants, riding his bike along Northern Michigan's trails, jamming to local performers, watching movies with his cat, Clyde, and exploring the depths of the internet.
He hopes you enjoy the show, and can survive the night - he does not want to have to go to work...

Ashley Patti *she/her* (Actor 3: Lucy Westfeldt/Kitty/Driver) Occupation: Photographer/Barista. Previously at OTP: *The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon (*Merry)
Ashley is thrilled to be back on the OTP stage after starting her community theatre journey here two years ago in *The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon.* Since then, she has appeared on stage with the AuSable Community Theatre of Grayling, part of the AuSable Artisan Village. Ashley has been a member of the AAV theatre committee for over a year, helping to produce multiple shows, and currently serves as president. She assists with high school theatre productions and started a theatre camp for students this past summer. Ashley also has experience acting in independent film, working frequently with Michigan-based production company Evil Twin Digital. She loves watching and acting in horror movies - let's just say this is not her first vampire-centered project. For money, she likes to take pictures and make coffee.

Jay Simon (Dracula) Occupation: Analyst with Munson Healthcare. OTP Debut! ... technically. There WAS a filmed, spooky, readers-theater-style show in 2020, and a slightly-less-spooky nine-episode serial podcast in 2021.
Jay is thrilled to find himself on the OTP Mainstage! A board member with the Cadillac Footliters, where he was last seen as Vice Principal Panch in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Jay was bitten by the theatre bug in 2017, and efforts to remove him from the stage since have been largely unsuccessful. He's eternally grateful to his exquisite and fearless bride of 32 years this month, Deborah, for her continued tolerance of his shenanigans, and wants to thank his fellow cast members, the production team, and the seemingly unlimited number of talented OTP volunteers for all they do to entertain patrons. This has been a bloody good experience. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Production Team Biographies

Colleen Hill-Rakunas (Director) is thrilled to be celebrating her 36th production with Old Town Playhouse. Over the past 15 yrs, she has worn just about every theatrical hat imaginable at OTP–including director, actor, lighting designer, producer, stage manager, even staff member–and she continues to be grateful for every opportunity to be part of this remarkable theatre community.
A lifelong lover of music and theatre, Colleen grew up immersed in both and has never strayed too far. When she isn't at the theatre, she puts her Degree in Business Management to use as a Business Manager for MediLodge. Colleen is especially grateful to her son, who remains a constant source of inspiration and pride. She has loved every minute of bringing this production to life alongside such a talented and dedicated group of people and offers her heartfelt thanks to the entire cast and crew for their tireless work, creativity, and commitment.
And, as always, she would be remiss if she didn't thank the Academy for voting for her.

Stephanie Johnston *she/her* (Stage Manager) is excited to be part of this wildly funny and fast-paced reimagining of the classic Dracula tale. When she is not keeping the chaos on stage running smoothly, Stephanie serves as a Family Medicine Residency Program Manager, where organization and multitasking are equally essential skills. Outside of work and theater, she enjoys hiking, kayaking, and exploring the local food and cocktail scene with her husband and, whenever possible, their two adult children. She also loves camping, although over the years her idea of "roughing it" has evolved into something that more closely resembles glamping.

Matt McCormick (Set Designer) has been involved onstage and off at OTP since 1989 and is happy to be working closely with Colleen on this production. Since 2005 he has worked professionally as a scenic charge artist and designer and has taught scenic painting and conducted workshops to help share his knowledge and techniques with others. Matt is dedicating his design of *Dracula* to Patrick Cotner, who passed away too suddenly this year, and who would have surely loved the silliness in the re-telling of this classic tale.

Nik Van Wagner (Sound Designer) has been sticking his head into the ceilings of OTP since 2022. Last year, he crash-landed in the sound booth and hasn't quite been able to find the exit yet. When he's not making OTP performances sound awesome, he's probably playing trombone in one of his 5 bands in 3 different cities.

Colleen Hill-Rakunas Director
Stephanie Johnston Stage Manager
Rio Lopez-Wild Assistant Stage Manager
Matt McCormick Set Designer
Betsy Willis Set Dressing
Bernadette Groppuso / Nan Worthington Props
Elizabeth "Lil Bit" Stewart Creator
Kathy Verstraete Costumer Designer
Bill Fishburn / Abby Bouck Lighting Designer
Nik Van Wagner Sound Designer
Chelsea Kaye Dialect Coach
Tanner Presswood Production Manager
Fred Szczepanski Artistic Committee Advocate

Set Construction & Painting: Nancy Albrecht, Kerr Anderson, John Herbst, Jeff Kroeger, Charles Schmitt, Clare Shipstead, Michael Spry, Arnie Taddia, Dale Wentzloff, Judy Heffron, Guy Molnar, Steve Morse, Kerri Moses, Annie Moeser

Wardrobe: Hannah Gordon, Betsie Hammerberg, Diane Hubert, Teri Kuhar, Erin Pardo

Wigs/Make-up: Chrissine Cairns

Props: Kathy Stephens

Light Board Operator: Tanner Presswood

Sound Board Operator: Madison VanWagner

Stage Crew: Cameron Behl, Nicole Damveld, Danielle Pelshaw

On Book: Cinder Conlon, Danielle Pelshaw, Ed Ronco, Katelyn Wilson





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Cameron Stefanski (26-29)
Fred Szczepanski (26-27)
Katelyn Wilson (25-28)
Wes Curry (Artistic Director)

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